

# Interreg



EUROPEAN UNION

maritime cooperation producing results that matter





## Cooperation across maritime borders – Results that matter!

This brochure presents some examples of impactful Interreg projects through which partners work together across maritime borders to jointly solve problems or develop opportunities in a maritime geography. These cooperation projects take into account the specificities of maritime borders and maritime cooperation areas – and hereby complement cooperation across land borders also supported by Interreg.

Interreg in general, through its funding programmes and funded projects, opens doors and facilitates cooperation across borders by providing financing from the European Regional Development Fund. Maritime cooperation due to its horizontal nature naturally connects to several of the eleven thematic objectives of Interreg. That is also reflected by the diversity of projects presented in this brochure.

This brochure presents five success stories of maritime Interreg cooperation – have a look! If linked through regional strategic frameworks or initiatives, single local success stories can have an impact for a whole sea basin.

With their often relatively limited budgets, Interreg projects in general are acting as successful initiators and often serve as test platforms. Interreg, therefore, makes a difference! Cooperation across maritime borders produces results that matter!



**INTERact**   
EUROPEAN UNION

Maritime  
stakeholders

facilitates



supports

**Interreg**   
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Thematic  
experts

## Knowledge of the seas network

The network brings together Interreg funding programmes supporting cooperation across maritime borders, best practice cooperation projects and maritime experts and stakeholders from all over Europe. Besides promoting maritime cooperation supported by Interreg at events like the European Maritime Day, the network regularly meets to discuss and exchange on relevant themes.

In the past 3 years, the network held thematic meetings on Blue Growth, Coastal and Maritime Tourism, Blue Skills and lately Maritime Safety and Security. These thematic meetings enable the exchange between Interreg funding programmes and maritime experts and organisations such as the Atlantic Action Plan Support Team (Portugal), Baltic Area Legal Studies BALEX (Finland), CPMR, Danish Maritime Authority, EMODnet, European Coast Guard Functions Forum, European Commission, FARNET (European Fisheries Area Network), HELCOM, Idimar (Cluster de innovacion marina de las islas Baleares), NECSTour (Network of European Regions for a Sustainable and Competitive Tourism), Secrétariat general de la mer (France), Swedish Coast Guard, State Chancellery Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (Germany), STC Group (Netherlands), Swedish Police Authority and University of Gent (Belgium).

The network is facilitated by Interact ([www.interact-eu.net](http://www.interact-eu.net)). The mission of Interact is to support all the Interreg programmes (maritime and non-maritime) in their daily work by providing advice, by organizing learning events and developing a wide range of tools for programme management, including communication.

For more information about the Knowledge of the seas network please contact: Philipp Schwartz (Interact) at [philipp.schwartz@interact-eu.net](mailto:philipp.schwartz@interact-eu.net) or tel.: +358 40 556 4237.

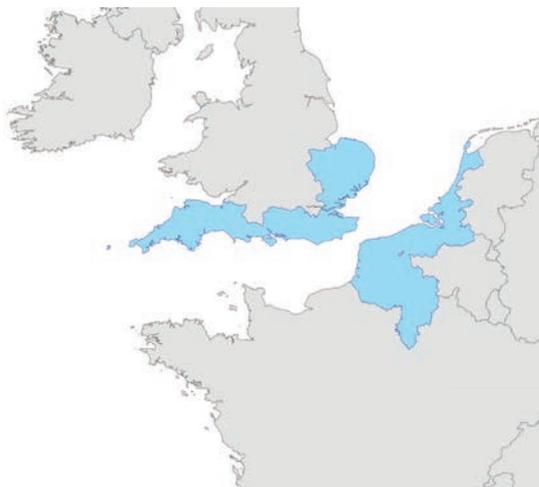


# Interreg EUROPEAN UNION

## 2 Seas Mers Zeeën

- ERDF:** €241 m
- Countries:** Coastal areas of Belgium, England, France and the Netherlands
- Priorities:** P1 Technological and social innovation  
P2 Low carbon technologies  
P3 Adaption to Climate Change  
P4 Resource efficient economy
- Projects:** 44
- Webpage:** [www.interreg2seas.eu](http://www.interreg2seas.eu)
- Contact:** Gianluca Ferreri, [g.ferreri@interreg2seas.eu](mailto:g.ferreri@interreg2seas.eu)

The overall objective of Interreg 2 Seas 2014-2020 is to develop an innovative, knowledge and research based, sustainable and inclusive 2 Seas area, where natural resources are protected and the green economy is promoted.



