



INTERREG IVA 2 Mers Seas Zeeën Crossborder Cooperation Programme 2007-2013
Part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (**ERDF**)



Cluster Initiative & INTERREG VA 2 Seas Programme

A framework to boost cross-border cooperation
and the economic development of the territories



SE FINS Cluster Event,
Norwich, 24th September 2014
Michelle Armstrong, 2 Seas Territorial Facilitator, East of England

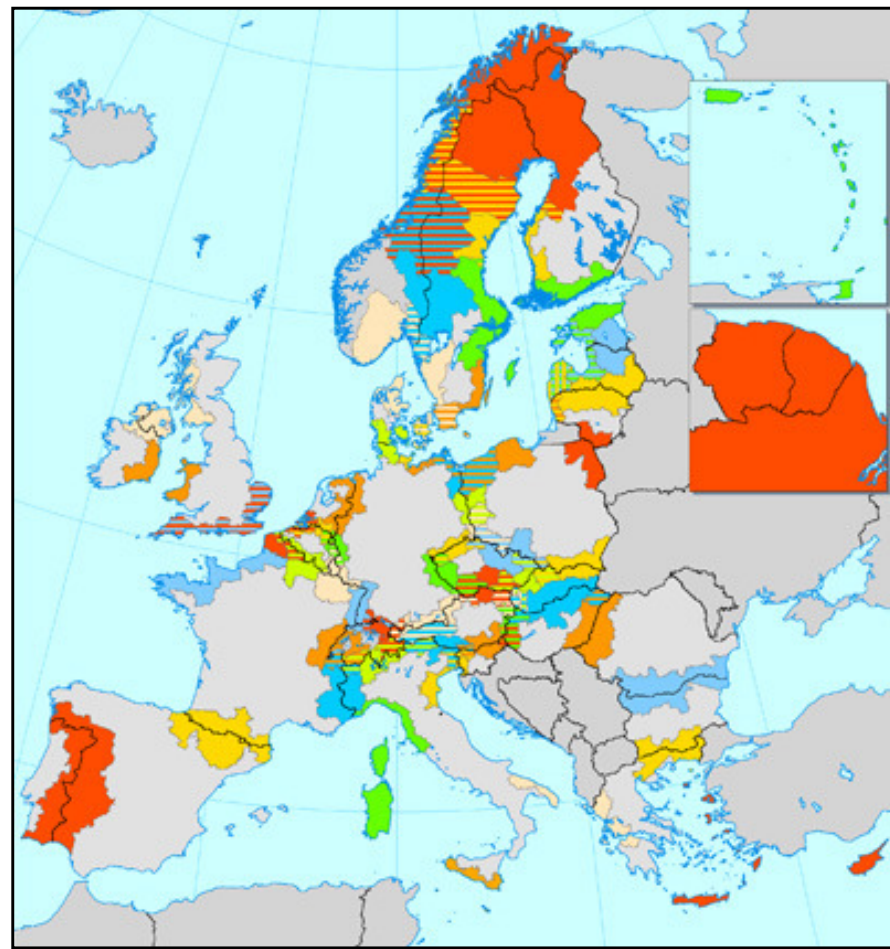
Today's presentation

- Territorial Cooperation
- 2 Seas Cross Border Programme
- Interreg IVA funding period and the cluster initiative aims & objectives
- Interreg VA 2 Seas Programme - development and key themes
- Benefits to Cross Border working?
- Key dates and top tips



Territorial cooperation

- **Strand A: cross-border cooperation (€5.6 billion – 53 programmes)**
 - Filling the gaps and solving problems together across borders
 - Adjacent zones or countries whose sea border is less than or equal to 150km
 - Objective: do away with the border as an obstacle to socio-economic development
- **Strand B: trans-national cooperation (€1.8 billion – 13 programmes)**
- **Strand C: interregional cooperation (€0.4 billion – 1 programme)**



