

**Interreg**  
Atlantic Area



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Interreg Atlantic Area Annual Event

**3<sup>o</sup> Call for proposals**

*November 25<sup>th</sup> to February 14<sup>th</sup>*

**Bordeaux - 21.11.2024**

**JOINT SECRETARIAT**

Carlos Garea Lodeiro - Project manager

João Correia - Financial manager



## Interreg Atlantic Area - 3<sup>o</sup> Call for projects

The Programme

Facts & Tips

Financial aspects

## THE PROGRAMME

The **Interreg Atlantic Area Programme 2021-2027** is an EU transnational cooperation programme, funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) under the European Territorial Cooperation objective of the EU Cohesion Policy. The Programme is anchored on several EU policy initiatives, including the European Blue Growth Strategy, the European Green Deal, the Territorial Agenda 2030 and the EU Atlantic Maritime Strategy.

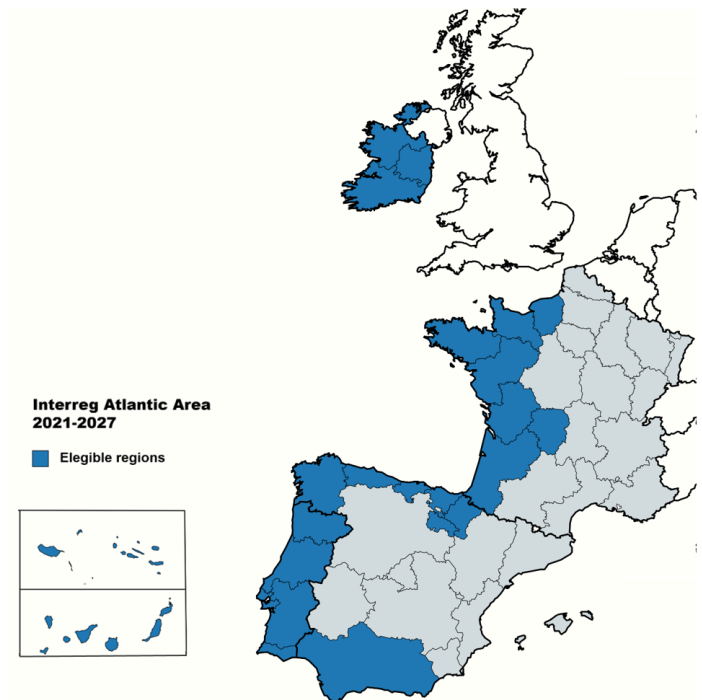


The Interreg Atlantic Area Programme supports **transnational cooperation** projects in **22 Atlantic regions from 4 countries**: Spain, France, Ireland, Portugal.

**Objective:** to implement solutions to regional challenges in the fields of innovation, resource efficiency, environment and cultural assets, supporting regional development and sustainable growth.

The Atlantic Area covers the western part of the Atlantic Ocean and includes regions from 4 countries, Spain France Ireland and Portugal. The total list of NUTS2 regions included in the Programme is as follows:

- **France** : Bretagne; Normandie; **Nouvelle-Aquitaine**; Pays de la Loire;
- **Ireland**: Northern and Western; Southern; Eastern and Midland;
- **Portugal** : Norte; Algarve; Centro; Lisboa; Alentejo; Açores; Madeira.
- **Spain** : Galicia; Principado de Asturias; Cantabria; Navarra; País Vasco; **La Rioja**; **Andalucía**; Islas Canarias.



## The Programme is based on 4 priorities:



Blue innovation  
and  
competitiveness



Blue/Green  
environment



Blue sustainable,  
social tourism and  
culture



A better  
governance for  
cooperation

A smarter Europe –  
innovative and smart  
economic transformation

A greener,  
low-carbon Europe

A more social Europe  
– implementing the  
European Pillar of  
Social Rights

A better Interreg  
governance



**Call 2 | Priority 4 (ISO1)**  
It is open until Dec 20th



**Priority 1 – Blue  
Innovation and  
Competitiveness**

Specific objective : PO1 · i)  
Developing and enhancing  
research and innovation  
capacities and the uptake of  
advanced technologies

