



*Cooperation actions: How to bring down barriers to build sustainable partnerships among EU IJG Goal Managing Authorities*

*Interact, 2-3 July 2024, Palermo*

# SYNERGIES PILOT: INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR PROGRAMMES/FUNDS INTEGRATION

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Unione europea



**PAC CTE**  
2014-2020  
PROGRAMMA COMPLEMENTARE AL FESR PER LA COORDINAZIONE TERRITORIALE EUROPEA 2014-2020



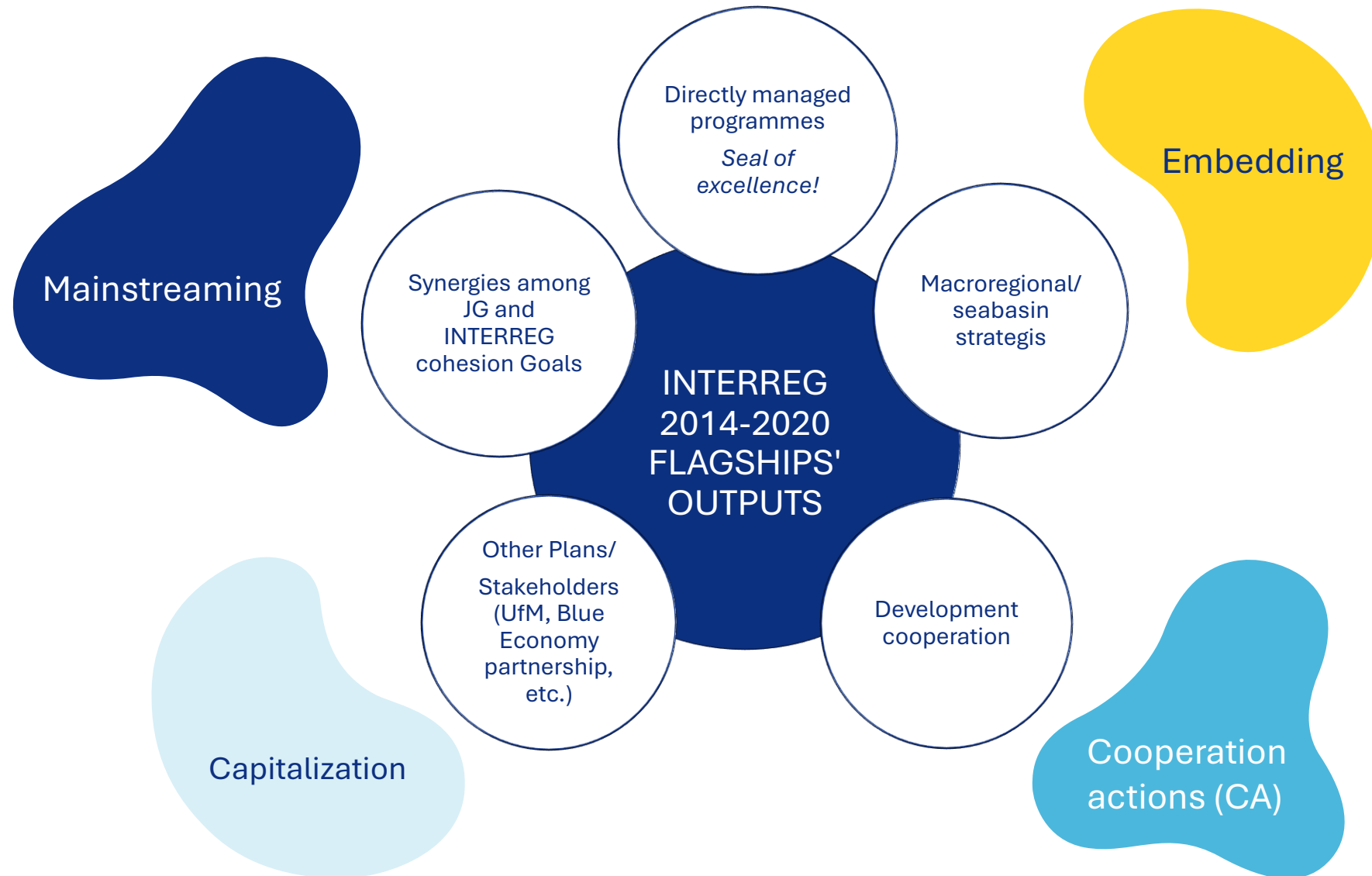
## SYNERGIES: WHAT

- ✓ *An INTERREG pilot project , in progress*
- ✓ *targeting ERDF RP MAs*

## Providing national authority support to:

5 Italian **ERDF regional MAs**, aimed at **facilitating**:

- ✓ implementation of **synergies** between Interreg and mainstream EU cohesion programmes, and beyond (Horizon!)
- ✓ contribution to **macro-regional and sea basin strategies** (MRS/SBS)
- ✓ **development of cooperation actions (CA)**





## SYNERGIES: WHY

EU regulatory requirement (CPR 2021/1060, article 22)

*AND MORE!*

## RATIONAL:

increasing the **IMPACT** on the territories thanks to a **results-reuse- capitalisation-based and synergic approach!**

## AND, BEYOND THE FULFILLMENT LOGIC... PROFITTING FROM INTERREG AS:

- ✓ **innovation** lab and **capitalization** expert
- ✓ **Embedding cooperation** in IJG Goal RP (Interreg Europe!)
- ✓ provider of international stakeholder **networks**
- ✓ **cooperation and connecting** capacity (Palermo CA event :-))
- ✓ **facilitator** towards **MRS/SBS and CA**
- ✓ **bridge** towards **Horizon**

# SYNERGIES: WHEN

Roots in the 21-27 EU cohesion programming phase (2022):

- ✓ Italian Partnership Agreement, § “Links between the 2 EU cohesion goals”
