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**Citizen First: using Technology to include ALL citizens**

**INTERREG IVB Programme 2007-2013**

**Ennis, 26 September 2008**



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## Citizen First – Key achievements from a Programme perspective

### **INTERREG IVB NWE: opportunities for transnational cooperation**

- Programme Introduction (key figures, added value of transnational cooperation)
- Priorities for 2007/2013
- Feedback and messages from the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> calls for proposals.
- Agenda



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## Citizen First: fight social exclusion and empower NWE Citizens

Citizen First activities have **successfully** contributed to (1):

- refocusing local and regional activities **from organisation driven** services **to citizen centric** services
- providing **solutions and preventive measures to social exclusion** by exploring the benefit of ICT
- pursuing the objectives of the European Commission campaign "**eInclusion: Be part of it!**"



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## Citizen First: fight social exclusion and empower NWE Citizens

Citizen First activities have **successfully** contributed to (2):

- **engaging** with their communities **specific target groups** otherwise at risk of further marginalization



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## Citizen First: key achievements from a Programme perspective

- **Truly transnational cooperation:** the project involves 5 partners from 4 different countries which jointly devised and implemented activities aimed at solving a common, transnational issue.
- **Tangible results:** the project displays concrete and measurable results with regard to citizens' e-inclusion.
- **Transferability and leverage effect:** the project's activities are likely to continue beyond the life of the project itself and they are transferable to other EU



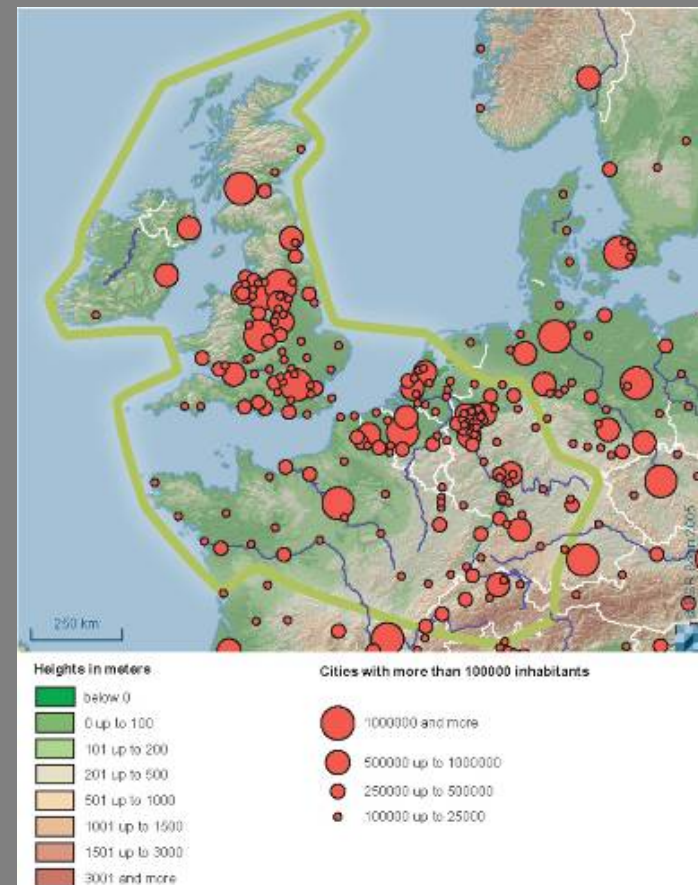
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## **INTERREG IVB NWE: opportunities for transnational cooperation**

- Programme Introduction (key figures, added value of transnational cooperation)
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## Cooperation area *key figures*

- 845,000 km<sup>2</sup>
- 21% of the EU territory
- 180 million inhabitants
- 39,5% of the EU population
- 307 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>
- 75% of the population lives in densely populated, urban areas

