



Northern Periphery and Arctic: Past, Present and Future...

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Northern
Periphery
Programme

2007–2013



Northern Periphery and
Arctic Programme

2014–2020



Interreg



Co-funded by
the European Union

Northern Periphery and Arctic



2000

- Y2k
- Changing geopolitical environments
- I-pod
- Cold & extreme climate
- Remote and Peripheral

(I started at EPRC....)

Photo by [Janne Leimola](#) on [Unsplash](#)



*Complex
Interrelated
Unpredictable
Change*

Photo: <https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/rock-ptarmigan-lagopus-muta-1131232475>



2025

- Polycrisis
- New political divides & polarisation
- AI
- Extreme weather & climate change
- Global attention on Arctic, ... still remote and peripheral

(...still at EPRC....)

Photo by [Joshua Kettle](#) on [Unsplash](#)



Territorial roots

- Shared development issues & priorities
- Unique and distinct characteristics

Photo by
[Chan Hyuk Moon](#) on
[Unsplash](#)



Good partners

- Experienced, active and engaged partners



Forward looking

- Foresight, manage complexity and deal with uncertainty



Progression

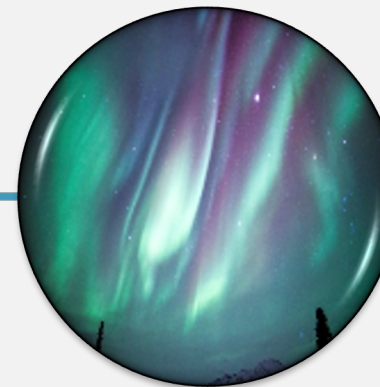
- Cooperation in new areas; more ambitious; more impactful

Evaluation highlights



Tangible

- Access to services
- Cost saving
- Competitive
- Energy saving
- Environmental Protection

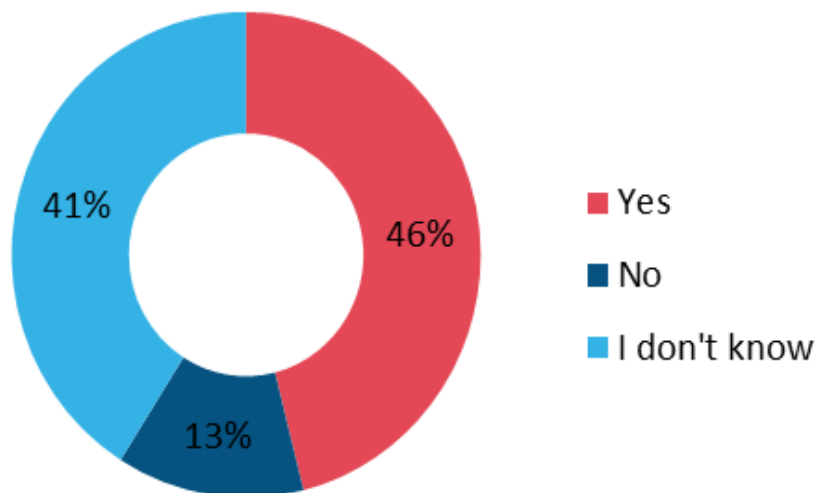


Intangible

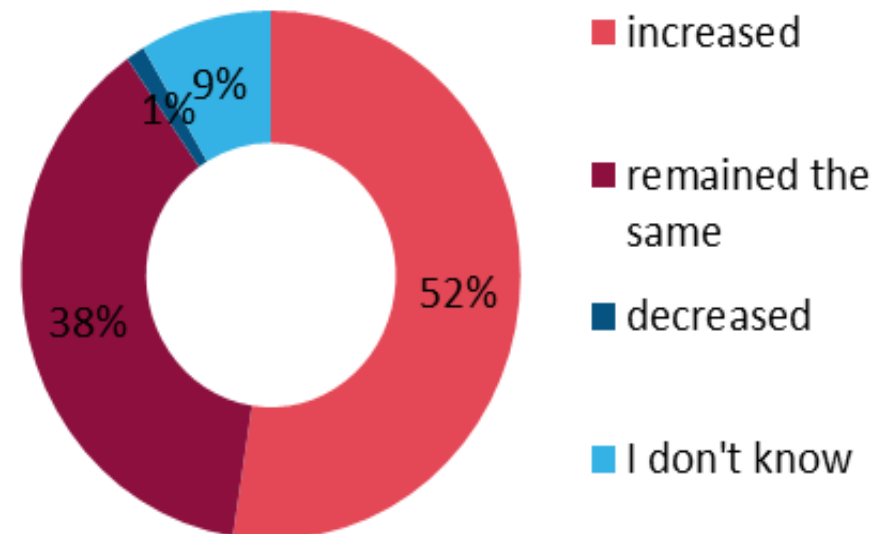
- Community engagement
- Perception change
- Policy influence
- Synergies
- Capacity

LASTING IMPACTS

Does the project continue to make the same positive impacts as reported?