## Project example: QUALIFY

**Programme** Technological and  
**Priority:** social innovation

**Specific Objective:** Increase the delivery  
of innovation in smart  
specialisation sectors

**Duration:** 3 years

**Total budget** € 3 781 577 m  
(ERDF:  
€ 3 781 577 m)

**Webpage:** [https://www.  
interreg2seas.eu/en/  
qualify](https://www.interreg2seas.eu/en/qualify)

The project aims at removing the technological and regulatory barriers that currently prevent the widespread application of hybrid structures (metal/composite) in the shipping industry. It will deliver the knowledge and the guidelines that the industry needs to pursue certification of adhesively bonded hybrid joints for primary structures in marine applications.

The application of hybrid bonded structures, can reduce the top weight of naval ships. The weight savings enabled by the replacement of primary metal structures with adhesively bonded hybrid structures can be as high as 75% (yachts) and can halve the fuel consumption and lead to a similar reduction of harmful emissions.

To achieve its aim, the project requires a combination of expertise and experience not available within the national borders of individual participants.



**ERDF:** €115 m

**Countries:** Estonia, Finland (incl. Åland),  
Latvia, Sweden

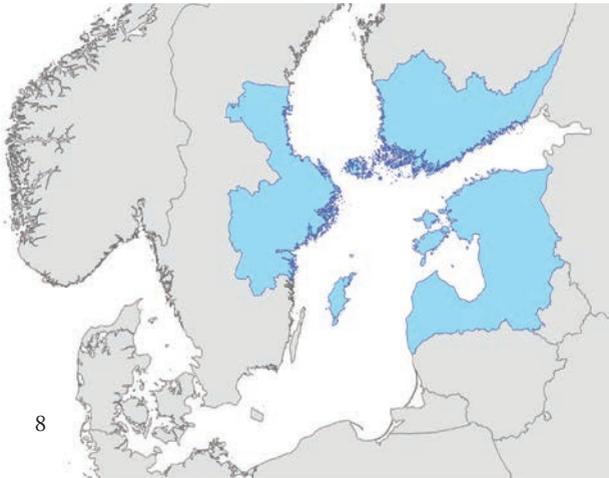
**Priorities:** P1 Competitive economy  
P2 Sustainable use of common  
resources  
P3 Well-connected region  
P4 Skilled and socially inclusive  
region

**Projects:** 97

**Webpage:** [www.centralbaltic.eu](http://www.centralbaltic.eu) and  
[database.centralbaltic.eu](http://database.centralbaltic.eu)

**Contact:** [info@centralbaltic.u](mailto:info@centralbaltic.u)

The Central Baltic 2014-2020 Programme finances result orientated cross-border cooperation projects in the Baltic Sea between Estonia, Finland (incl Åland), Latvia and Sweden.



## Project example: BLASTIC

**Programme** P2 Sustainable use of  
**Priority:** common resources

**Programme Specific** 2.4. Reduced nutrients,  
**Objective:** hazardous substances  
and toxins inflow into  
the Baltic Sea

