

# European Territorial Cooperation 2014-2020 – proposed Regulation

## Citizens' summary

### WHAT'S THE ISSUE?

- Border regions are often isolated from their country's main decision-making centre and merit special attention.
- The European territorial cooperation scheme helps regions across Europe to work together to address shared problems, such as pollution in the Baltic Sea, cross-border use of hospitals, exchange of experience on fostering innovative potential.
- The scheme is part of the EU's cohesion policy, which remains an essential element in the [EU's financial framework for 2014-2020](#) proposed by the Commission. The EU will make substantial funding available for it.
- The proposed Regulation sets out the practical arrangements for European territorial cooperation.

### HOW WILL IT WORK AND WHO WILL BENEFIT?

European Territorial Cooperation is organised in three different types of programmes:

- cross-border cooperation – funding for projects involving regions and local authorities on either side of a common border, such as Franco-German projects to foster cross-border use of infrastructure. Nearly all EU borders are covered by a cooperation programme.
- transnational cooperation – funding for projects between national, regional and local entities in larger geographical areas, such as EU countries and regions around the Baltic Sea or the Alps.
- interregional cooperation programmes – to foster sharing of good practice on innovation, energy efficiency, urban development and other themes.

### WHY DOES ACTION HAVE TO BE TAKEN BY THE EU?

- Challenges faced by EU countries and regions increasingly cut across national and regional boundaries. A framework for cooperation is needed covering the whole EU territory.

### WHAT EXACTLY WILL CHANGE?

The proposed Regulation:

- would require programme partners to agree more precisely on what kind of projects they want to fund and set clear deliverables. Projects would also have to be in line with EU policy priorities and closely linked to strategies pursued by the regions and EU countries concerned to optimise synergies.
- is tailor-made to support multi-country cooperation. It has also been simplified to reduce the administrative burden both for programme and project managers.

#### WHEN IS THE PROPOSAL LIKELY TO COME INTO EFFECT?

- The Commission's proposal will now be discussed with the European Parliament and EU governments. It should enter into force in 2013.

Data for search engines	
<b>Title tag</b>	European territorial cooperation – proposed Regulation – citizens' summary
<b>Description</b>	Part of the cohesion policy package for 2014-2020
<b>Link name</b>	Summary – territorial cooperation proposal for 2014-2020
<b>Keywords for url/filename</b>	EU + ETC + “territorial cooperation” + “regional policy” + INTERREG + ERDF