

## Post 2027 Discussion Paper

# Synergies and cooperation | Annex Capitalisation

5 November 2024

**Please note** | This discussion paper was produced for the Post 2027 Harvesting event, taking place in Brussels on 25-26 November 2024. It is a tool to stimulate discussion and engagement on the topic. **It does not represent an opinion of Interact, Interreg or any other actor.** For more information about the Harvesting process, please see the Post 2027 section of [Interact.eu](https://interact.eu)

## Capitalisation in Interreg – towards greater impact

### Overview

This document highlights the key messages and reflections to be considered for the future Interreg programming period.

### What is working

- Capitalisation to be integrated at every stage of programme and project implementation (in the same way as it has been done for other aspects e.g. communication, evaluation...).
- Commitment towards capitalisation from all programmes.
- Supporting programmes in changing the mindset - long-term effort making sure all stakeholders and programme bodies are on board, and understand their role in implementing capitalisation.
- Reinforce governance capacity considering applying Interreg Specific Objective
- Improve capacity building towards partnerships and beneficiaries
  - Reinforce meaning of capitalisation – impact, building on results. Help them contextualise
  - Improve the transfer of practical concepts/practices/examples of capitalisation to beneficiaries
  - Enhance opportunities for beneficiaries to meet and discuss thematic results
  - Improve beneficiaries' abilities to promote their results
- Improve tools for searching/consulting existing outputs
- Improve inter-programme communication of results
- Greater sharing among programmes of capitalisation tools

## What is missing?

- Mention of capitalisation in regulation for all programmes (Interreg and whole cohesion policy) – more importantly, provide incentives and encourage having capitalisation integrated into the programme and project operating structure and mindset.
  - *Opportunity – a mention would highlight the importance of integrating capitalisation in programme/project management process and encourage synergies, without constraining it in predetermined frameworks that might limit beneficiaries or programme approaches.*
  - Agreeing on a capitalisation being a key principle of Interreg, helping specify its meaning and relevance (focus on impact, reuse/transfer of results), and act as guidance. This should support links with other EU funds, provided that the capitalisation effort is shared by all.
  - It would also help secure commitment towards capitalisation from all programmes, in particular in terms of resource allocation, and foster the development of inter-programme mechanisms.
  - Needs to be sufficiently flexible to take into account specificities of each programme.

## Please note

There is no unanimous consensus on a mandatory character for capitalisation, but it is important to recognise that a majority of programmes have already experienced capitalisation in some form, from building on results (application form sections, selection criteria, project databases, visibility), operational actions (capitalisation calls, focus on transfer of results) to more advanced mechanisms (capitalisation strategy, governance approach, thematic communities/platforms).

There needs to be more incentive for programmes to develop and structure such initiatives - a mention of capitalisation in the future regulation would help programmes and stakeholders take more brave and serious steps towards making it happen.

## What would be your vision for the future? Key messages

- Recognising capitalisation as a key principle of Interreg
- Formal and structural integration of capitalisation in programme and project management lifecycle
- Improved coordination among Interreg programmes at European level regarding capitalisation. Increased sharing of capitalisation practices among various types of Interreg programmes (transnational/cross-border)
- Enhanced national-level coordination, in particular with mainstream programmes to facilitate possible embedding processes

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