- ✓ National support delivered to ERDF regional/national MAs to comply with CPR art. 22

## Implementation Phase 2024 Methodology: 3 Main Actions:

1

Support for integrated governance

2

Awareness raising and facilitation on Interreg/mainstream synergies; MRS/SBS embedding and cooperation actions

3

Facilitation for joint studies, evaluation and communication activities



## SYNERGIES: WHO

### THE MAIN ACTORS:

5 IT REGIONS AND  
NATIONAL AUTHORITY

### OTHERS:

*Projects  
and national/EU/INTL  
stakeholders*

- ✓ Department for cohesion policies and Southern Italy (National Authority):

**Interreg Unit** (DG 5), in collaboration with the **Mainstream Unit** (DG 2)= initiator/coordinator of the process/facilitator

- ✓ The 5 Regions: Valle d'Aosta, Liguria, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Puglia, Sicily, with a **triple governance role**:

1) Mainstream **ERDF MAs= Synergies target**;

2) Interreg coordinators 3) Interreg MAs (where relevant) = **preliminary screeners of the Dpt. proposal, co-facilitators**



# SYNERGIES: HOW

METHODOLOGY IN BRIEF:

## PHASE 1

DESK ANALYSIS AND  
PRELIMINARY SCREENING

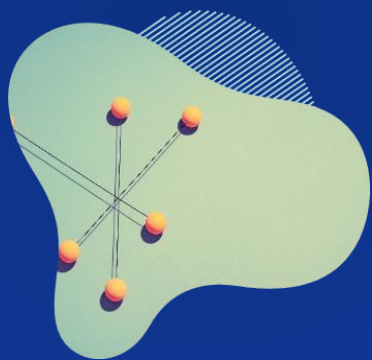
(National Authority)

- ✓ **Screening** of each ERDF regional programme **art. 22 box** on synergies/MRS/SBS and CA
- ✓ Selection of **outputs of the 2014-2020 Interreg "Flagship projects"**, identified as such by MAs according to 3 criteria: **relevance, sustainability, transferability**
- ✓ Interreg **outputs' association with each Regional Programme's SOs**
- ✓ **customised "offer" for each region, including** a selection of recently concluded **Horizon projects** in the regional territory (EC **dashboard** Horizon/Interreg)