**Sub-programme:** Central Baltic

**Duration:** 01.01.2016 -  
31.12.2018

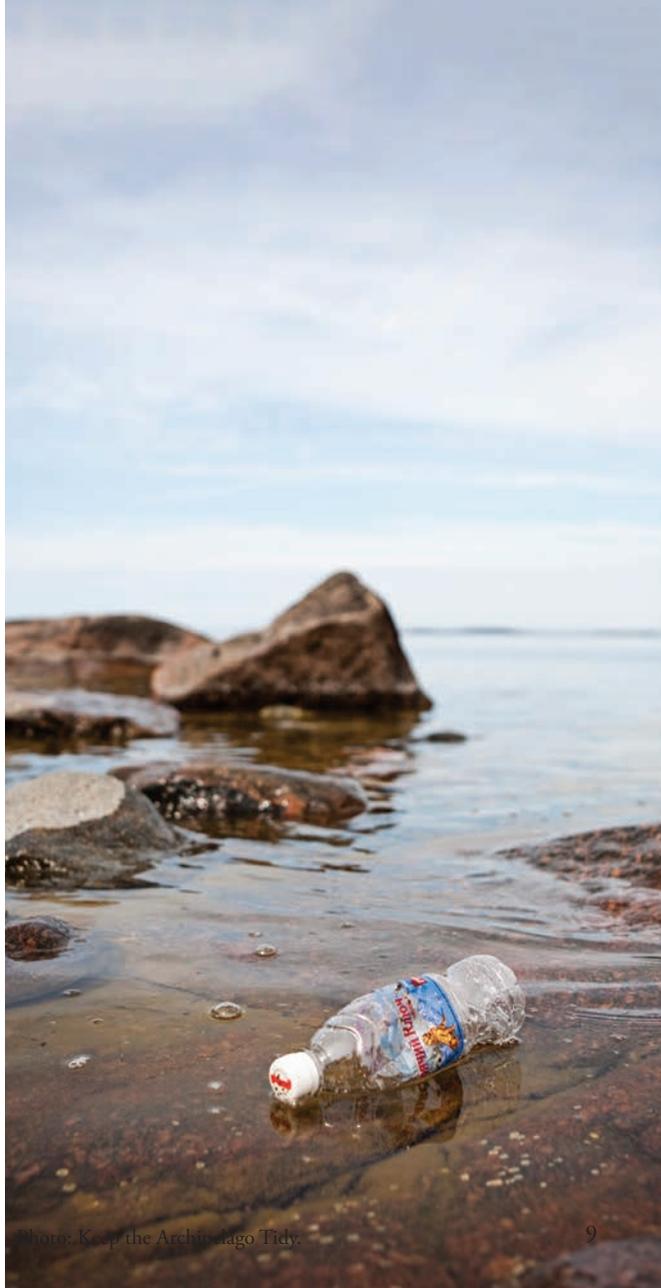
**Total budget:** €1 016 555 (ERDF:  
€784 522)

The BLASTIC project aims at reducing plastic waste and thereby hazardous substances inflow into the Baltic Sea by mapping and monitoring litter levels in the aquatic environment.

The project demonstrates how plastic waste in urban areas finds its ways to the Baltic Sea and becomes marine litter. Land-based sources count for most of the marine litter while rivers are major pathways feeding the sea with litter. In practise the project takes regional and national strategies into use on a local level and also produces updated local action plans.

The project compiles a list of sources and pathways with recommendations that are closely linked to resource efficiency in waste and water sector. The methodology is implemented in 3-4 urban areas and the concept is further promoted in other areas.

BLASTIC has EUSBSR flagship project status.



**ERDF:** €201,3 m

**Countries:** Italy and Croatia

**Priorities:** P1 Blue Innovation  
P2 Safety and resilience  
P3 Environment and cultural heritage  
P4 Maritime transport

**Projects:** 22

**Webpage:** [www.italy-croatia.eu](http://www.italy-croatia.eu)

**Contact:** [italia.croazia@regione.veneto.it](mailto:italia.croazia@regione.veneto.it)  
[JS.Italy-Croatia@regione.veneto.it](mailto:JS.Italy-Croatia@regione.veneto.it)

Italy-Croatia CBC Programme enables regional and local stakeholders from two countries to exchange knowledge and experiences, to develop and implement pilot actions, to test the feasibility of new policies, products and services and to support investments.

The Italy-Croatia CBC Programme's overall objective is to increase the prosperity and the blue growth potential of the area by stimulating cross-border partnerships able to achieve tangible changes. The central location of the sea basin (affecting the transportation patterns and socioeconomic processes in the Programme area), the maritime character of historical trade relations, the joint asset of natural areas and cultural heritage, offering a unique competitive advantage, the shared importance of economy branches exploiting the rich natural sea-based resources are illustrative fields point at an essential role of the blue and green economy for the sustainable regional growth in the cooperation area.



**Project example: DORY “Capitalization actions for aDriatic marine enviroNment pRotection and ecosYstem based management”**

**Programme Priority:** P3 Environment and cultural heritage

**Programme Specific Objective:** 3.2 Contribute to protect and restore biodiversity

**Duration:** 18 months

**Total budget:** €934 405 (ERDF: 794 244)

**Project webpage:** [http://www.italy-croatia.eu/sites/default/files/dory\\_27741599\\_5.pdf](http://www.italy-croatia.eu/sites/default/files/dory_27741599_5.pdf)

The project DORY intends to promote the adoption of common management fisheries' models and development of alternative spatial management measures. The pilot activities will test the innovative solutions for reducing the negative aquaculture ecological impact of the economic activities and to enhance the biodiversity of fish habitats.



