

2nd Meeting of thematic network on climate change and risks



31 May - 1 June 2018

Presidency of Regional Government of Aragón
Edificio Pignatelli, Paseo María Agustín, 36
50004 Zaragoza, Spain





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Climate Change and Risks
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Zaragoza, Spain**

Outline

Interreg programmes have been addressing the topic of environment protection, climate change, biodiversity and risk prevention for many years. In the current programming period 2014-2020, a set of thematic objectives have been defined for interventions in the cohesion policy. *Thematic Objective 5* specifically addresses the issue of promoting *climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management*.

Interact has recently launched a thematic network addressing this topic in order to improve thematic expertise to help the result orientation of projects and programmes, to identify substantial evidence of results and ensure higher visibility of those results.

The specific objective of the network is to establish a live exchange and cooperation platform network between Interreg, Interreg-IPA CBC and ENI CBC Programmes, implementing a series of activities such as regular meetings and training, on-line platform for discussion and debate where members can participate. The network shall also be a natural place to share success stories as well as discuss challenges that Interreg programs face when implementing projects in the field of climate change and risks.

Meeting objectives

Building on the ideas put forward by participants in the launch of the network in June 2017 ([report](#)) and the previous meeting in Venice in November 2017 ([report](#)), Interact is organizing a second meeting of the thematic network on climate change and risks, in order to help reaching common understanding of the topic and all related issues and implications for Interreg Programmes.

The objective for this meeting is to learn more about EU policies regarding climate action and risk prevention both on EU and regional level. We will foster exchanges on climate change-related measures and projects by different stakeholders, and facilitate a debate on common challenges faced by programmes. We aim to work together on the sharing of experiences and knowledge among members to implement possible measures to tackle these challenges.

Topics of this meeting will include how to increase the visibility of results, how to influence decision-makers and how to develop synergies with other EU funds financing the topic of climate change. We will also address the important discussion on how we together can enhance the visibility of Interreg to the outside world and how we can do this together.

For the second day, we have planned a site visit to the Pyrenees Climate Change Observatory (OPCC), currently in charge of [OPCC-2](#), a project dealing with climate change adaptation in mountain areas



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Day One	Thursday, 31 May 2018
08.30 – 09.00	Registration and Welcome Coffee/Tea
09.00 – 10.00	Welcome and Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome by a representative of the Regional Government of Aragon• Objectives and expectations.
10.00 – 11.00	Initiatives regarding Climate Change adaptation and risk prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation by European Commission, DG CLIMA, Ms. Dina Silina• Presentation by Climate Action Unit by DG RTD, Mr. Miguel A., Martinez-Bodi
11.00 – 11.20	Coffee Break
11.20 – 13.00	Examples of how Interreg is making a difference <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation by Interreg CBC Spain- France - POCTEFA by Elena Giménez• Presentation by Interreg MED - Green Growth and Renewable Energy Communities, by Mercè Boy
13.00 – 14.15	Lunch break
14.15 – 15.30	The role of the thematic network: open discussion – part 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sharing of experiences and knowledge among members• What are the programmers' needs?
15.30 – 15.45	Coffee break
15.45 – 16.45	The role of the thematic network: open discussion – part 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can we tackle common challenges?• How can we enhance the visibility of Interreg projects in this topic
16.45 – 17.00	Wrap-up and next steps
17.00	Closure of the day one



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Day Two

Friday, 1 June 2018

09.00

Reception of participants and departure by bus to “El Portalet”

The Portalet mountain pass is at 1,794 meters above sea level and integrates two cross-border facilities: a resource center and a winter viability center. Participants are requested to bring warm clothing as the temperature will be around 5 degrees.

11.30 – 12.00

Arrival, coffee reception and welcome by the [EGTC Espacio Portalet](#)

The European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) Espacio Portalet was launched as a tool of cooperation and territorial cooperation between public and/or private actors of the Department of Pyrénées Atlantiques (FR) and the Regional Government of Aragon (ES).

12.00 – 13.30

Presentation of cross-border cooperation institutions and projects

1. **The Working Community of the Pyrenees (CTP)** was born in 1983 with the support of the Council of Europe, which aims to provide the Pyrenees with a structure of cross-border cooperation similar to those existing in other European borders.
2. **Pyrenees Climate Change Observatory (OPCC)** was created in 2010 by the Working Community of the Pyrenees, as a cross-border initiative to assist the 7 territories to set up adaptation policies to cope with climate change challenges.
3. **SECURUS project** is about cross-border protection and prevention of avalanche risks, landslides risks, land erosion and risks due to electrical storms.

13.30 – 14.30

Lunch in typical mountain restaurant (offered by Interact)

14.30 – 15.00

Visit to local exhibition about cross-border cooperation

15.30

Departure to Zaragoza by bus

(possibility to stop at train station upon request)

18.00

Arrival in Zaragoza. Farewell of participants and end of visit



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Practicalities

The Zaragoza Airport is located at 20 minutes from the city centre by taxi. There is also a bus connection every 30 minutes. The airport offers international flights to London, Milan, Brussels, Bucarest, Cluj Napoca and Paris.

For those travelling by plane to the **airports of Madrid or Barcelona**, they can arrive to Zaragoza by high-speed train. Madrid and Barcelona are both 300 km away, around 1,30 hour by train.

The fastest option to get to Zaragoza Station ([Zaragoza Delicias Station](#)) from Barcelona (Barcelona Sants) or Madrid (Puerta de Atocha) is to take the [high-speed train \(AVE\)](#). Trains run hourly from 5:50 to 21:00 and arrive at Zaragoza in **1h30min**. Allow at least a 2h margin between flight arrival and high-speed train departure.

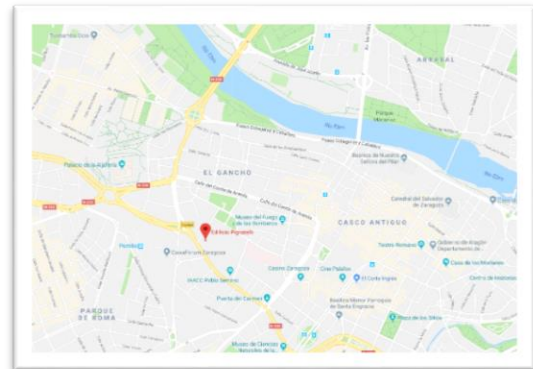
We recommend that you buy and print your [high speed train tickets](#) in advance. If you are buying a return ticket, you can select fare type "IDA Y VUELTA" for both inbound and outbound trips, as it is usually the most economical option.

Once in the city you can move around either by using the [tram](#) or by a good [public bus service](#).

Venue

Presidency of Regional Government of Aragón.
Edificio Pignatelli. Sala Hermanos Bayeu.

Paseo María Agustín, 36, 50004 Zaragoza.
<https://goo.gl/maps/KVC99rkVrNk>



Travel

Every participant is responsible to take care of his/her travel.

Accommodation

Every participant is responsible to take care of his/her accommodation in Zaragoza. In this [link](#) you can find valuable information about hotels

Other information

In case of any question, please contact Manuel Gonzalez: manuel.gonzalez@interact-eu.net, +34 963 983979 and mobile +34 608 562234.