

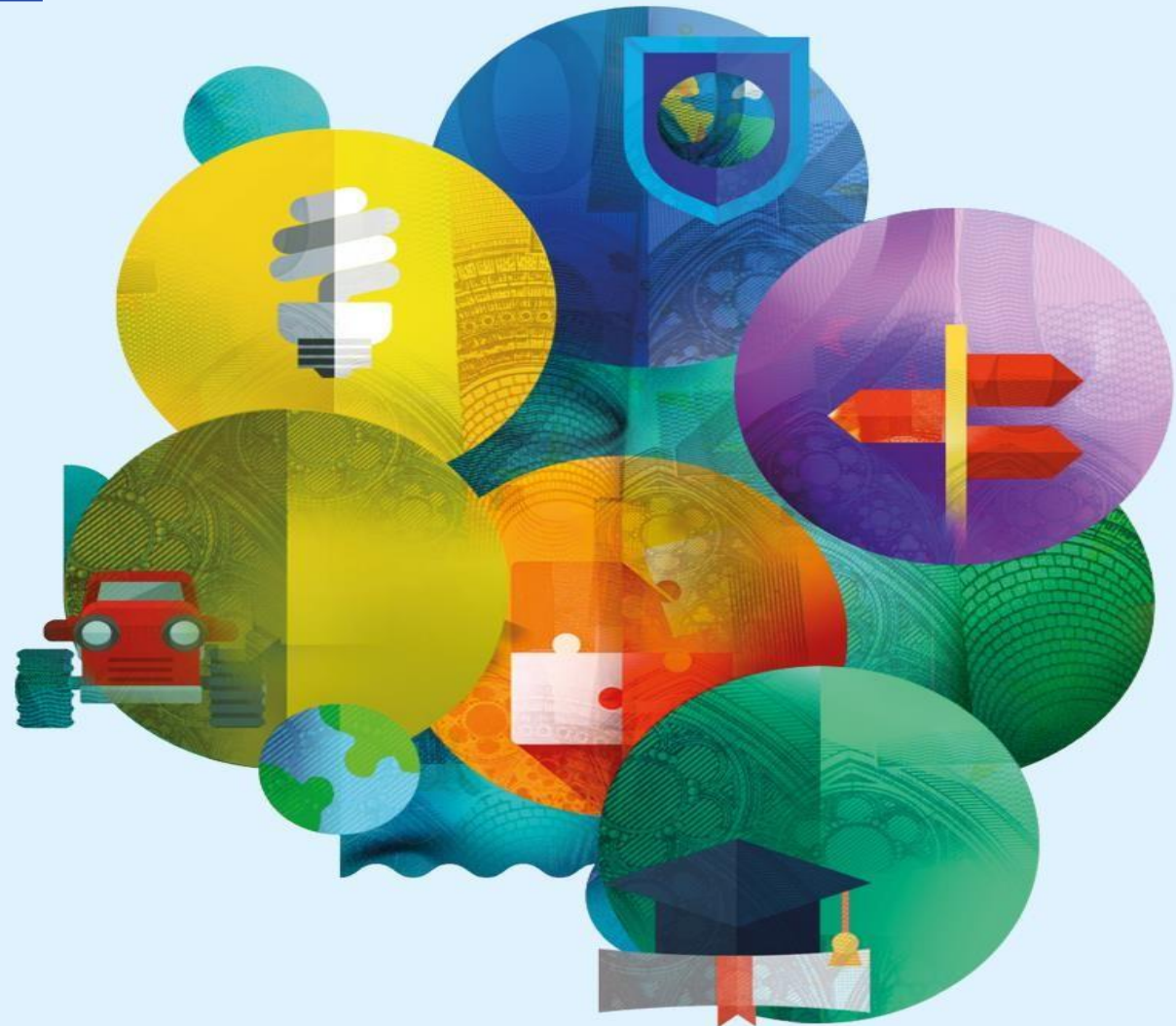
## Outermost Regions Territorial Cooperation Programmes

Subprogrammes in ETC  
Regulation 2021-2027

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# Why Subprogrammes matter for the Outermost Regions in the 2021-2027 period?