Has the positive impact ... ?



Source: McMaster I, Wergles, N. Vironen, H. (2019) An Impact Evaluation of the NPA Programme 2014-2020, EPRC



ROADDEX III
NORTHERN PERIPHERY

- Long running
- Tangible results

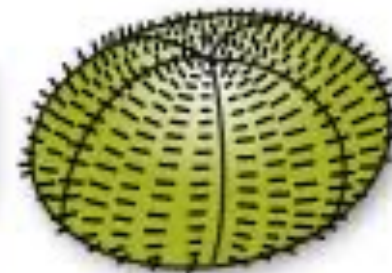
- Connecting small businesses
- Wider policy impact



slow adventure
IN NORTHERN TERRITORIES

URCHIN

Utilising the Arctic Urchin Resource



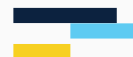
- Innovations and activity based around a 'niche' but very place relevant sector



- People
- New technologies

RemoAge

REMOTE SUPPORT OF AGED PEOPLE



NPA NETWORKS AND LINKS



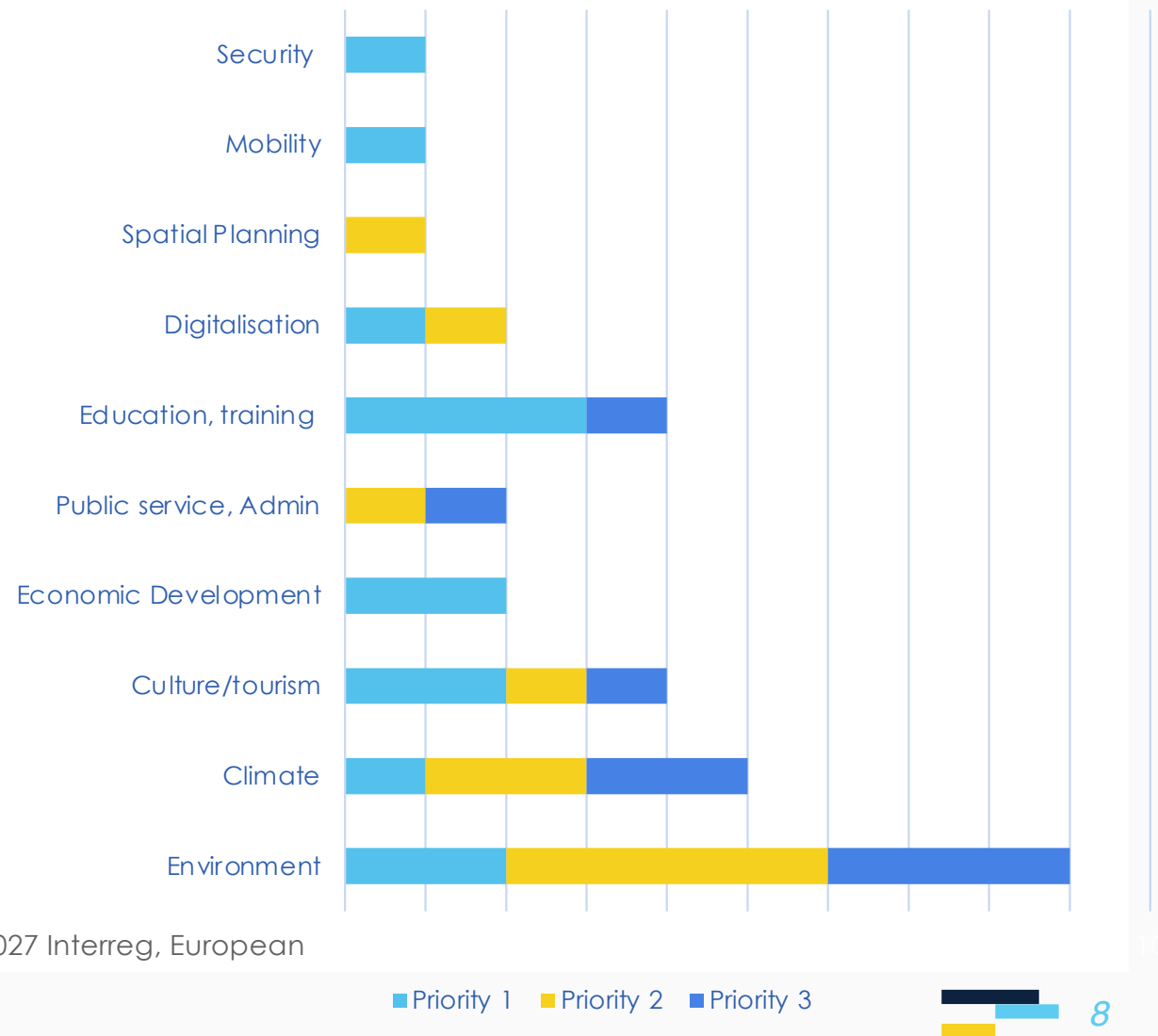
FUTURE EU INTERREG: ADDING VALUE

Consultations emphasise

- ✓ Connecting people/networks/dots
- ✓ Territorial basis
- ✓ Capacity
- ✓ Responsive