2 Mers Seas Zeeën

INTERREG IV A

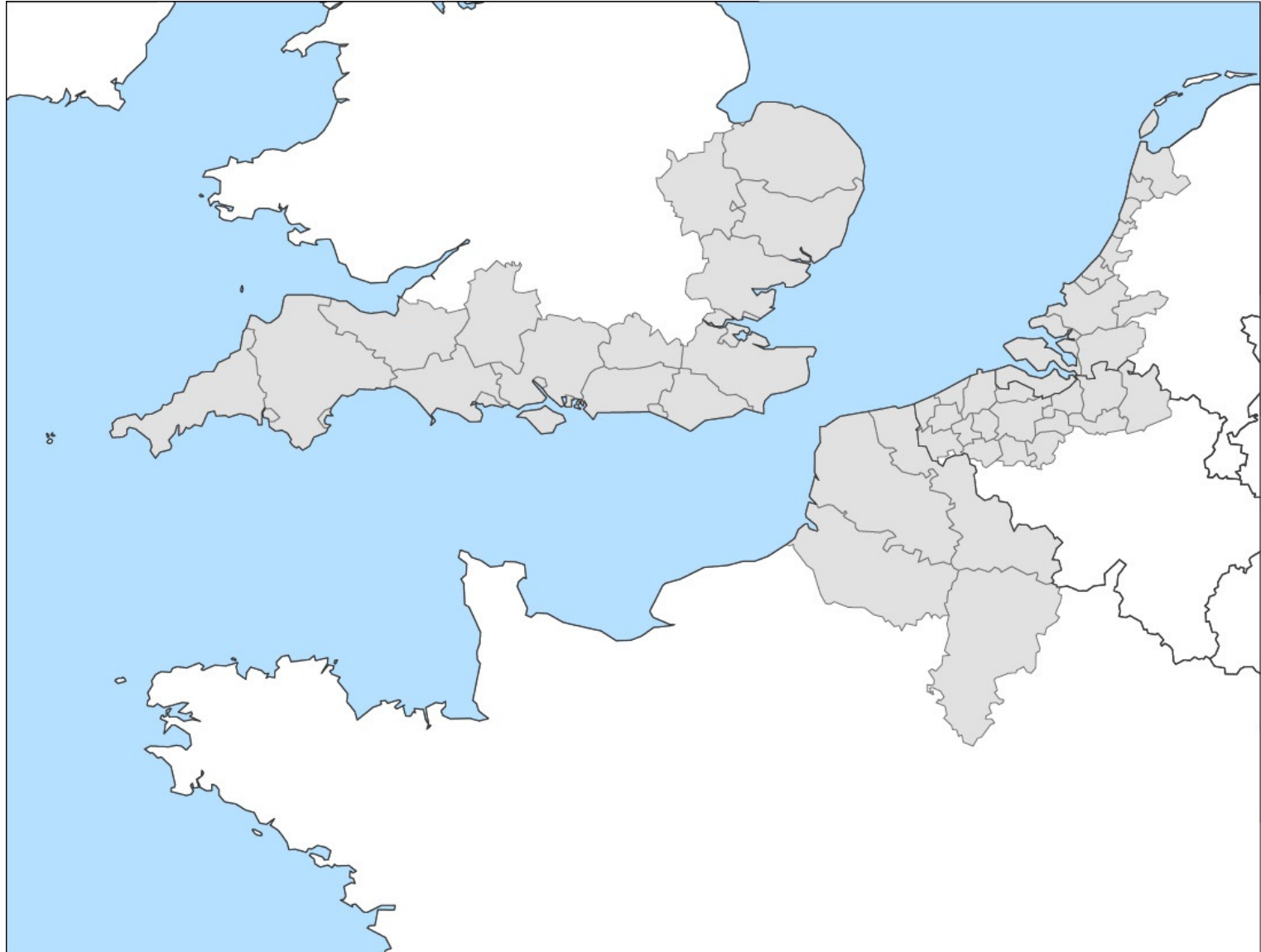
FRANCE - ENGLAND - VLAANDEREN - NEDERLAND

Programme area

2 Mers Seas Zeeën

INTERREG IV A

FRANCE - ENGLAND - VLAANDEREN - NEDERLAND



Why Crossborder Programmes?

- 185 million EU citizens, 37% of the population live in border areas!

