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INTERREG MED 2014-2020
Briefing on the programme & the 3rd call

General objective
To promote sustainable growth in the Mediterranean area by fostering innovative concepts and practices (technologies, governance, innovative services...), reasonable use of resources (energy, water, maritime resources...) and supporting social integration through integrated and territorially based cooperation approach.

4 priority axes and 7 specific objectives

- **Axis 1: Promoting Mediterranean innovation capacities to develop smart and sustainable growth**
  - Specific Objective 1.1: To increase transnational activity of innovative clusters and networks of key sectors of the MED area

- **Axis 2: Fostering low carbon strategies and energy efficiency in specific MED territories: cities, islands and remote areas**
  - Specific Objective 2.1: To raise capacity for better management of energy in public buildings at transnational level
  - Specific Objective 2.2: To increase the share of renewable local energy sources in energy mix strategies and plans in MED territories
  - Specific Objective 2.3: To increase capacity to use existing low carbon transport systems and multimodal connections among them

- **Axis 3: Protecting and promoting Mediterranean natural and cultural resources**
  - Specific Objective 3.1: To enhance the development of a sustainable and responsible coastal and maritime tourism in the MED area
  - Specific Objective 3.2: To maintain biodiversity and natural ecosystems through strengthening the management and networking of protected areas

- **Axis 4: A shared Mediterranean Sea**
  - Objectif 4.1: To support the process of developing multilateral coordination frameworks and strengthening the existing ones in the Mediterranean for joint responses to common challenges

Cooperation area

- 57 regions divided among:
  - 10 EU Member States: **Croatia** (the entire country), **Cyprus** (the entire country), **France** (5 regions - Corse, Languedoc-Roussillon, Midi-Pyrénées, Provence Alpes Côte d’Azur, Rhône-Alpes), **Greece** (the entire country), **Italy** (19 regions - Abruzzo, Apulia, Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Emilia-Romagna, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Lazio, Liguria, Lombardy, Marche, Molise, Piedmonte, Sardinia, Sicily, Tuscany, Umbria, Valle D’Aoste, Veneto), **Malta** (the entire country), **Portugal** (3 regions - Algarve, Alentejo, Lisbon), **Slovenia** (the entire country), **Spain**
(6 autonomous regions – Andalusia, Aragon, Catalonia, Balearic islands, Murcia, Valencia – and the 2 autonomous cities – Ceuta and Melilla), United-Kingdom (1 region of the economic programme – Gibraltar)

- **3 IPA countries**: Albania (the entire country), Bosnia-Herzegovina (the entire country), Montenegro (the entire country)

- Possibility to involve partners based outside the cooperation area in the limit of 20% of the ERDF project budget
  - Confirmation of their eligibility before project approval and agreement between MED Managing Authority and the relevant EU country after approval
  - In case of failure, the concerned partner (alone) will be excluded from the project

- Project activities should take place in the MED area except in duly justified exceptions

### Eligible Organisations and Partnership

- **As a partner**:
  - National, regional and local public bodies, and bodies governed by public law
  - Private institutions (except in IPA countries), including SMEs, but not the consulting firms, communication agencies, etc. (subcontractors)
  - International organisations acting under the national law of any EU Member State or, with restrictions, under international law (except in IPA countries)

- **As a leader**:
  - Public body or body governed by public law
  - Physically based in the MED EU area

- Partnership of at least 4 organisations from at least 4 different countries from the MED area with at least 3 of them in the EU

### Type of projects

**Thematic projects divided into 3 modules**

- **M1. Studying**
  - Possible activities: SWOT analysis, state of the art, benchmarking analysis, models, action plans, strategies, instruments (suitable for sectors/ themes on which there is little evidence on the Northern rim of the Mediterranean)
  - Duration of 18 months and maximum budget of €600,000
  - Max. 8 partners, mainly institutional and scientific

- **M2. Testing**
  - Possible activities: preliminary & feasibility studies, pilot activities, evaluation, plan of transferability of results, etc.
  - Duration of 30 months and budget of €1.2 to 2.5 mln
  - Max. 10 partners, mainly operational and institutional

- **M3. Capitalising**
  - Possible activities: policy recommendations, MoU/ agreements, procedures and regulatory proposals, charters, protocols
  - Duration of 18 months and budget of €600,000 to 1.2 mln
  - Max. 8 partners, mainly institutional and networks

- **4 possible combinations**:
  - M1, M2 or M3 under the conditions described above
  - M1 + M2: Duration of 36 months, with a budget of €1.8 to 3 mln and max. 12 partners
- **M2 + M3**: Duration of 36 months, with a budget of € 2.5 to 3.6 mln and max. 12 partners
- **M1 + M2 + M3 (integrated projects)**: Duration of 48 months, with a budget of € 3.6 to 6 mln and max. 15 partners (not possible for the first call)