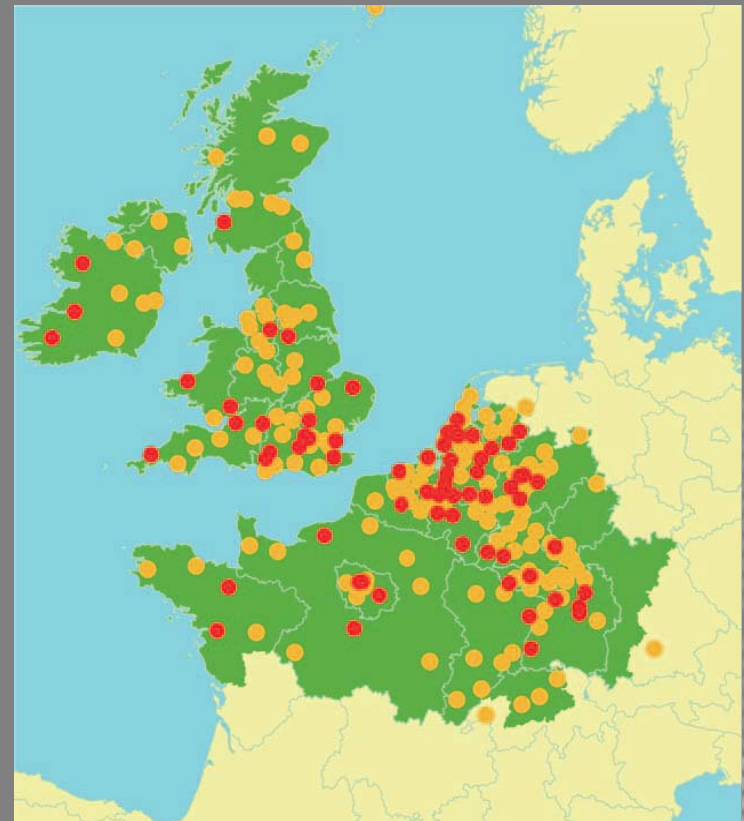




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## INTERREG IIB NWE 2000-2006

- About **500** project ideas
- **217** application forms received
- **99** transnational projects approved by the Steering Committee
- Over **900** partners in the North West Europe zone
- Funding distributed: **323M€ERDF**
- The average IIB project had 9 partners and received **3M€ERDF** (co-financing rate of ~50%)





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## INTERREG NWE transnational cooperation

A transnational issue is a challenge...

... that goes beyond national or regional borders;

... for which, by its very nature, a satisfactory solution at a local, regional or national level can only be found through cooperation.

*Ex. : Major rail freight lines  
Maritime safety  
Flood prevention and water quality  
European cultural heritage*



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## Added value of transnational cooperation

- Find **efficient and innovative** solutions for **common** problems using **knowledge from other countries and regions**...
- Participation in transnational **exchange networks**...
- Strengthen the **image, opportunities and European expertise** of your organisation...
- Take advantage of the **significant budget** for projects covering a **large and coherent geographic zone**





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# Thematic Priorities 2007-2013

## INTERREG IVB NWE – the 4 priorities

1. Developing the NWE knowledge-based economy by capitalising on our capacity for **innovation**
2. Sustainable management of **natural resources** and of natural and technological risks
3. Improving **connectivity** in NWE by promoting intelligent and sustainable transport and ICT solutions
4. Promoting strong and prosperous **communities** at transnational level



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# Thematic Priorities 2007-2013

## INTERREG IVB NWE Priority 4: « Communities »

**Title:** *Promoting strong and prosperous communities at transnational level*

**Overall Aim:** Strengthen the attractiveness and **performance of cities, towns, rural areas and regions** through joint actions that will encourage sustainable economic activity and social stability





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# Thematic Priorities 2007-2013

## **INTERREG IVB NWE Priority 4: « Communities »**

### **Objectives:**

*4.1: to promote transnational actions that will **enhance the economic and social performance of cities, towns and rural areas**; including the economic potential of local and regional assets*

*4.2: to identify and develop collective actions that will **improve the environmental quality and attraction of towns and cities** including the sustainable use of the cultural heritage and tourism, and sustainable and innovative energy practices*



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# Thematic Priorities 2007-2013

## INTERREG IVB NWE Priority 4: « Communities »

### Objectives:

*4.3: to promote transnational responses to the impacts of demographic change and migration on the NWE territory*