The main aim of cross-border cooperation is to reduce the negative effect of borders as administrative, legal and physical barriers, tackle common problems and exploit untapped potential

Encouraging
entrepreneurship

Improving joint
management of
**natural
resources**

Supporting links
between **urban
and rural areas**

Developing joint
use of
infrastructure

Administrative,
employment
and **equal
opportunities**
work

Improving access
to **transport and
communication**
networks



INTERREG IVA 2 Seas Programme

- One out of 53 cross-border Programmes part-financed by the **European Regional Development Fund**
- A **total budget of 155M€** for a period of 7 years
- **3 main priorities + 1 common priority:**
 - Priority 1: Stimulating economic development,
 - Priority 2: Creating a sustainable environment
 - Priority 3: Improving quality of life
 - Priority 4: Common priority with FCE programme
- **198 projects submitted** to the Programme
- Gathers **554 project partners** in **86 approved projects**

RINSE

MEMO

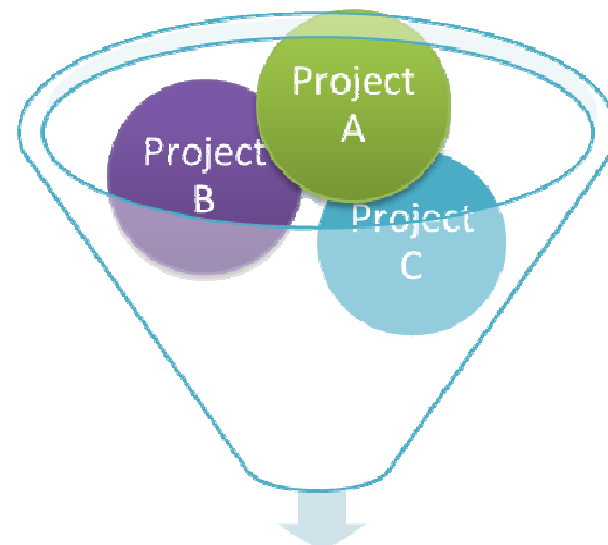


The 2 Seas cluster initiative

1. Creating strategic **cooperation** and **capitalisation** between approved projects and between organisations in and outside the 2 Seas area in order to exchange experiences and take the project results one step further
2. Strengthening and increasing the impact of the Programme for the benefit of the 2 Seas territories through the **valorisation** and **dissemination** of the projects results

