

Be ready: 3rd call for Interreg Central Europe will be soon published

The third Interreg Europe call for proposals will be published on 21 September 2017. It will be launched at the programme conference in Berlin. Indeed, 20 years ago the first transnational Interreg programme was launched for central European regions and cities. The programme will celebrate this anniversary with a major conference in Berlin on 21 and 22 September 2017.

Who can apply?

Transnational partnerships can be formed by both public and private organisations. The minimum requirement for a project partnership is the participation of 3 financing partners from at least 3 countries. The typical project duration is around 36 months. This programme supports partnerships made up of public and private institutions from nine countries: Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia.

In exceptional and duly justified cases, organisations from outside the programme area (but inside the EU) can become project partners and receive co-financing. Their participation needs to bring clear added value and expertise to the implementation of a project and has to benefit the programme area. The ERDF allocated to a single project for such partners together with the ERDF spent outside the programme area cannot exceed 20 % of the total ERDF contribution to this project. Partners from non-EU countries can participate in a project but will not receive any ERDF funds from the programme.

What are the priority areas covered?

Funding priorities go to projects in the fields of **innovation, CO₂ reduction, natural and cultural resources, and sustainable transport**. Within the four priority axes, project partners from all governance levels will have to achieve outputs with a focus on policy-learning, pilot actions and pilot investments. Based on an analysis of topics covered by the running projects, the programme monitoring committee has decided to better target the third call for proposals in some areas. Five specific objectives will be fully open to cooperation ideas, four specific objectives will be focused on exclusive topics and one will remain closed (see table below).

Priority Axis	Specific Objective	Targeted Focus
1. Cooperating on innovation to make central Europe more competitive	1.1 Sustainable linkages among actors of the innovation systems	Focus on exclusive topics
	1.2 Skills and entrepreneurial competences for advancing economic & social innovation	Focus on exclusive topics
2. Cooperating on low-carbon strategies in central Europe	2.1 Energy efficiency and renewable energy usage in public infrastructures	Focus on exclusive topics
	2.2 Low-carbon energy planning strategies and policies supporting climate change mitigation	Fully open
	2.3 Improving capacities for mobility planning in functional urban areas to lower CO₂ emissions	Closed
3. Cooperating on natural and cultural resources for sustainable growth in central Europe	3.1 Capacities for the protection and sustainable use of natural heritage and resources	Fully open
	3.2 Capacities for the sustainable use of cultural heritage and resources	Focus on exclusive topics
	3.3 Environmental management of functional urban areas	Fully open
4. Cooperating on transport to better	4.1 Planning and coordination of regional passenger transport systems for better connections to existing networks	Fully open

connect central Europe	4.2 Coordination among freight transport stakeholders for multimodal environmentally-friendly solutions	Fully open
------------------------	--	------------

See the table [here](#) for details on the call focus.

What is the budget for this call?

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE will offer around €60 million from ERDF for new transnational cooperation ideas. Approximately 12 projects should be financed with this budget. The co-financing rates reach up to 85% depending on the geographical location of an institution.

How to apply?

Proposals for this third call will be submitted following a one-step procedure. Project proposals will have to be submitted via a web-based tool, the [electronic Monitoring System](#). The application package including a new manual is currently under development and will be published on 21 September 2017. The call will stay open until **25 January 2018**.

More information

- Interreg Central Europe [website](#)
- Interreg Central Europe [project idea community](#) to search for relevant partners on-line
- Link to register to the Interreg Central Europe Annual Conference [here](#).

Participants of the Berlin Conference will hear what transnational cooperation has done for Central Europe in over the course of the last 20 years and discuss with policy makers the role of the programme and projects beyond 2020. Thematic *PitchIt!* sessions will give funded projects and new cooperation ideas the opportunity to present themselves to a wider audience and to get feedback from an expert panel.

More information about the call will be available soon in the application section and in the [frequently asked questions \(FAQ\)](#) on the programme website.

If you are looking for a project partner, do not hesitate to share your ideas with the Secretariat of Euromontana.

For more information, please contact:

Lauren Mosdale, Project Officer

lauren.mosdale@euromontana.org

T: + 32 2 280 42 83

Pl du Champ de Mars 2, B- 1050 Bruxelles, Belgique

www.euromontana.org