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Interreg NPA consultation

Stakeholder expectations

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Post-2027 Stakeholder Consultation

- Novelty: initiated by European Commission DG Regio
- Purpose: gathering stakeholder views to shape Interreg post-2027
- Building on longstanding NPA tradition to consult stakeholders
- Timing: summer-autumn 2024
- Outcomes summarised in a Harvesting Report
- Commission compiled Harvesting Reports from all Interreg programmes, as well as input from citizens, and young people.

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Stakeholders & Consultation Process

- Online survey targeting familiar (86%) & new stakeholders (14%): 122 responses, including youth organisations
- Online workshop – “Shape the Future Interreg” (18 Sept): group discussions with 15 participants, informed by survey data.
- Lead Partner Seminar (26 Sept, Copenhagen): 16 participants contributed via post-it consultation questions.
- Regional Contact Point consultations (Finland, Iceland)

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Key Findings

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Harvesting Report

Post-2027 Consultation



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Key findings

Cooperation Topics

- Climate adaptation & sustainability 🌍
- Biodiversity & land use 🌲
- Transnational research & innovation networks 🔬
- Tourism & cultural heritage 🗺️
- Youth engagement & skills 🎓
- Community-level capacity building 👥

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Key findings

Strengths of the Programme

Enables cooperation that would not otherwise happen

Strong rural & remote area focus

Supportive programme staff

Flexible project formats

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Key findings

Challenges & Barriers

- ⚠ Bureaucracy & administrative burden
- ⚠ Limited funding levels
- ⚠ Capacity issues for smaller organisations
- ⚠ Lack of harmonisation of regulations and data across countries

Findings

NPA is a good school for smaller entities to gain self-confidence to take part in bigger international projects

Stakeholder voices

What I like about the Interreg NPA is that it is a small, practically orientated programme targeting real needs of the region

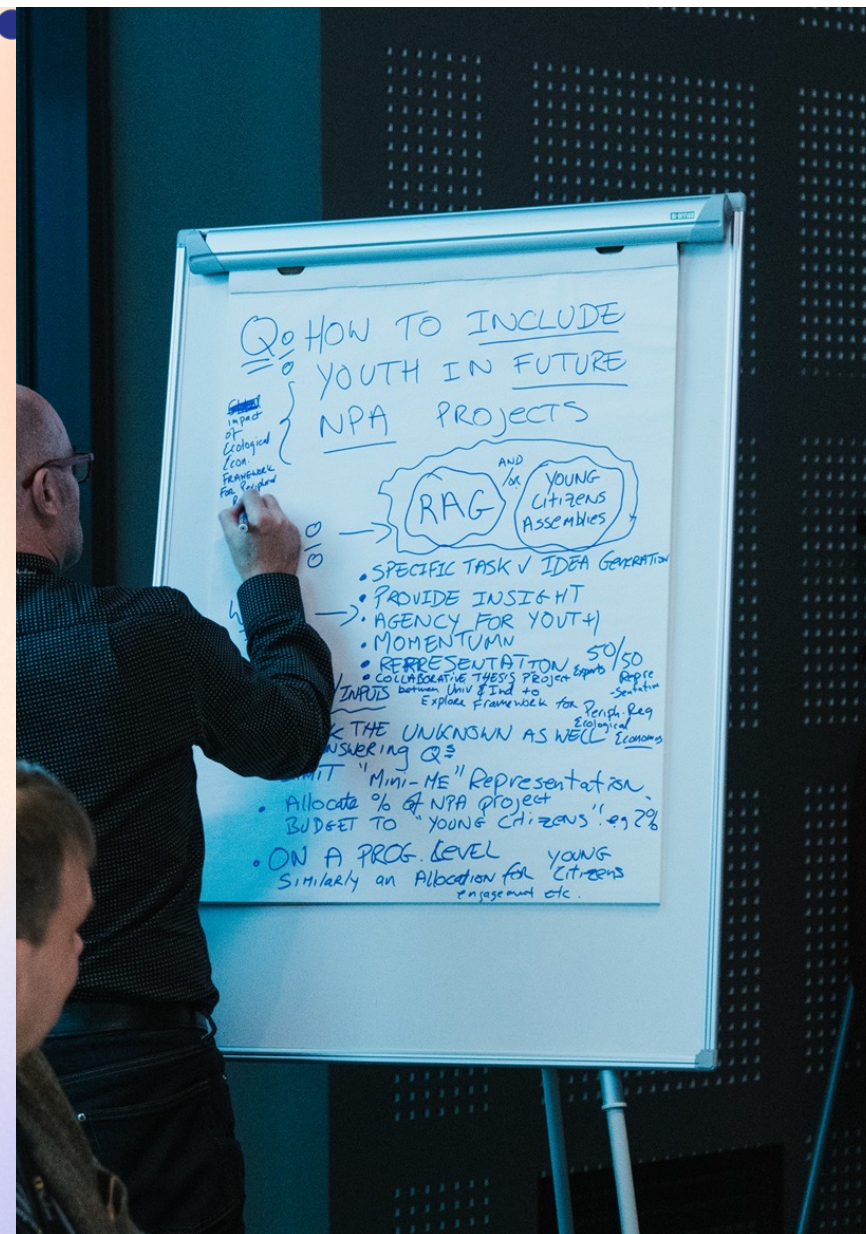
We need a programme that can support the capacity building for organisations from within the programme area

The benefit of collaborating transnationally is the possibility of building critical mass of expertise in addressing remote and rural challenges experienced by people on a daily basis

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Recommendations

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Recommendations

What to keep

Topics	Geography	Implementation
- sustainable development focus - ISO1 as flexible priority	Unique focus on remote & sparsely populated areas	- Focus on real needs of programme area - Supportive programme administration - Flexible project types (esp. preparatory projects) - Jems system

Recommendations

More/improve

Topics	Geography	Implementation
• Sustainable tourism (natural & cultural heritage) • Biodiversity • Youth engagement • Resilience, security, preparedness • Health & wellbeing	• Greater geographical flexibility (Scotland, Northern Ireland, Canada, Denmark) • Better systems for national/regional match funding	• Flexibility (smaller budgets, shorter durations) • More co-design & stakeholder consultation • Stronger support for partner search, idea development • Cross-project learning, mentoring, regional “champions” • Better access to information New: ★ Small-scale infrastructure investments ★ Policy development projects

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Next steps

- Some wishes already visible in the proposed regulations
- Using this period to identify new stakeholders and strengthen existing connections
- More consultations during the programming process – timing?

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Thank you!

Let's stay in touch!

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