1. Capitalisation

2. Valorisation & Dissemination



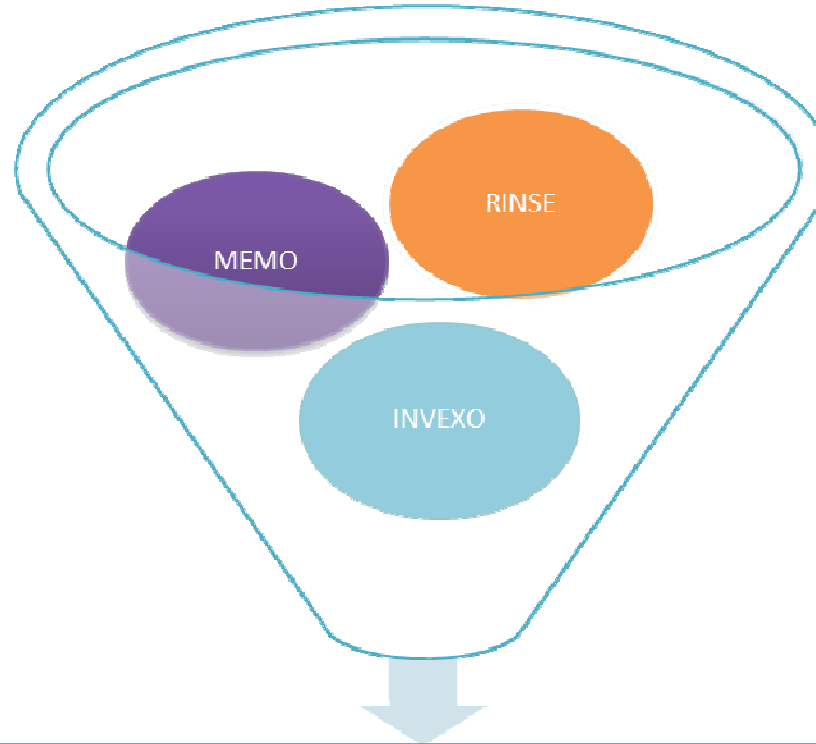
CLUSTER



The 2 Seas cluster initiative

Promoting and developing a safe and healthy environment

Effective Management of Invasive Non-Native species in Europe



SEFINS

Cluster Event 24/09/2014



Thematic publication



And looking to the future? 2 Seas VA Programme - 2014-2020

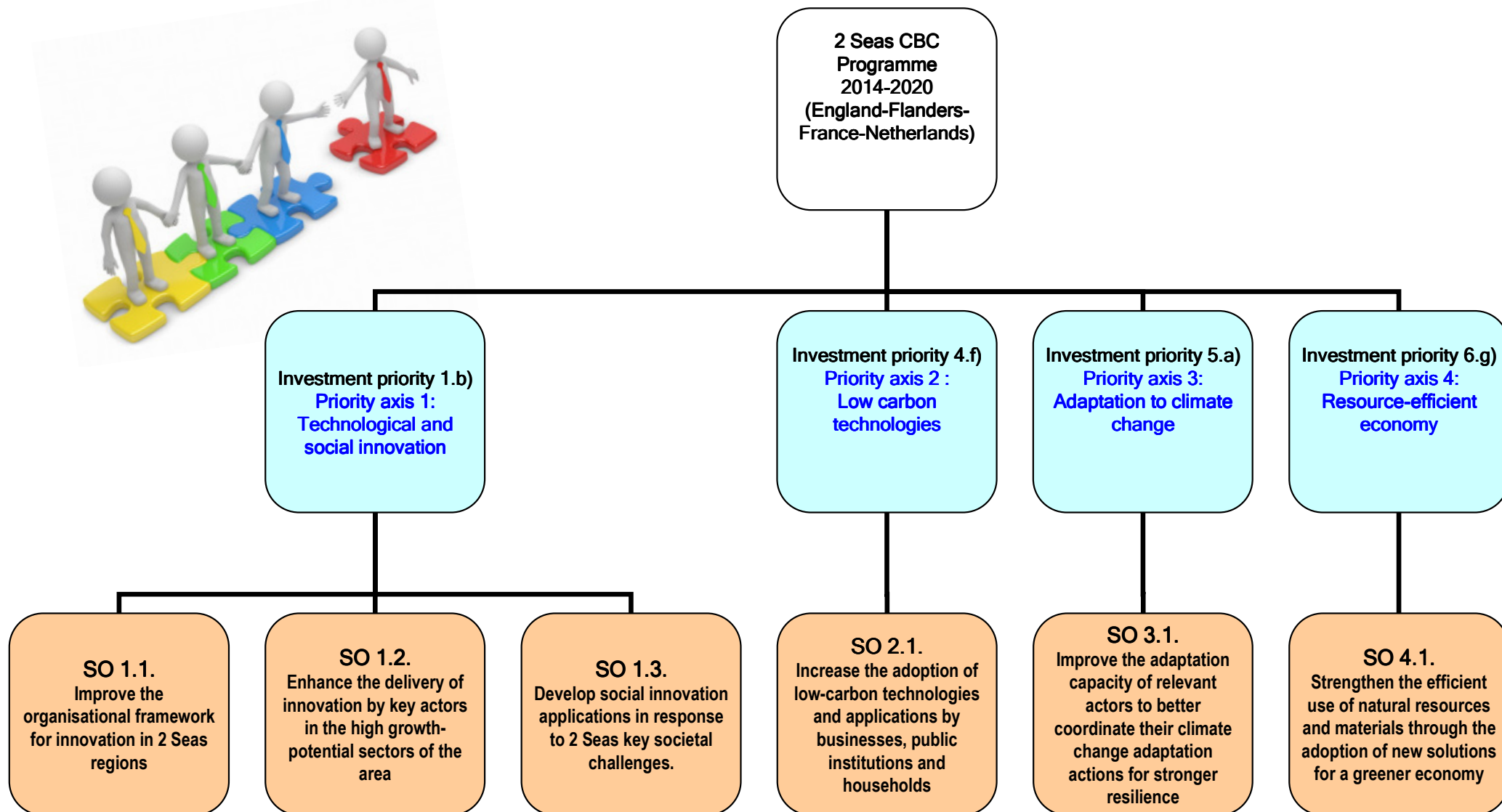
- **“To develop the competitiveness and sustainable growth potential of the programme area by stimulating cross-border partnerships able to deliver tangible results on the ground by 2020.”**

More information on the future priorities and main themes of intervention

!! The Programme strategy as presented here represents a preliminary non official version and can still evolve. Please stay updated through the Programme website!