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# Thematic Priorities 2007-2013

## **INTERREG IVB NWE** **Priority 4: « Communities »**

### **Objective 4.3: examples of possible actions**

*-transnational pilots and actions to improve the accessibility of, and access to, services, including ICT, for areas affected by ageing and depopulation*

*-transnational actions that will facilitate the integration of the skilled work force into cities and towns*





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## Interreg IVB NWE: Overview of the 1<sup>st</sup> Call

28 applications **received including 3 ineligible**  
9 projects approved = 42.5 M€ ERDF

<b>Innovation:</b>	5 total	<b>2 approved</b>	(6,5 M€)
<b>Environment:</b>	6 total	<b>5 approved</b>	(30 M€)
<b>Transport:</b>	3 total	<b>0 approved</b>	
<b>Communities:</b>	11 total	<b>2 approved</b>	(5.5 M€)

**20 projects were IIB follow-ups**



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## Interreg IVB NWE: Overview of the 2<sup>nd</sup> call

39 applications **received including 4 ineligible**  
12 projects approved = 56 M€ ERDF

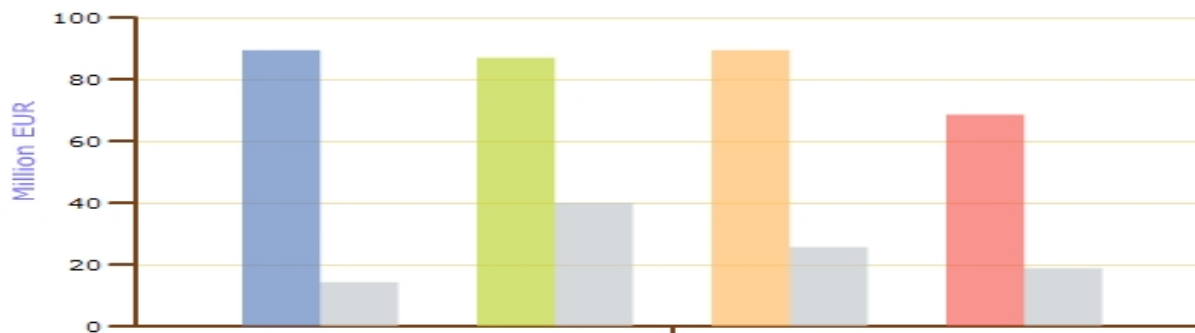
<b>Innovation:</b>	8 total	<b>2 approved</b>	(7.2 M€)
<b>Environment:</b>	11 total	<b>2 approved</b>	(9.8 M€)
<b>Transport:</b>	7 total	<b>4 approved</b>	(25.6 M€)
<b>Communities:</b>	13 total	<b>4 approved</b>	(13 M€)



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## 3<sup>rd</sup> call: Available Funding