Specific objective : PO1 · ii)  
Reaping the benefits of  
digitisation for citizens,  
companies, research  
organisations and public  
authorities

**Priority 2: Blue /Green  
environment**

Specific objective : PO2 · i)  
Promoting energy efficiency  
and reducing greenhouse gas  
emissions

Specific objective : PO2 · iv)  
Promoting climate change  
adaptation and disaster risk  
prevention, and resilience,  
taking into account eco-  
system based approaches

Specific objective : PO2 · vi)  
Promoting the transition to a  
circular and resource efficient  
economy

Specific objective : PO2 · (vii)  
Enhancing protection and  
preservation of nature,  
biodiversity and green  
infrastructure, including in  
urban areas, and reducing all  
forms of pollution

**Priority 3: Blue  
sustainable and social  
tourism & culture**

Specific objective : PO4 · (vi)  
Enhancing the role of culture  
and sustainable tourism in  
economic development, social  
inclusion and social  
innovation

**Priority 4: A better  
governance for  
cooperation in the  
Atlantic Area**

ISO 6.1: Enhance the  
institutional capacity of public  
authorities, in particular those  
mandated to manage a  
specific territory, and of  
stakeholders;







## Call 3 - 2024

The Call is opened for **12 weeks, from November 25<sup>th</sup> to February 14<sup>th</sup>**. Results should be communicated to candidates around Mid 2025.

The following timeline is valid for the case up to 100 project proposals are received for assessment. In case more applications are received, the assessment period will be extended proportionally and published on the Programme website soon after the submission deadline.

## Call 3 - 2024

-  **Traditional projects**
-  **Only open for Priorities 1, 2 and 3.**
-  **The project application follows a one-step procedure.**
-  **Submission application form through SIGI platform.**

Guidance on how to fill out the application form will be available on the application pack included on the **Programme website**.

**All consortium partners must be pre-registered on the SIGI platform.**



## Call 3 - 2024

- ✓ Projects financed by the AA Programme must demonstrate **high transnational cooperation intensity** throughout their lifetime with a clear focus on results.
- ✓ Partners must **work together** to deliver, disseminate and roll-out the results of their project.
- ✓ Partnerships involving a high diversity of actors covering the **quadruple helix approach**, including the relevant social and civil society actors, to achieve better linkages between public, private and research actors.
- ✓ The development of these joint solutions requires **enthusiasm and commitment** during project development and implementation.



## **Call 3 - 2024**

### **Eligible Lead Partners for the third call for proposals are:**

Lead Partner organisations can be public bodies, universities, education and research organisations, private institutions (not-for-profit) and international organisations acting under national law.

**The Lead Partner must be located in the Programme eligible area.**

## Call 3 - 2024

Type of partners in the consortium;

- ✓ The **Lead partner** will be, a public or private non-profit entity located within the Atlantic Area Programme area.
- ✓ **Partners** must be from the 4 Member States of the Programme.
- ✓ Companies can be partners but only **SMEs**.
- ✓ **Entities outside the Atlantic Area**, eligible under conditions.
- ✓ **Entities from the United Kingdom only as associated partners**.
- ✓ Associated Partners, signed letters are required.
- ✓ **Associated Partners' travel costs are not eligible expenses for project partners.**

## Call 3 - 2024

### Applicants need to keep in mind the following keystones:

- ✓ The total project amount should preferentially be, for this call in a range between EUR **1 and 3.5 million**;
- ✓ Projects will be co-financed and reimbursed up to **75%**;
- ✓ The indicative duration is **up to 30 months**;
- ✓ Projects must **include at least one partner from each Member State** of the cooperation area.
- ✓ **Should involve 4 to 12 full partners**, taking into account that projects must include at least partners from the 4 MS of the cooperation area, one per country.

## Call 3 - 2024

### APPLICATION PACK

The **application pack** for the call will be available in the Programme **website** from **November 25<sup>th</sup>** and includes the following:

- ✓ Terms of Reference;
- ✓ The Programme Manual;
- ✓ The statements (templates);
- ✓ FAQs

Project applicants who would like to submit a proposal must complete the **application form in English**, and may also be in other Programme working languages.

