

# **Improving Synergies across the Mediterranean for post 2020 III.**

## ***How to achieve inter-programme cooperation?***

Please note that to run a smooth and participatory meeting this event is strictly dedicated to Heads of Managing Authorities and Secretariats, Member States, Partner countries and Commission staff working on the programming for post 2020 in the Mediterranean Area.



**25 and 26 of January 2021.**

**Improving Synergies across Mediterranean programmes for post 2020 III. Focus on HOW to achieve Inter-programme cooperation?**

3rd Meeting. Online\_ 9.00 - 12.00 CET



## Improving synergies across Mediterranean for post 2020 III.

### How?

**25-26 January 2021.**

**Online (9.00-12.00 CET).**

### Reminder.

With the new programming period the renowned calls for more integrated approach to sectoral and/or territorial policy implementation are being raised. In the meanwhile, the Commission through the Orientation Papers encourages a stronger cooperation between programmes operating within the same area (TN-CBC-including\_IPA, Interreg next). Working together, promoting common objectives and reinforcing synergies between programmes leads to a higher EU added value, a stronger impact in the area, a better allocation of public resources and improves the capacities of the programme authorities and beneficiaries. In this spirit and within this goal the Investment for Growth and Jobs programmes are encouraged as well to use cooperation more actively.

Interreg programmes operate in a specific territory/geographical area thus give response to territorial challenges. Based on this reality, improving synergies and intercoordination of the operations implemented by the most appropriate geographical scale can increase its efficiency when giving response to territorial challenges.

A dialogue between the programmes is, therefore, essential, to agree on challenges and type of actions /interventions. This should be addressed from an early stage of the programming, as a basis for long term coordination during the programme's implementation.

So far, there were 2 meetings took place: The first one, last June, the focus was on the **WHAT** theme to work jointly. The second, last September, on **WHO does what** to ensure programme inter-coordination.

### Objectives

#### OVERARCHING OBJECTIVE.

To **reinforce the cooperation** between TN, CBC, ENI and IPA from the programming process to its implementation for a better coordination across programmes around a Sea Basin and MRS. Higher impact in the territory. More efficiency while using public funds.

To explore the need for a **coordination mechanism/solution** to address geographical and thematic challenges and build synergies.

#### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE.

**This third meeting will focus on How to improve interprogramme coordination across Interreg programmes.** Considering the following elements:

- Existing Interreg interprogramme coordination initiatives in and out the Mediterranean area.
- Definition and shape of common text to fill in section 1.2 and 2.1.1.1 of their Cooperation programmes.
- Existing territorial frameworks in the area: EUSAIR and WESTMED.
- Nature of the different programme Transnational and CBC (Interreg Internal borders, Interreg NEXT and Interreg IPA).



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### Target group

This meeting will be prior invitation.

- MA or JS (only 1 representative).
  1. TN Med
  2. TN Adrion
  3. TN Sudoe
  4. TN BalkanMed
  5. CBC Italy France Maritime,
  6. CBC Italy Malta
  7. CBC Italy Croatia
  8. CBC Italy Slovenia
  9. CBC Italy Greece
  10. CBC France Italy Alcotra
  11. CBC Spain France Andorra
  12. CBC Greece Cyprus
  13. CBC Greece Bulgaria
  14. CBC IPA Croatia Bosnia Montenegro
  15. CBC IPA Italy Albania Montenegro
  16. CBC IPA Greece Albania
  17. NEXT TN MED
  18. NEXT CBC Italy Tunisia.
- Observers:
  - MS (member of Interact MC or Interreg programme TF member) Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, France, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain and Bulgaria. Partner countries and IPA Countries from Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Turkey and Bosnia Herzegovina who participate in TF meetings. 1 representative
  - EUSAIR and WestMed representatives. (WestMed Assistance Mechanism on behalf of the Initiative)
  - EC: DG Regio, DG Mare

### Methodology of the whole process.<sup>1</sup>

Organising an event online uses a different methodology than a physical one, this means that each meeting will not take more than 2 hours and only one objective will be tackled by each meeting.

There are three meetings foreseen:

1. The first meeting focuses on WHAT. During this session, the programmes operating in the Mediterranean will share information and identify their common challenges, common needs, based on each programme's territorial assessment. If possible, select 1 or 2 possible common strategic themes to work on together. (Ex. ICZM, Sustainable Tourism, Plastic free sea....). 15 of June 2020. Online.

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<sup>1</sup> Too consider the Paper: OVERLAPS IN INTERREG: A view from Transnational Cooperation practitioners.18 October 2019.