- ERDF:** €224 m
- Countries:** Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro
- Priorities:** Axis 1 Innovation, Axis 2 Low carbon economy, Axis 3 Natural and cultural resources, Axis 4 Mediterranean Governance.
- Projects:** 91
- Webpage:** [www.interreg-med.eu](http://www.interreg-med.eu)
- Contact:** [programme\\_med@regionpaca.fr](mailto:programme_med@regionpaca.fr)

The Interreg MED Programme is a European transnational cooperation programme co-financed by the ERDF and IPA funds. It provides funds for projects developed and managed by public and private entities. Its overall objective is to promote sustainable growth by fostering innovative concepts and practices and a reasonable use of resources. In addition, it supports also social integration.



## **Project example: ACT4LITTER**

**Programme Priority:** P3 Natural and cultural resources

**Programme Specific Objective:** 3.2 To maintain biodiversity and natural ecosystems through strengthening the management and networking of protected areas

**Duration:** 01.02.2017 – 31.07.2018

**Total budget:** €538 550

**ERDF:** €457 767

**Project webpage:** [act4litter.interreg-med.eu](http://act4litter.interreg-med.eu)

The ACT4LITTER project identifies effective and feasible prevention measures to tackle marine litter in the Mediterranean Protected Areas (MPAs), through the development of an appropriate decision-making tool, able to assess the effectiveness of such measures. This tool will help MPA managers to manage their specific marine litter issue. ACT4LITTERs team has identified a list of more than a 100 potential prevention measures to tackle marine litter and has developed a template for the feasibility assessment of these measures. Until now, the project has enrolled ten MPAs to develop specific action plans by testing this decision making tool.





- ERDF:** €78 m
- Countries:** Germany, Denmark,  
Lithuania, Poland, Sweden
- Priorities:** P1 Strengthening international activeness and innovation capacity of the South Baltic blue & green economy  
P2 Exploiting the environmental and cultural potential of the South Baltic area for blue and green growth  
P3 Improving cross-border connectivity for a functional blue and green transport area.  
P4 Boosting human resource capacities for the area's blue and green economy"  
P5 Increasing cooperation capacity of local actors
- Projects:** 55
- Webpage:** [www.southbaltic.eu](http://www.southbaltic.eu)
- Contact:** [southbaltic@southbaltic.eu](mailto:southbaltic@southbaltic.eu)

The Interreg South Baltic Programme aims at unlocking South Baltic's potential for blue and green growth through cross-border cooperation between local and regional actors from Denmark, Germany, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden. Building on the maritime character of the Programme, "blue growth" addresses the economic potential of the Baltic Sea for growth and jobs across the shores of the South Baltic. At the same time, "green growth" underlines the need to pursue the path of economic growth in balance with the environment, in particular by utilising South Baltic's rich natural and cultural heritage in a sustainable and preserving manner.



## Project example: InnoAquaTech

**Programme priority:** 1 - Strengthening international activeness and innovation capacity of the South Baltic blue & green economy

**Specific Objective:** 1.2 - Improve the transfer of innovation for the benefit of blue and green sector SMEs through joint cross-border actions

**Duration:** 3 years

**Total budget:** €1 677 126,25 (ERDF: € 1 400 068,44 )

**Webpage:** <https://www.submariner-network.eu/projects/innoaquatech>

InnoAquaTech promotes cross-border development and transfer of innovative sustainable and environmentally friendly aquaculture technologies in the South Baltic Region.

Project aims to implement four successful pilot projects, which will showcase the viability of a strong aquaculture economy in the South Baltic Region. These projects will also serve as decision support for potential investors and the project itself will be a truly useful service for SMEs. As a result, SMEs and their support organisations will gain increased innovation capacity as well as being able to develop and implement cross-border value chains. This in turn will help to strengthen the South Baltic area's aquaculture sector and contribute to more sustainable food production.



## Interreg programmes present at the EMD 2018 stand

Programme name	Countries	Priorities
<b>2 Seas</b>	Coastal areas of Belgium, England, France and the Netherlands	P1 Technological and social innovation, P2 Low carbon technologies, P3 Adaptation to Climate Change, P4 Resource efficient economy
<b>Central Baltic</b>	Estonia, Finland (incl. Åland), Latvia, Sweden	P1 Competitive economy, P2 Sustainable use of common resources, P3 Well-connected region, P4 Skilled and socially inclusive region
<b>Italy-Croatia</b>	Italy and Croatia	P1 Blue Innovation, P2 Safety and resilience, P3: Environment and cultural heritage, P4: Maritime transport
<b>MED</b>	57 regions from 13 partner European States: Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro.	P1 Innovation, P2 Low carbon economy, P3 Natural and cultural resources, P4 Mediterranean Governance.
<b>South Baltic</b>	Germany, Denmark, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden	P1 Strengthening international activeness and innovation capacity of the South Baltic blue & green economy, P2 Exploiting the environmental and cultural potential of the South Baltic area for blue and green growth, P3 Improving cross-border connectivity for a functional blue and green transport area. P4 Boosting human resource capacities for the area's blue and green economy