2014-2020 Programme Strategy: Overview of the draft OP structure



Themes/priorities

Priority axis 1 – Technological and social innovation

Thematic objective	Specific objective	Intended result
1.b. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation	<i>1.1 Improve the framework conditions for delivering innovation in 2 Seas regions.</i>	Better and reinforced capacity for innovation in the 2 Seas area.
	<i>1.2 Enhance the delivery of innovation by relevant actors in 2 Seas key sectors.</i>	Tighter, more effective and operational cooperation among the key actors involved on the early stages of the innovation chain and later stage of innovation involving testing and pilot actions .
	<i>1.3 Develop social innovation in response to 2 Seas key societal challenges.</i>	The development of social innovation in order to make more efficient and effective local products and services which address the key societal challenges in the 2 Seas area.



Themes/priorities

Priority Axis 2 – Low carbon technologies

Thematic objective	Specific objective	Intended result
4.f. Supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy for all sectors	2.1 Increase the adoption of low-carbon technologies and applications by public/private organisations and citizens.	Reduced carbon dependency of public/private institutions and citizens in the 2 Seas area, based on the adoption of innovative low-carbon technologies.

Priority Axis 3 – Adaption to climate change

Thematic objective	Specific objective	Intended Result
5.a. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management	3.1 Improve the adaptation capacity of public and private actors to better coordinate their climate change adaptation actions for stronger resilience.	Increased preparedness for, and resilience to, climate change and associated phenomena (e.g. coastal erosion, flooding, droughts, and extreme weather) in the cross-border area.



Themes/priorities

Priority Axis 4 – Resource efficient economy

Thematic objective.	Specific objective	Intended Result
<i>6.g. Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency</i>	<i>4.1 Strengthen the efficient use of natural resources and materials through the adoption of new solutions for a greener economy .</i>	<i>Better and reinforced capacity for the development of a more resource-efficient economy in the 2 Seas area.</i>



2014-2020 Programme Strategy: Important dates



- ✓ **12th of May:** end of the public consultation on the Cooperation Programme
- ✓ **Mid-August:** finalisation of the Cooperation Programme
- ✓ **September:** submission of the Cooperation Programme to the European Commission
- ✓ **20-21 November 2014:** launch of the INTERREG VA 2 Seas Programme in Lille (Nord-Pas de Calais)



Differences to previous programme period

- ✓ **A stronger thematic focus** (concentration of funding on a few thematic objectives (TO) and investment priorities (IP) for maximum impact)
- ✓ **A more result-oriented approach:** identification of realistic expected changes, and appropriate indicators to capture these
- ✓ **Establishment of a performance framework** aiming at the efficient implementation of the programme
- ✓ **€250 million – a budgetary increase!**
- ✓ **2 Stage application**– 1) concept note 2) full application (circa Feb 2015 for concept notes, May/June - full) TBC
- ✓ Potentially a **higher intervention rate** – 60% (TBC)



Why get involved in the 2 Seas Cross Border Programme??

- ✓ A testing ground, catalyst to development and change
- ✓ Add value to existing strategies and interventions
- ✓ Gain access to knowledge and hard-won experience
- ✓ Deliver key strategies at the European, regional and local level in partnership
- ✓ Influence the development of policy and future delivery – cooperate to innovate!
- ✓ Maximise investments... Double your money!



Tips regarding quality

- ✓ **Relevance** of the project - fit with the Operational Programme?
- ✓ **Strategic fit** – European, national, regional, local?
- ✓ **Innovative activities** and **concrete results**
- ✓ **Joint development, staffing, financing, implementation**
- ✓ Relevant **balanced quality partnership - win-win situation**
- ✓ Project idea and activities - **crossborder added value?**
- ✓ **Additionality** – **above and beyond what could otherwise be achieved**
- ✓ Project **focus** – demonstrate **impact** and clear communication.
- ✓ **Coherent budget** reflecting project activities and partners' involvement – Value for money!





Thank you for you attention!



www.interreg4a-2mers.eu

Michelle Armstrong

m.armstrong@interreg4a-2mers.eu