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# Orientation Documents

- The Orientation Document for the INTERREG Caribbean Area and INTERREG Saint Martin – Sint Maarten suggests continuing the INTERREG Saint Martin – Sint Maarten cooperation within the 2021-2027 INTERREG Caribbean Area programme
- The Orientation Document for the INTERREG Indian Ocean and INTERREG Mayotte-Comores-Madagascar suggests continuing the INTERREG Mayotte-Comores-Madagascar cooperation within the 2021-2027 INTERREG Indian Ocean programme.

# Where do Subprogrammes come from?



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## ETC Regulation Recital (6)

“**The transnational cooperation and maritime cooperation** component should aim to strengthen cooperation by means of actions conducive to integrated territorial development linked to the Union's cohesion policy priorities, and **should also include maritime cross border cooperation**. Transnational cooperation should cover larger territories on the mainland of the Union, whereas **maritime cooperation should cover territories around sea-basins and integrate cross border cooperation** on maritime borders during the programming period 2014-2020. Maximum flexibility should be given to **continue implementing previous maritime cross border cooperation within a larger maritime cooperation** framework, in particular by defining the territory covered, the specific objectives for such cooperation, the requirements for a project partnership and **the setting-up of sub-programmes and specific steering committees**”.

# Article 22.1

“Interreg operations shall be selected in accordance with the programme’s strategy and objectives by a monitoring committee set up in accordance with Article 27.

That monitoring committee may set up one or, in particular in the case of **sub-programmes**, more steering committees which act under its responsibility for the selection of operations”.

## Article 44.5

“With regard to an Interreg programme under component 2B or under component 1 where the latter covers long borders with heterogeneous development challenges and needs, **Member States and, where applicable, third countries, partner countries and OCTs participating in an Interreg programme may define sub-programme areas**”.

# How could subprogrammes be implemented?



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# Option A: Integrated Territorial Investment

## Article 22+24 (new CPR) and article 20 (INTERREG)

- ITI was introduced in the 2014-2020 period to support the implementation of integrated and multi-sectoral territorial development strategies.
- ITIs can draw funding from multiple priority axes of one or more programmes to ensure an appropriate policy mix for integrated territorial and local development strategies.
- ITI can be used to implement any sub-national territory, even a cross-border area. As a result, sub-programmes might be implemented under the scope of the Integrated territorial development (ITI).
- In particular, the ITI will contain a territorial strategy with all the elements required by the Regulation (article 23.1 of CPR) and a list of operations to be supported.
- This strategy shall be drawn up by relevant authorities or bodies that shall represent at least two participating countries, of which at least one is a Member State (provisional NEW article 20 of ETC Reg.).

# Option A: Integrated Territorial Investment

Integrated Territorial Investments	
Advantages	Drawbacks
ITI allows integrated territorial strategies to receive support by combining funding from various priorities of other policy objectives, programmes and funds, while ensuring the integrated and placed-based nature of the investment.	Potential costs linked to developing a common approved strategy.
ITI strategies are on average better integrated and combine more often different funds from different programmes and a much higher number of investment priorities.	<p>Potential costs linked to the need for an appropriate governance arrangement.</p> <p>Where an urban, local or other territorial authority or body carries out tasks falling under the responsibility of the managing authority other than the selection of operations, the authority shall be identified by the managing authority as an intermediate body.</p>
ITI promoted successfully cooperation and coordination in functional territories as 2/3 of them are targeting functional areas covering multiple administrative units.	The implementation can be very slow and challenging when national and regional authorities and other framework conditions are not adjusted and not prepared to accommodate the innovative arrangements.
The budget allocated to the ITI is indicative and remains under the control of the Managing Authority.	

# Option B: Community-led Local Development

## Article 23-28 (new CPR) and article 21 (INTERREG)

- CLLD is a joint participatory local development method for all current ESIF
- Principles: bottom-up approach, area-based local development strategies, partnership, social innovation, an integrated and multi-sectoral approach, networking and cooperation as well as decentralised administration.
- Can be used in all types of territories to encourage local actors' response to EU policy objectives.
- Might be implemented as Community-led Local development (CLLD), provided that the relevant local action groups are composed of representatives of public and private local socio-economic interests (article 21 of ETC Reg.).
- Managing Authority will ensure that the CLLD is focused on sub regional areas, carried out through integrated strategies, supportive of networking, innovative features in the local context.
- This strategy shall be drawn up by relevant authorities or bodies that shall represent at least two participating countries, of which at least one is a Member State (provisional NEW article 20 of ETC Reg.).