### Horizontal projects (capitalisation)

- Single interface for:
  - modular projects, united within a thematic community;
  - Programme authorities;
  - the governance platform (Axis 4 of the programme).
- Key role: community building, joint communication and capitalisation/transfer
- Duration of 36 months (renewable) with a budget of max. € 1.4 mln (€ 1.18 mln for Axis 2)
- Max. 6 partners, mainly institutional and networks
- 3 horizontal projects on axes 1 (green growth, blue growth, social innovation & creative industries) and 2 (energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, low-carbon transport), and 2 on axis 3 (sustainable tourism, protected areas)

### Governance platform

- Projects outsourced to consultants on Axis 4, reserved for programme authorities of different countries involved

### Calendar

- The cooperation programme was officially approved and launched in June 2015.
- **The 1st call for modular projects** was opened from September to November 2015 on axes 1, 2 and 3 for uni-modular projects or M1+2 or M2+3.
  - The Steering Committee approved 49 projects in September 2016 and 12 more in December.
- **The call for horizontal projects** was conducted in 2 phases: pre-application from 10 November 2015 to 11 January 2016; full application from 3 May to 24 June 2016.
  - The Steering Committee approved 8 projects in September 2016.
- **The 2nd call for modular projects** was opened from 30 January to 31 March 2017.
  - The Steering Committee approved 14 projects in June 2017.
- **The 3rd call for modular projects** is opened from 30 October 2018 to 31 January 2019.
  - Online submission on SYNERGY CTE ([https://interreg-med.eu/documents-tools/synergie-guides](https://interreg-med.eu/documents-tools/synergie-guides)): the Application Form has to be validated by 31 January at 12.00 Paris time; uploading of compulsory PDF annexes by 14 February at 12.00 Paris time.
  - An applicant Seminar will be held in Marseille on 28th November 2018.
  - Selection of the pre-applications is foreseen in April 2019.
  - For the selected pre-applications, full applications should be submitted between May and June 2019.
  - Project approval foreseen for September 2019 and project start for November 2019.

### Budget

- For the 2014-2020 period: ERDF contribution of € 224 mln and IPA Funds of € 9 mln

For the **3rd call for modular projects**

- ERDF contribution of EUR 30 mln
  - EUR 8 mln for priority axis 1 (only sub-objective blue growth);
EUR 22 mln for priority axis 3.

- IPA allocation of EUR 2 mln
  - The breakdown between Axis 1 and 3 will be made on the basis of the quality of the proposals submitted.

### Financial conditions

- The programme provides grants on the basis of expenditure incurred (no advances).
- The ERDF co-financing rate is 85% for partners which are not concerned by state aid and 50% or 85% for economic operators and structures which are concerned by state.
- The expenses must be justified on the basis of real costs (except for simplified costs).
- Simplified cost options have been introduced (novelty of the programme):
  - Flat rate of 15% for overheads;
  - Lump sum of EUR 30,000 to cover preparation costs (possibility to spread it between project partners).
- The budget is divided into 5 main lines (no sub-budget lines).
- New general principles for the justification of staff costs were adopted.

### Specific conditions of the 3rd call for modular projects

- Call restricted to the following types of projects:
  - Priority axes 1 (only sub-objective “Blue Growth”) and Priority axis 3;
  - And only to the following type of projects: Multi-module M2 Testing + M3 Capitalising.
  - Submission of the projects in 2 phases: pre-application then full application.

Further information on: [https://interreg-med.eu/fund-my-project/calls/third-call-for-modular-projects/](https://interreg-med.eu/fund-my-project/calls/third-call-for-modular-projects/)

### Managing authority, contacts and useful links

- MED Managing authority:
  Direction Générale Adjointe des Relations Internationales et des Affaires Européennes
  Région Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur
  27, Place Jules Guesde – 13481 MARSEILLE Cedex 20 – France
  Tel: +33 4 88 10 76 14
  Email: programme_med@maregionsud.fr

- All contact details for the Managing Authority, for the Joint Technical Secretariat, for the Audit Authority and the Certifying Authority: [https://interreg-med.eu/special-pages/contact/](https://interreg-med.eu/special-pages/contact/)


- All information and documents (operational programme, programme manual, terms of reference for the different axes/ objectives, application form, etc.) on the programme website: [http://interreg-med.eu](http://interreg-med.eu)

- Partner Search forum, Assistance forum and project workspaces: create your account to access at [https://interreg-med.eu/account-section/register/](https://interreg-med.eu/account-section/register/)