

CBC Flash news November 2014

Dear Interreg Partners,

Please, let us share a few highlights/information with you,

- **New Commissioner for Regional Policy**



As you well know Corina Crețu is our new Commissioner for Regional Policy. We want to present Commissioner Crețu's team: Mikel Landabaso (Head of Cabinet and former DG REGIO Head of Unit), Grabiela Onaca (Deputy Head of Cabinet), Ioanna Rus (in charge of territorial cooperation), Dragos Bucurenci, Ioannis Latoudis, Jan Mikolaj Dzieciolowski, Tomas Nejdil, Mathieu Fichter. You can find more information and a description of their posts here: http://ec.europa.eu/commission/2014-2019/cretu/team_en

- **Feedback on Open Days**

The 12th edition of the Open Days European Week of Regions and Cities event took place from 6 to 9 October. Over **182 regions and cities** from **43 countries** participated and **107 workshops** were organised. **6000 people** enrolled. Press coverage was ensured by more than 130 journalists. There were **4.400 mentions of #EUOpenDays** on social media between 6-9 October. **300 local events** were organised between September and November all over Europe. We want to thank you all for your active participation.



- **#EUChatREGIO #EUCB**



DG REGIO and the D2 team organised a **twitter EUChat on 24/10** to collect data on remaining border obstacles and existing solutions. We collected **76 questions/comments** within an hour. In average, each tweet was seen by around 426 people, accumulating almost 26.000 views throughout the whole day. More than the half of the comments came from Belgium. **We invite you all to contribute to the mapping of obstacles and solutions on border areas** by using the hashtag **#EUCB**.

- **Shortage of Payment appropriations**

As you know, we are short of **sufficient payment appropriations** in the 2014 European Union budget to pay claims received from Interreg IV programmes since end August. Amending Budget 3/2014 may be voted towards year end only and therefore more cash may be available only then. Payment claims submitted by end October may be paid at the end of December. **Delayed payments by the Commission have no impact on the application of the automatic decommitment rule** and every claim submitted counts towards meeting your specific financial objective for the end of 2014.

- **Submission of Interreg VA programmes**

For your information, as of end-November, **38 Interreg V-A programmes have been submitted to the Commission** and 1 programme, "Germany-Netherlands", was adopted on 17 November. Unit D2 is hopeful that a further 15 programmes can be adopted or ready for adoption by end 2014.

- **Late programme adoption**

For programmes that are neither adopted nor ready for adoption by year end (the latter enjoy a possible carry-over of the 2014 instalment in accordance with the Financial Regulation), the transfer of 2014 commitment appropriations will have to be requested via a revision of the 2014-2020 multi-annual financial framework (MFF) in line with [Article 19 of the MFF Regulation](#). As the timing will be tight, we should ensure all Interreg V-A programming advances rapidly. This means all programmes should reach the Commission without further delay!!

- **Interreg logo**

As part of our rebranding effort (see [speech from Walter DEFFAA](#) last spring supporting this initiative), many programmes have expressed their desire to use or are already using the common Interreg logo. However there are many questions on the table related to logo size constraints, the position of the name of the programme, the European Union flag, the ERDF, etc. A clarification is being prepared by Interact (to be validated by DG REGIO's Communication unit). For the time being you can check for more information on the logo on Interact's Autumn Newsletter: http://www.interact-eu.net/interact_newsletter/interact_newsletter_autumn_2014/511/17352



The REGIO D2 Team