

An Interreg post 2020 closer to citizens –

Policy Objective 5 of the draft ERDF regulation and its relevance for Interreg B

Interreg B responsible actors on the regional and national level in Germany are discussing options on how to integrate policy objective 5 in the future Interreg B programme architecture.

As a new policy objective, PO 5 “A Europe closer to citizens by fostering the sustainable and integrated development of all types of territories” offers the opportunity to bring the integrated development of cities and regions back into the focus of Interreg B programmes and projects.

There is a widespread agreement among the German Interreg B responsables that PO5 has a potential to promote positive urban and regional development in the future under Interreg B programmes with German participation.



Kreativquartier Essen © Michael Schwettmann, Essen

Examples of transnational projects from the Interreg VB period taking an integrated approach to local and regional development are listed in the discussion paper of the Federal Institute for Research on Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Development (BBSR) that can be accessed [here](#).

Future Interreg B programme architectures

Two possible examples of future Interreg B programme architectures are under discussion:

Example 1

Cooperation Programme Interreg B			
Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4
a smarter Europe	a greener Europe	a more connected Europe	a Europe closer to citizens
SO (iv) smart specialisation	SO (vi) circular economy	SO (iii) local and regional mobility	SO(ii): integrated development in areas other than urban areas
..	urban-rural cooperation for implementation of integrated development plans
..	finding solutions to structural transition challenges in rural areas
..	joint implementation of sustainable development strategies of smaller towns

Example 1 shows a ‘classic set up’ with four priority pillars whereas priorities 1-3 have a thematic approach and priority 4 responds to the transnational cooperation needs regarding the integrated development of areas other than urban areas.

Types of actions supported under this SO could include urban-rural cooperation for the implementation of integrated development plans, finding solutions to structural transition challenges in rural areas, joint implementation of sustainable development strategies of smaller towns.

Example 2

Cooperation Programme Interreg B	
SO(i): integrated development of urban areas	SO(ii): integrated development in areas other than urban areas
multimodal mobility	
digitalisation	
implementing energy concepts	
resource efficiency	
regional economic structures	

Example 2 shows a programme architecture that focuses on the integrated development of all types of territories. Types of actions supported include themes relevant for the local and regional development such as e.g. multimodal mobility, digitalization, implementing energy concepts, resource efficiency, strengthening regional economic structures.

These themes link to the other thematic POs however this architecture ensures an integrated approach involving appropriate actors on the local and regional level for all activities supported.

For further information please contact the Interreg team at BBSR: interreg@bbr.bund.de or visit www.interreg.de > English > Service > Contacts