

Future of ETC (Interreg) and EGTC

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EGTC Platform

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Cohesion Policy post-2020



The Cross-border multistage or step rocket

A **multistage rocket**, or **step rocket** is a launch vehicle that uses two or more rocket stages, each of which contains its own *engines* and *propellant*.

- **Stage 1: INTERREG**
(joint strategy and money)
- **Stage 2: European grouping of territorial cooperation**
(common structure and mutual trust)
- **Stage 3: ECBM**
(legal obstacles and initiators)



ETC (Interreg)



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Common Provisions Regulation (CPR)

- Delivery elements are here

Key legal instruments

ERDF/CF Regulation

- Cohesion policy priorities are here (e.g. specific objectives and thematic concentration requirements)
- Specific objectives
- New interregional innovation investments

(ESF+ Regulation)

ETC (Interreg) Regulation

EGTC Regulation

No amendments proposed

ECBM Regulation

Only if cross-border projects!

Shorter & modern menu of priorities

5 Policy objectives + 2 Interreg-specific objectives

1. *A smarter Europe (innovative & smart economic transformation)*
2. *A greener, low-carbon Europe (including energy transition, the circular economy, climate adaptation and risk management)*
3. *A more connected Europe (mobility and ICT connectivity)*
4. *A more social Europe (the European Pillar of Social Rights)*
5. *A Europe closer to citizens (sustainable development of urban, rural and coastal areas and local initiatives)*

1. *A better **cooperation** governance [address border obstacles!]*
2. *A safer and more secure Europe*

Thematic concentration!

Interreg project partnership (Article 23 ETC)

- ***Interreg partnership for operations***

Cooperation is about...cooperation!

4 dimensions (DISF)

- *Development*

- *Implementation*

- *Staffing*

- *financing*

- *Lead partner principle*

- *Sole beneficiary (EGTC)*

New: Small project funds (Article 24)

- *Only for Interreg*
- *SPF = "operation" [small projects ≠ people-to-people projects]*
- *EUR 20 million or 15% per SPF under an Interreg programme*
- *"Final recipients" implement "small projects" (§1)*
- *Cross-border legal body or **EGTC** = beneficiary (§2)*
Legislators: less strict
- *Content of grant letter (§3)*
- *Selection of small projects ≠ delegation of tasks to an IB (§4)*
- *20% max. for staff and management costs (§5)*
- *Small project < EUR 100.000 → SCO obligatory (§6)*

European grouping of territorial cooperation



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The different roles of EGTCs

- What can an EGTC do under the **EGTC-Regulation**?
- What can an EGTC do under the **ETC-Regulation**?
- What can an EGTC do under the **IGJ goal** or other **EU programmes**?

EGTC Regulation: Article 7(2) and (3)

- “facilitation and promotion of territorial cooperation” (2)
“may carry out specific actions of territorial cooperation”
 - with financial support from the Union or
 - without financial support from the Union (3) 1st sub §
- “Specifically, tasks may concern the
 - implementation of cooperation programmes
(EGTC signs grant letters as managing authority)
 - or parts thereof or of
 - ***operations supported by the Union through the ERDF, ESF and/or CF (3) 2nd sub §***

European grouping of territorial cooperation

CPR: point 27 of Article 2 – always public expenditure

ERDF: °°

ETC (Interreg)

- *Article 20: Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI)*
- *Article 23(6): Sole beneficiary of Interreg projects*
- *Article 24(2): Small Project Fund beneficiary*
- *Article 28(1): Composition MC (“may”)*
- *Article 44(4): MA*
- *Article 50(2): Recoveries*

Integrated territorial investment (CPR)

Article 24(1) CPR

Where a strategy implemented in accordance with Article 23 involves investments that receive support from

- one or more Funds,
 - from more than one programme or
 - from more than one priority of the same programme,
- actions may be carried out as an integrated territorial investment ('ITI').

Article 23 CPR

- under the responsibility of the relevant urban, local or other territorial authorities or bodies
- Selected operations shall comply with the territorial strategy
- tasks falling under the responsibility of the managing authority **other than the selection of operations** → authority identified by the managing authority as an intermediate body

Improvements outside EGTC Regulation

CPR

- point 27 of Article 2: EGTC expenditure is always public

Outside Cohesion Policy

- Public Procurement Directives
- Beneficiary Horizon2020, Life+, Erasmus, CEF, Europe for Citizens etc.
- Financial Regulation: Sole beneficiary

**Many thanks
for your attention!**

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