

The Welsh Government, The Welsh Local Government Association and Welsh Higher Education Brussels are delighted to invite you to a seminar entitled

Achieving a smarter, sustainable and inclusive Europe through Territorial Co-operation



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

www.gov.wales

Where: Wales House, 6th Floor Rond-Point Schuman 11, Brussels B1040

When: 2nd October 2015

Time: 9.00–17:00 (with a networking lunch)

Chair: Dr Hywel Ceri Jones, CMG, Welsh EU Funding Ambassador

European Territorial Co-operation (ETC) (or Interreg) programmes provide the opportunity for EU regions to work together, share best practice and co-ordinate actions to provide solutions to common challenges. The new 2014-2020 ETC programme budget has increased to €10.1 billion invested in over 100 cooperation programmes.

We want to derive maximum benefit from the opportunities that ETC has to offer in the 2014–2020 programme period, raise awareness and participation levels and build further on the €43m in ERDF grant investment which is currently benefiting 94 projects with Welsh partners. Our intention to continue to do business through these important co-operation programmes has been clearly set out by the First Minister for Wales in the Welsh Government's EU Strategy as well as the recently published International Agenda.

We want to celebrate 25 years of Interreg and we anticipate that this event will strengthen relations between European regions with a view to increasing joint working. It will be an excellent opportunity to exchange information on priorities and project ideas, while developing new, innovative and successful collaborative projects.

Speakers include Jane Hutt AM, Minister for Finance and Government Business in the Welsh Government and Lena Andersson Pench, Director D, Territorial Co-operation, Macro-regions and North-West Europe.

The conference will be Chaired by Dr Hywel Ceri Jones CMG, Welsh EU Funding Ambassador:

The aims of this seminar are:

To highlight Wales's ambition to increase our participation in, and derive maximum benefit from, the Territorial Co-operation programmes;

To raise awareness of partners' regional strategies with regard to participation in the European Territorial Cooperation programmes focusing on Interreg North West, Atlantic Area and Europe;

To exchange information on priorities and project ideas and, potentially, to start project development work (which can continue during the Open Days 2015);

To strengthen relations between regions building on existing partnerships and networks with a view to increased joint working.

To register:

Please contact:

Julian Price on **0032 2 502 4474** or email **EUOfficeBrussels@wales.gsi.gov.uk**

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9.00	Registration and coffee	
9.30	Introduction	Chair: Dr Hywel Ceri Jones, CMG, Welsh EU Funding Ambassador
9.40	Opening remarks and speeches	Jane Hutt AM, Minister for Finance and other Government Business, Welsh Government Lena Andersson Pench, Director for Territorial Co-operation, Macro-regions and North-West Europe, DG Regional Policy'
10:20	Programme Director Updates	Ruut Louwers, Programme Director North West Europe Daniel Clement, Director, Joint Secretariat of the Atlantic Area Programme
11:00	Coffee	
11.30	Moderated panel of Regions	
	Panel 1 – Atlantic Area	Panel 2 – North West
	Moderator – Pauline Caumont, CPMR Task Force on Macro-Regions and Executive Secretary of the Atlantic Arc Commission	Moderator – Nick Brookes, Director responsible for Regional Policy, CPMR
	Brittany	Flanders
	Basque Country	Wales (WLGA)
	Irish regions	Baden Wurttemberg (tbc)
	Wales (Welsh Government)	Nord Pas de Calais (tbc)
	Galicia	
	General remarks on experiences and legacy from 2007–13 Focus on priorities for 2014–2020 and overview of project pipeline with a view to identifying possible areas of collaboration	
13:00	Lunch	Workshop on Regional Networking and Interreg Europe
14.00	Introduction:	Chair, Richard Tuffs, ERRIN
14.10		Erwin Siweris, Programme Director, Interreg Europe Fiona Wieland, Policy Coordinator, Urban Development, DG REGIO
14.30	Panel Discussion:	
	Emilia Romagna	
	Flanders	
	Wales	
	Silesia (tbc)	
16.00	Informal roundtable to discuss project ideas with people who have pre-circulated details with three-minute project idea pitches by project promoters	
16:45	Close and conclusions	

Seminar

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2 October 2015,
Wales House Brussels



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Indicative Project title	
ETC Programme (please tick)	Interreg North West Europe Interreg Atlantic Area Interreg Europe
Priority (if known)	
Short description of project idea	
Contact details Name, telephone, email and web address	
Financial information (if known)	
Anticipated project start date	
Anticipated project duration	