# Option B: Community-led Local Development

Community-led local development (CLLD)	
Advantages	Drawbacks
Compared to other bottom-up initiatives, CLLD is based on a well-tested method with detailed EU legislation safeguarding the bottom-up decision making and other basic principles. It can receive support from ERDF, ESF+, EMFF and EAFRD.	Potential costs linked to developing a common approved strategy.
CLLD can be especially useful in areas where local involvement, community, and capacity building are crucial aspects.	Potential costs linked to the need for an appropriate governance arrangement.
Lesson learnt: strict audit and reporting requirements and the lack of harmonised rules of the Funds created a huge burden for local communities, which resulted in a significantly slower implementation rate. To tackle this, the method was streamlined and simplified in the proposed post 2020 Regulation.	

# OPTION C: Dedicated PO 5 Priority Axis

- Possible for any type of territories by using PO5 under the proposed post 2020 Regulation
- PO5 can combine all intervention fields available under PO 1-5.
- In particular Specific Objective 2 fosters the integrated social, economic, cultural and environmental development and security for any territory including geographic specificity (islands and coastal areas, sparsely populated areas, other types of territories targeted).
- A sub-programme might therefore be implemented as a dedicated PO5 priority axis of the Outermost Region Programme.

# OPTION C: Dedicated PO 5 Priority Axis

Dedicated PO5 priority	
Advantages	Drawbacks
Having only one priority axis to support integrated territorial development is more suitable to provide a complementary support to an integrated strategy, which can rely on other funding sources for traditional public investments. It also offers to some extent budget security to for an integrated territorial strategy.	Lesson learnt: Although it was considered less burdensome at programme level, no significant differences were found in implementation rate. Complexity and administrative burden often remained within the priority axes. On the other end of the spectrum, the local and regional strategies are forced to a limited number of preselected themes in one single priority.
New element for Post2020: Policy Objective 5 goes hand in hand with initiatives which concern more than one Member State, be it at cross-border or transnational level, and can be addressed more effectively on the basis of cooperation beyond political borders than at national or regional level. These challenges are typically the subject of functional areas that require cross-border cooperation.	

# OPTION D: Sub-programme areas

Where this is justified and in line with articles 22.1 and 44.5, programmes may set up "sub-programme areas" that can have the following operational features:

1. The definition within the cooperation programme of geographical sub-areas where there are **specific features justifying a specific set of actions and projects**. The priority axes are set at programme level – the sub areas fit into those priorities;
2. The establishment, under the single programme Monitoring Committee, of sub-areas **Steering Committees** tasked with the selection of projects for the sub-areas;
3. Agreement within the Monitoring Committee on **indicative envelopes** per sub-area. Typically, a programme with sub-areas has an envelope which covers the entire programme area that funds projects of interest for the entire area as well as specific envelopes for sub-areas for the implementation of activities and projects within those areas.
4. **Calls for projects** can be launched either for the programme and its sub-areas simultaneously and for the same priority axes or separately.
5. The day-to-day implementation of the programme remains with the single Managing Authority and the Joint Secretariat. It is possible (even sometimes recommended) for the JS to have **decentralised offices** in the sub-areas to serve the local beneficiaries and provide more effective information and monitoring services;
6. **Contracting and financial matters all remain with the Managing Authority;**
7. Reporting to the Commission, annual accounts clearing, N+2/3 monitoring, audit work, etc all remain at the level of the programme.

# OPTION D: Sub-programme areas

Sub Area	
Advantages	Drawbacks
Great flexibility as no specific requirements are bound to sub areas: no need for establishing an integrated territorial strategy, nor for any appropriate governance arrangement.	Risk of fragmentation of the programme where programme authorities are tempted to split the programme area into many different sub-areas.
Sub areas will not be managed by an Intermediate Body.	Potential tensions linked to the difficulty in aligning the sub areas requests for a stronger territorial concentration with the Macroregional or Sea Basin Strategy objectives that require a 70% allocation of the programme funds.
The Managing Authority and the Monitoring Committee keep a global overview on the entire programme	



# OPTION E: Specific calls for proposals

Another possibility will be to launch **specific calls for proposals only for cross border projects**.

These projects should be developed according to the type of actions the Programme intends to support and will have to be focused on delivering cross border, tangible and sustainable results in accordance with the objectives of the Programme.

**Thank you!**



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