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2. The second meeting focuses on WHO does what. To ensure programme inter-coordination Programme authorities should not be left alone. Commission and Member states have also a role in encouraging synergies across programmes and improving such coordination. During this meeting they will take the opportunity to explain it. On the other hand, programme authorities will explore their added value and discuss the type of operations they may finance in the most efficient way \_based on their nature, TN, CBC, neighbourhood, pre-accession\_ to achieve such complementarity. In this way striving to avoid overlaps and finance the same kind of operations. 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2020. Online
3. The third meeting focuses on HOW to build a lasting cooperation and exchange. This will be achieved by reviewing the main difficulties when working on synergies with other programmes. During this session, programmes will identify suitable ways and levels of coordination and cooperation to improve complementarities across Interreg programmes working in the Mediterranean. Find [here](#) some [examples](#) of those already existing and [suggestions](#) for improvements, based on Interact's work on "Coordination and Cooperation across programmes " group from 2016-2018. (Ex. Specific type calls, joint ToR, participation in each other's' MS or selection committee, staff exchanges, etc). January 2021.

Beyond 2021. Starting to put into practice the identified ways to improve complementarities and coordination during 2020-2027 programming period.



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### How?

**25-26 January 2021.**

**Online (9.00-12.00 CET).**

#### Day 1: Monday, 25th of January 2021

**8.30 - 9.00**

Check-in to virtual meeting room and technical settings.

Please join the virtual meeting room in good time to test technical settings and to ensure we will start on time. The room will be open half-an-hour before the meeting will start (i.e. at 8.30 CET). Be aware that online registration takes time.

**Day 1: How Interreg programmes can achieve inter-programme coordination?**

**9.00 - 9.10**

**Welcome and technicalities.**

**Introduction to the meeting, objectives and approach.**

Interact

**9.10 - 9.30**

**European Commission updates.**

**9.30- 10.45**

**Some experiences to build upon. State of play of the existing coordination mechanisms/solutions,**

Objective: Learning about the existing Interreg interprogramme coordination initiatives in and out the Mediterranean area.

Moderation: Interact

Format: Debate

**Q&A**

**10.45- 10.55**

Comfort break

**10.55- 11.55**

**Shaping a common text for the programmes to fill in section 1.2 and 2.1.2 of their Cooperation programmes.**

Objective: Definition and shape of common text to fill in section 1.2 and 2.1.1.1 of their Cooperation programmes

Moderation: Interact and TESIM

Format: Breakout rooms

**Q&A**

**11.55- 12.00**

**Conclusions and next steps.**

Interact



## Improving synergies across Mediterranean for post 2020 III.

### How?

**25-26 January 2021.**

**Online (9.00-12.00 CET).**

### Day 2: Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2021

**8.30 - 9.00**

Check-in to virtual meeting room and technical settings.

Please join the virtual meeting room in good time to test technical settings and to ensure we will start on time. The room will be open half-an-hour before the meeting will start (i.e. at 8.30 CET). Be aware that online registration takes time.

### Day 2: How Interreg programmes can achieve inter-programme coordination?

**9.00 - 9.10**

#### Transition from day 1 to day 2

Interact.

**9.10 - 10.00**

#### Inter-programme coordination in Natural Disaster and risk reduction.

Beneficiaries experience.

Objective: Illustration through projects TN –CBC based in outputs. Discussion awareness on what is done in different strands

- Maritime Risks. Calypso project5. IT.ML (tbc)(Western Mediterranean)
- Natural Risks. EUSAIR -Adrion-CBC. (tbc)(Central Mediterranean)
- Eastern Mediterranean (tbc)

Moderation: TESIM

Format: Debate

**Q&A**

**10.00- 10.05**

#### Comfort break

**10.05- 11.40**

**Sub geographical thematic discussions.** Considering the existing territorial frameworks in the Mediterranean area (EUSAIR, WESTMED) and Eastern Mediterranean programmes.

Objectives: Working on complementarities based on the kind of operations financed by Transnational and CBC (Interreg Internal borders, Interreg NEXT and Interreg IPA), within the different topics:

- Natural Disaster and risk reduction
- Clean Mediterranean
- Sustainable tourism and culture
- Blue Growth

WestMed Assistance Mechanism and EUSAIR to participate in the Western and Central Mediterranean breakout rooms.

Moderation: Interact and TESIM.

Format: Breakout rooms and plenary

**11.40- 12.00**

#### Conclusions and Next steps.

Interact



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### **How?**

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### **Practicalities**

#### **Online meeting and meeting times**

All times indicated in this agenda are CET (Brussels time).

We will meet online using the video conferencing tool Zoom. Together with your registration confirmation, you will receive the link and further information how to access the virtual meeting room.

To enable a swift start at 9:00, the virtual room will open half an hour before (8.30) the meeting start and we will be present for your (technical) assistance.

This meeting will be recorded but not published.

#### **Other information**

In case of questions related to content, please address Mercedes Acitores  
[mercedes.acitores@interact-eu.net](mailto:mercedes.acitores@interact-eu.net).

If there are any technical issues with Zoom, then please contact Ilze Ciganska  
[ilze.ciganska@interact.eu.net](mailto:ilze.ciganska@interact.eu.net).