The **online system runs several automatic validation** checks which prevent a user from submitting the form if it is not properly filled

## Call 3 - 2024

How to draft a quality project proposal 2021 -2027

### ✓ **Transnationality y capitalisation**

[www.interact-eu.net](http://www.interact-eu.net)



- ✓ Transnationality: Common problems, joint solutions. Why am I submitting the project to a European rather than a national programme?
- ✓ **Pre-capitalisation:** Re-use results from other projects, methodologies, conclusions, case studies.
- ✓ Capitalisation in the project: Database of the stakeholder, contacts, dissemination events, lobbying, networking.
- ✓ Capitalisation after the project: Documentation and available results, website, app, etc.



## Call 3 - 2024

The following advices should be considered:

- ✓ Read carefully the Atlantic Area Programme, as all project proposals are required to identify the priority and specific objective they will be contributing to;
- ✓ Get in touch with the Atlantic Area Joint Secretariat or National Authorities in your country for more information;
- ✓ Discover the results already delivered by the Atlantic Area Programme on the website or in the [www.keep.eu](http://www.keep.eu) website;
- ✓ **Partnership:** Now is the time to have the whole consortium ready;
- ✓ Read the Programme Manual.

# Cost categories & reimbursement option

## Staff

- 20% flat rate
- real costs (full time or fixed % of time/month)

## Office and administrative

- 15% flat rate for real staff costs

## Travel and accommodation

- 15% flat rate
- real costs (justified cases+staff flat rate)

## External expertise and services

- real costs

## Equipment

- real costs

## Small infrastructure and works

- real costs



# Staff costs

## 20% Flat rate

- **NO controller verification** is needed **BUT**: Evidence of at least **one person** of staff or a natural person working for the partner under a contract, according to Article 39 of the Interreg regulation (e.g., by providing registration at the social insurance agency or annual payroll, self-declaration of the partner).
- Travel are reimbursed on a real cost basis.

## Real costs

- **Staff employed by the partner** who is directly working on the project;
- **Salary payments and other costs directly linked to salary** payments incurred and paid by the employer;
- **Daily allowances** and any other travel and accommodation costs cannot be included under this cost category;
- **Full-time/fixed % per month** must be stated in the employment or Task Assignment documents.
- No **timesheet** is required;
- **Key documents** must be available for control (contract, payslips, etc.).

# Travel and Accommodation costs

## 15% Flat rate

- Base = real staff costs.
- Automatically calculated by the system.
- **NO** controller verification is needed  
**BUT:**
  - evidence at least for one trip in the project's lifetime: mission order, report, recording, etc.

## Real costs

- **Staff employed by the partner.**
- Includes **daily allowances.**
- **Key documents** must be available for control (agenda, travel tickets, etc.).
- Travel costs for **external experts** (including speakers and invited experts), can only be claimed under the cost category External expertise and services.

# External Expertise and Services costs

## Real costs

- Expenditures items included: check the Programme Manual;
- Includes travel costs for **external experts (except Associated partners)**;
- **Key documents** must be available for control (selection procedure, contract, deliverables produced, etc.);
- **Public procurement** transparency and evidences are key points;
- Subcontracting **between partners** carried out within the project is **NOT** eligible.

# Equipment costs

## Real costs

- Expenditures items included: check the Programme Manual;
- Equipment can be: **purchased, rented or leased;**
- Allocation to the project: **full cost/pro-rata/depreciation;**
- Clearly **linked to the project/foreseen in the Application Form;**
- **Evidence** of deliverables/installation/use;
- Purchase, rent or lease from another partner carried out within the project are **NOT** eligible;
- General rule: full purchase cost of the equipment should be made in principle during the **first 12 months** of the project;
- Full purchase is eligible only if the depreciation period is within the project lifetime (expenditures  $\geq 2500\text{€}$ , will be compulsory **checked by the controller**).

**Interreg**  
Atlantic Area



Co-funded by  
the European Union

Thank you!

[www.atlanticarea.eu](http://www.atlanticarea.eu)

[js@atlanticarea.eu](mailto:js@atlanticarea.eu)