Overview per Priority - ERDF Budget 2007-2013

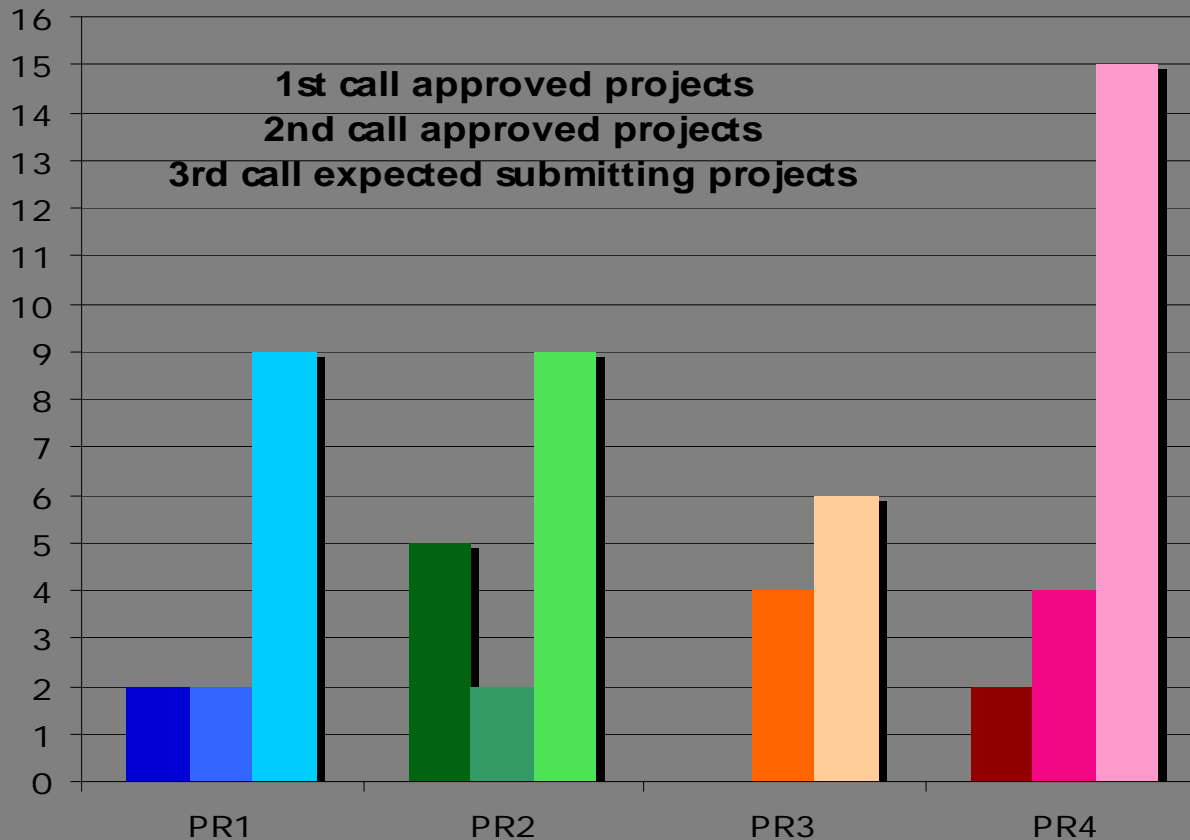


Priority 1 Innovation	Priority 2 Environmental challenges	Priority 3 Connectivity	Priority 4 Strong and prosperous communities	Total
<b>ERDF Budget (2007-2013)</b>				
89,348,419 (27%)	86,930,420 (26%)	89,357,665 (27%)	68,480,191 (20%)	<b>334,116,695 (100%)</b>
<b>Total ERDF approved</b>				
14,287,277 (14%)	40,045,129 (41%)	25,607,728 (26%)	18,726,691 (19%)	<b>98,666,825 (100%)</b>



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## 3<sup>rd</sup> call: Number of Projects Expected





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## Key Messages from the 2nd call for proposals (1)

- The quality of transnational cooperation is central for a project to be approved: it is necessary to demonstrate, in explicit terms, the added value of working together.
- All projects need to build upon past achievements and create synergies in order to maximise the impact of ERDF - particularly so for follow-up projects that must show clear signs of going beyond what has been previously funded.
- Addressing new topics or finding new ways of tackling previous topics is particularly encouraged.



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## Key Messages from the 2<sup>nd</sup> call for proposals (2)

- All partners - not just the Lead Partner - need better preparation and information about the Programme. For that, they are all encouraged to contact the Contact Points in their country to get acquainted with the Programme.
- Value for money is an essential element of all projects: to this end, partners are advised to develop focused applications (less is more in this case!). All actions, investments and expected outputs need to be coherent with the project's objectives and aims. Furthermore, prices and costs need to be well justified.



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## **INTERREG IV B AGENDA 2008-2009**

**3rd call for proposals from 8 September to 3 October**  
**Steering Committee (final decision): 4/5 December**

**4th call for proposals in early Spring 2009**  
**Steering Committee (final decision): early summer 2009**

**Strategic Initiatives development (top-down)**  
**Targeted Call for Proposal from 8 Sept to 3 Oct 2008**  
**Transport, Energy, Demographic Change, Innovation**

**First Annual Event in Luxembourg (22/23 September)**  
**Document on IIB results: « INTERREG in action »!**