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# Synergies between cohesion and directly managed Programmes:

## Interreg as a bridge



### Sequential funding upstreamed:

using ERDF to fund actions that build R&I capacities needed to compete in Horizon Europe



### Sequential funding downstreamed:

using ERDF to fund actions that capitalise on already implemented Horizon Europe projects



### Alternative funding (Seal of excellence):

Providing ERDF to project proposals which had received a Seal of Excellence



### Complementary funding:

Bringing together funding from Horizon Europe and ERDF in the same project





# SYNERGIES: HOW

METHODOLOGY IN BRIEF:

## *PHASE 2 AND 3*

MEETINGS/EXCHANGES/  
SURVEYS/ADDITIONAL  
SCREENING

(all actors)

*Phase 2) with regional Interreg coordinators/Interreg MAs:*

- ✓ **sharing of the proposed offer and additional co-screening;**
- ✓ **Survey 1 for Interreg Regions:** insight in the Regional overall cohesion, MRS/SBS, Horizon **governance**, highlight of **opportunities/obstacles**

*Phase 3) with REGIONAL MAINSTREAM MAs, accompanied by Interreg coordinators/MAs:*

- ✓ Screened outputs' offer, exchange in-depth on the RP;
- ✓ **Survey 2 for ERDF RP Regions:** awareness raising on opportunities for funds integration, contribution to MRS/SBS, CA; Focus on Horizon Europe

# SYNERGIES: HOW

## METHODOLOGY IN BRIEF:

### PHASE 4

## 1. UPTAKE OF SYNERGIES INPUTS by RP MAs?

### MONITORING/EVALUATION:

- a. Indicators (slide 1/2)
- b. ad hoc Partnership Agreement Technical committee

## 2. GUIDELINES FOR SYNERGIES (National Authority)

| INDICATORS DESCRIPTION (1/2)                                                                                                                                        | Target |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Number of proposals supported for strengthening <b>governance</b> between Interreg and ERDF regional Programmes                                                     | 5      |
| Number of regional solutions analysed for integrated governance between the two <b>cohesion Goals (IJG and Interreg)</b>                                            | 5      |
| Number of actions proposed for the <b>embedding</b> of strategies in regional calls, broken down by phase ( <i>programming, implementation, evaluation</i> )        | 5      |
| Number of "flagship" projects (Interreg and/or of other programmes/funds) included as references/good practice in regional calls ( <b>mainstreaming</b> )           | 10     |
| Number of "flagship" projects (Interreg and/or of other programmes/funds), of which an <b>upscaling</b> with ERDF regional resources or other funds is experimented | 10     |



# SYNERGIES: HOW

METHODOLOGY IN BRIEF:

## PHASE 4

1. UPTAKE OF SYNERGIES  
INPUTS by RP MAs?

### MONITORING/EVALUATION:

a. Indicators (slide 2/2)

b. ad hoc Partnership  
Agreement Technical committee

2. GUIDELINES FOR  
SYNERGIES (National Authority)

| INDICATORS DESCRIPTION (2/2)                                                                                               | Target |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Number of priority themes and projects identified to foster exchange on common targets/outputs                             | 5      |
| Proposals of Terms of Reference (ToR) for coordinated evaluation plans between INTERREG/ERDF regional programmes           | 5      |
| Number of communication events shared between INTERREG and ERDF actors on networks and opportunities related to MRS/SBS/CA | 2      |