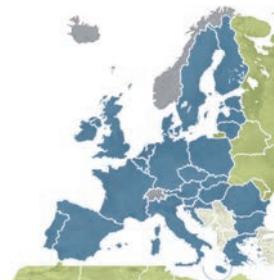
Total ERDF (m)	Projects	Next call for applications	Contact	Webpage
€241	44			<a href="http://www.interreg2seas.eu">www.interreg2seas.eu</a>
€115	97	Fourth targeted call takes place in November 2018.	<a href="mailto:info@centralbaltic.eu">info@centralbaltic.eu</a>	<a href="http://www.centralbaltic.eu">www.centralbaltic.eu</a>
€201	22		<a href="mailto:italia.croazia@regione.veneto.it">italia.croazia@regione.veneto.it</a> , <a href="mailto:JS.Italy-Croatia@regione.veneto.it">JS.Italy-Croatia@regione.veneto.it</a>	<a href="http://www.italy-croatia.eu">www.italy-croatia.eu</a>
ERDF: €224 IPA: €9	91		<a href="mailto:programme_med@regionpaca.fr">programme_med@regionpaca.fr</a>	<a href="http://www.interreg-med.eu">www.interreg-med.eu</a>
€78	55		<a href="mailto:southbaltic@southbaltic.eu">southbaltic@southbaltic.eu</a>	<a href="http://www.southbaltic.eu">www.southbaltic.eu</a>





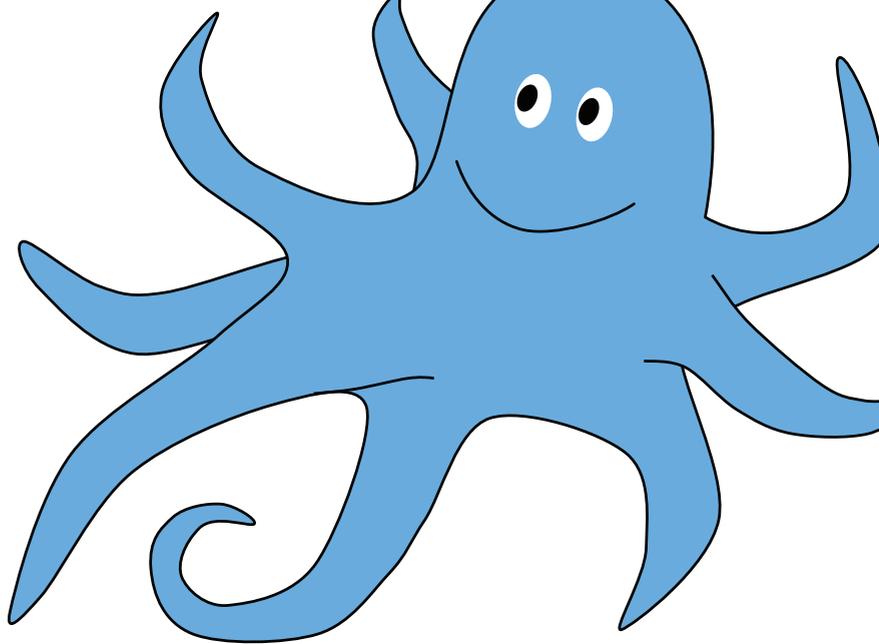
In this brochure you find a few Interreg funding programmes supporting (maritime) cooperation across borders. But there are many more programmes supporting maritime cooperation across borders all over Europe. You can learn more about these programmes and the projects they are co-financing at [www.keep.eu](http://www.keep.eu).

Currently there are 358 projects in Keep that deal with 'coastal management and maritime issues' since 2007. This also means that 2.323 project partners are/ have been involved and €486 m EU co-financing have been allocated.



### What is KEEP?

KEEP is the only source of aggregated data regarding projects and beneficiaries of EU cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation programmes within the EU, and between Member States and neighbouring countries. The Interact Programme, with the support of the European Commission and the remaining Interreg, Interreg IPA cross-border and ENPI/ENI cross-border programmes, built this database and maintains it, as part of its mission. The database covers the 2000–2006, 2007–2013 and 2014–2020 periods.



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European Regional  
Development Fund