- ✓ Strategic framework
- ✓ Community links

Top three priorities for territorial cooperation:
stakeholders



Source: McMaster I, (2025) Harvesting report on Post 2027 Interreg, European Commission



Built something worth keeping

- not easy to achieve (*so should not be taken for granted*)
- links need maintained and can do more



Complexity and pace of change

- need for more and on-going cooperation



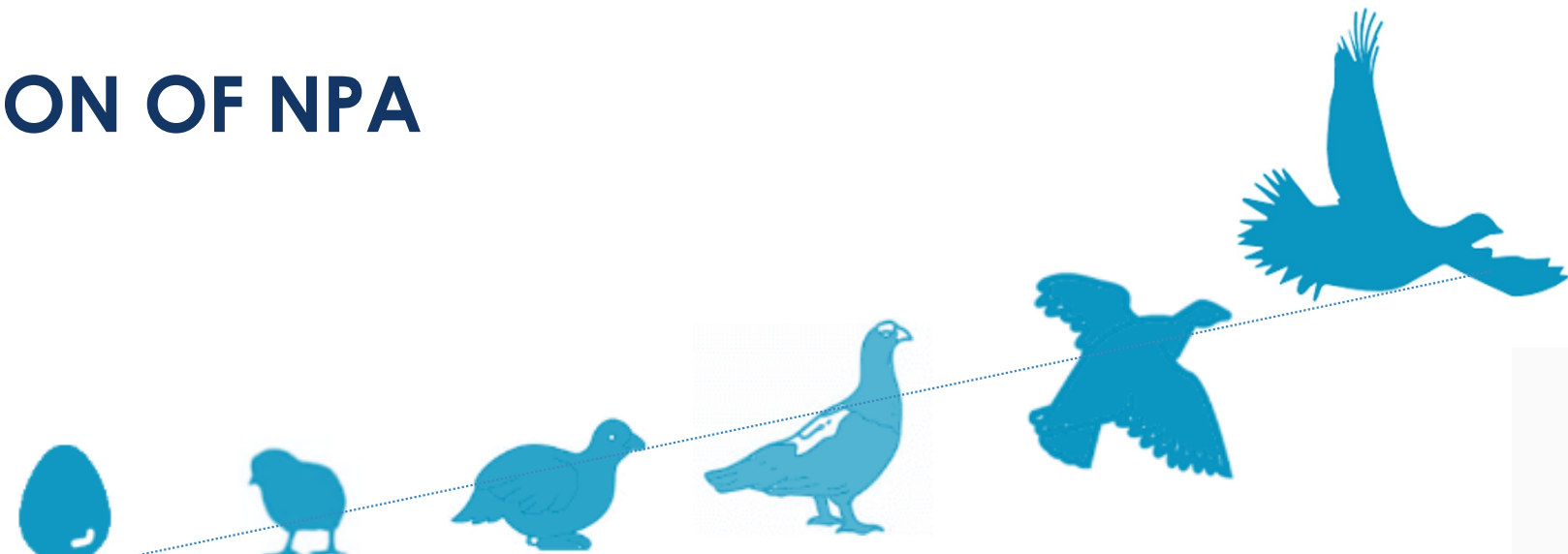
Insularity, populism, divisions and disengagement

- underline the importance of people-to-people connections

**Keep
going
!!!**

EVOLUTION OF NPA

EVOLUTION OF INTERREG NPA 1990-2027+



	▶ Nordic Scottish Cooperation	▶ ARTICLE 10 Northern Periphery 1998	▶ INTERREG III NPP 2000- 2006	▶ INTERREG IV NPA 2007- 2013	▶ INTERREG V NPA 2014- 2020	▶ INTERREG VI NPA 2021- 2027
LEGAL STATUS	<i>Ad hoc</i>	COMMUNITY INITIATIVE	INTEGRATED INTO STRUCTURAL FUND REGULATION		OWN REGULATION	OWN REGULATION
BENEFITTING COUNTRIES MEMBER	4	4	7	9	9	7
COMMITMENT BUDGET		EUR 13.33 MN	EUR 55,63 MN	EUR 60 Mn	EUR 78,64 MN	EUR 51,5 MN

Source: author illustration , based on **European Commission, DG Regio (2014c)**: Panorama – InfoREGIO. Winter 2014, no.51. Luxembourg, 2014.



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Thanks for your attention

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