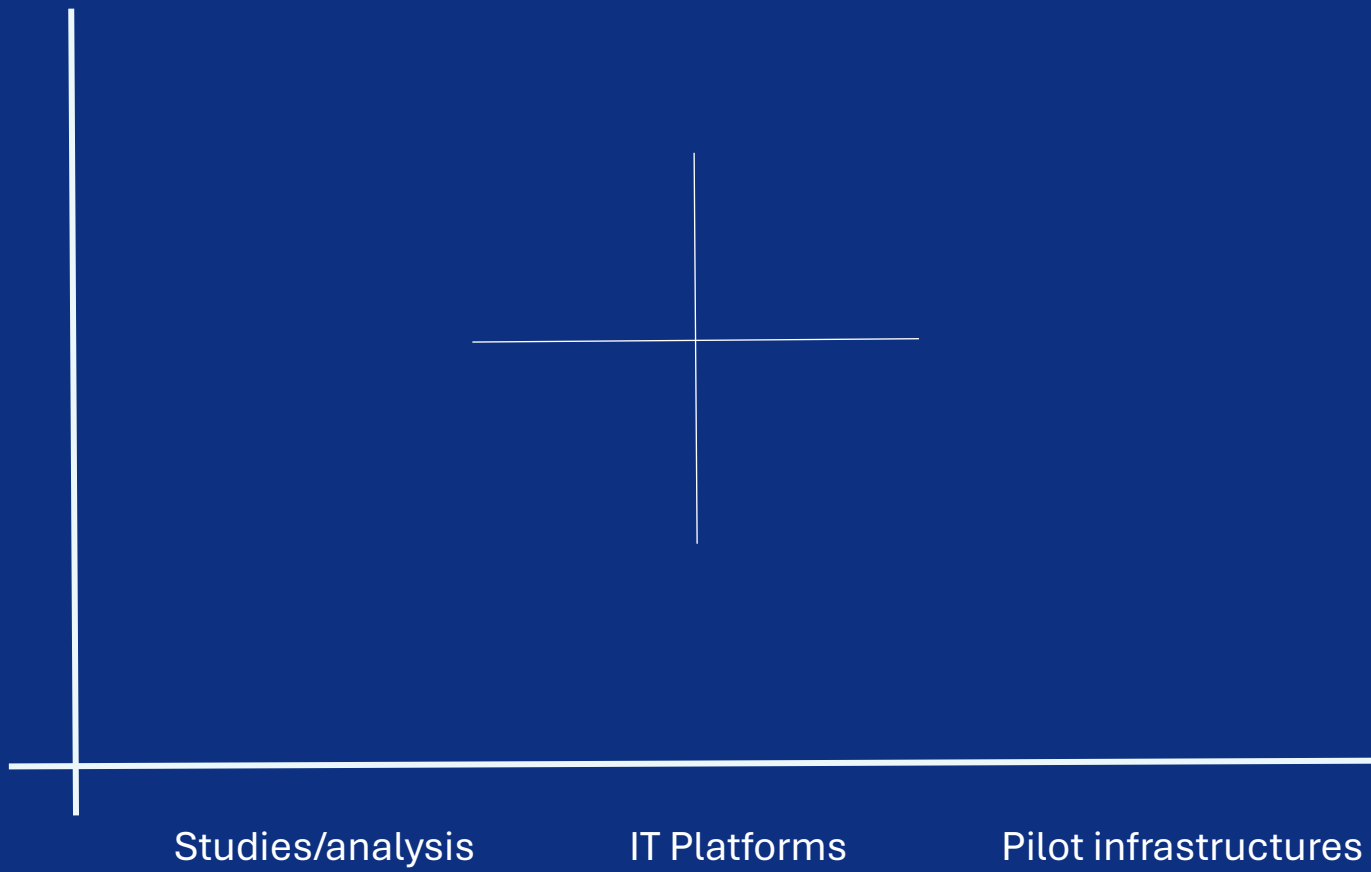
PROGETTO STRATEGICO

sinergie

Integration between programmes/funds based on rate/intensity of re-use of the suggested projects, per typology of output

Integration

Further development/upscaling/downscaling



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

**Synergies:** who's who at the Department for cohesion policies and Southern Italy

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