

Raising Project Quality (workshop)



Agenda
04-05 October 2016
Rome, Italy





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Outline

Based on a number of requests from Interreg programmes and their Monitoring Committee members Interact is organising a workshop to explore the possibilities for raising the quality of Interreg projects. There is an assumption that the projects could be of a better quality (i.e. that there is potential for a substantial improvement of the projects' quality). We would like to give an opportunity to programmes to take a step back and think about what they are really looking for. What kind of projects do we need to support compared to those that were implemented so far and why?

During the workshop we will be working on developing a joint understanding of what is meant by the quality of an Interreg project and identifying the reasons for projects of a lower quality. Project quality characteristic will be ranked according to their importance and urgency to be addressed. Together we will identify existing and new solutions that programmes can use during the project development, selection and implementation process to improve project characteristics that increase the quality.

Format of the workshop

The workshop foresees a contribution from all participants in the form of active participation in discussions and in the form of presentation of programme practices used to increase the quality of projects. Interact will only facilitate the workshop and lead the discussion to conclusions that can be shared Europe wide.

Participants are encouraged to indicate in the registration form which practice / experience they would be willing to share through a presentation. The length of presentations should be max 15 minutes. Once the participation is accepted Interact staff will contact the participants to discuss the details of their presentations.

Who is it for?

The event is dedicated to experienced Interreg programme staff from the Joint Secretariats, Managing Authorities and other programme bodies which are working on development of practices aimed at raising project quality.

To ensure fair representation of participants from all over Europe, and secure the best possible outcome, we will limit the number of participants from each zone (north, south, east and west) and programme.



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Timetable – Day 1

Please note: As the event will build on the outcomes of each discussion it is not certain that all points on the agenda will be discussed. First we need to agree what we are looking for to be able to discuss how we want to achieve it.

09.00 – 09.30 Welcome and introduction

09.30 – 12.30 Session 1: Quality project

- a) To what extent and why does it matter for an Interreg programme to co-finance quality projects?
- b) Project's quality characteristics
 - What do we mean by quality?
 - Examples of Interreg quality projects and what they have in common
 - Project quality characteristics
- c) Reasons for projects of a lower quality

Objectives of the session are:

- *To agree on Interreg project quality characteristics*
- *To identify reasons for projects of a lower quality*

12.30 – 13.30 Buffet Lunch

13.30 – 17.00 Session 2: Project development

What can we do on a programme level to increase the quality of projects during project development and selection, e.g.:

- Calls for proposals procedure (trainings and other type of assistance for applicants, guidance available, types of calls, partnership search events / project idea fair)
- Project assessment procedure (knock-out criteria, trained assessors, time available)
- Project selection procedure

Objective of the session is to identify the existing and new practices in the development and selection phase that will help increase the quality of Interreg projects.



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Timetable – Day 2

09.00 – 12.30 Session 3: Project implementation

What can we do on a programme level to increase the quality of projects during project implementation, e.g.:

- Monitoring (mid-term quality check, assistance to partnerships)
- Communication (to increase output usage, stakeholders involvement)
- Capitalisation (long term impact, multiplier effect, value of failure)

Objective of the session is to identify the existing and new practices in the implementation phase that will help increase the quality of Interreg projects.

12.30 – 13.30 Buffet Lunch