

Interreg



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Welcome to the webinar
INTERREG AURORA

We start 13.00 (EET)

Photo: Kainuu Arctic Lakeland

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INTERREG AURORA

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and Anders Linga, Interreg Aurora

Finnish national co-financing - Tiina Marjeta, Lapin liitto



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Webinar agenda



- **Introduction**
- **Interreg Aurora information**
- **Finnish national co-financing information**
- **Q&A session**
- **Closing of the webinar**

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THE GOAL OF INTERREG AURORA 2021-2027

To encourage cross-border collaboration, and thereby strengthening the competitiveness, sustainability and attractiveness of the programme area through social inclusion, digitalisation and just green transition.

SUB-AREA AURORA

FINLAND

Lappi
Pohjois-Pohjanmaa
Keski-Pohjanmaa
Österbotten/Pohjanmaa
Etelä-Pohjanmaa
Kainuu
Pohjois-Karjala

SVERIGE

Norrbottn
Västerbotten
Västernorrland

NORGE

Finnmark
Troms
Nordland

SUB-AREA SÀPMI

FINLAND

Lappi
Pohjois-Pohjanmaa
Keski-Pohjanmaa

SVERIGE

Norrbottn
Västerbotten
Västernorrland
Jämtland
Idre Sameby, Dalarna

NORGE

Finnmark
Troms
Nordland
Trøndelag
Innlandet (Elgå Reinbeitedistrikt)



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4 PRIORITIES 8 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Jointly decided by all the regions in the Programme area and the Swedish, Finnish and Norwegian Sami Parliaments.

Based on the needs and challenges of the Programme area.



Priority 1 - A smarter Europe **Smart and sustainable growth**

Specific Objective 1.1 Smart specialization, research and innovation
Specific Objective 1.2 Competitiveness of SMEs



Priority 2 - A greener Europe **Green and sustainable transition**

Specific Objective 2.1 Climate change adaptation
Specific Objective 2.2 Nature protection and biodiversity
Specific Objective 2.3 Sustainable mobility



Priority 3 - A more social Europe **Education, culture and sustainable tourism**

Specific Objective 3.1 Education and lifelong learning
Specific Objective 3.2 Culture and sustainable tourism



Priority 4 - A better Interreg Governance **Better and more sustainable cross-border cooperation**

Specific Objective 4.1 Cross-border capacity building

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Summary of the Interreg Aurora Programme document



SMALL-SCALE PROJECT



1. Specific calls for applications

- Min Ansökan open for approximately 5 weeks.

2. Assessment in Joint Secretariat

- approximately 6-8 weeks.

3. Selection of projects in Steering Committees.

4. Formal decision from Managing Authority

- approximately within 2 weeks after selection.

5. Implementation of project

- normally 6-12 months.

- Total project budget max 20 000 Euro/country
- Lump sum support

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REGULAR PROJECT



1. Specific calls for applications

- Min Ansökan open for approximately 5 weeks.

2. Assessment in Joint Secretariat

- approximately 10-12 weeks.

3. Selection of projects in Steering Committees.

4. Formal decision from Managing Authority

- approximately within 2 weeks after Steering Committee meeting.

5. Implementation of project

- normally 36 months.

- Budget up to 200 000 Euro (Staff + 40%)
- Budget over 200 000 Euro (Staff + 40% OR all cost categories)

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Project type	Budget in application	Reporting	Control of costs	Payments
<p>Small-scale</p> <p>Total project budget no more than EUR 20 000 per participating country</p>	<p>Staff costs + flat rate 40 %</p> <p>OR</p> <p>All cost categories (whereof flat rates 15% for Office & admin and 15% for Travel & accom.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only once • No report on costs • Final written report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No 	<p>Agreed lump sum will be paid after approval of the final report</p>
<p>Regular project</p> <p>Total project budget up to EUR 200 000</p>	<p>Staff costs + flat rate 40 %</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every 4-6 months • Staff costs + flat rate 40 % • Progress reports and final report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only staff costs • No verification needed for costs covered by flat rates 	<p>Support share will be paid after reporting of costs and approval of progress/final reports.</p>
<p>Regular project</p> <p>Total project budget over EUR 200 000</p>	<p>Staff costs + flat rate 40 %</p> <p>OR</p> <p>All cost categories (whereof flat rates 15% for Office & admin and 15% for Travel & accom.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every 4-6 months • Staff costs + flat rate 40 % • Progress reports and final report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every 4-6 months • All cost categories (whereof flat rates 15% for Office & admin and 15% for Travel & accom.) • Progress reports and final report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only staff costs • No verification needed for costs covered by flat rates • Staff costs and other real cost categories • No verification needed for costs covered by flat rates 	<p>Support share will be paid after reporting of costs and approval of progress/final reports.</p>

Eligible partners

- Organisations that are legal entities from the public and private sectors
- A project shall involve partners from at least two participating countries
- The main rule is that all partners shall be located in the programme area and the Norwegian Lead partner must be in the programme area
- Project partners can also come from others part from Sweden, Finland or Norway. However, their participation must be justified and relevant for the project implementation. For example, specific expertise that cannot be found in the programme area
- Partners from outside Sweden, Finland or Norway are welcome to participate as associated partners, without project budget



State aid and business sector participation

- When does a measure become State aid?
- All applications will be assessed in relation to State aid
- State aid might be supported using De minimis or GBER

- For most of the Interreg operations, or activities, the State Aid haven't been a subject
- Open access to results
- No patents



State aid and business sector participation

It is important to reflect on what kind of activities the project are planning and how the business sector is involved

There are activities in Interreg projects that companies can participate without being assessed as a State Aid

Description of the activities

- Are the activities of a general nature?
- Or give it benefits to individual companies?

- Direct support or indirect support
- Are the companies project partners or stakeholders?



State aid and Regulation

- De minimis (EU) (2023/2831, New from 01.01.2024)
- General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) (EU nr 651/2014) Art 20 and 20a

- Depending:
 - The amount limit
 - Have they received support before
 - Type of project
 - Type of activity

- National regulation:
 - In Finland, the national co-funding can't be granted with De minimis regulation, only GBER.
 - In Sweden, it is possible to use both De minimis and GBER, but only article 20 and 20a in GBER, according to the Swedish regulation.



State aid and Regulation

There are some things to keep in mind regarding state aid for GBER (EU nr 651/2014)

GBER, art 20

- High threshold, 2 milj eur per company, per project, art 4, P.1(f)
- No indirect aid possible, only direct support art 5, P.1
- SCO are possible (GBER) (EU nr 651/2014) art 7, P.1

GBER, art 20a

- Relatively low threshold, maximum 22 000 eur (per company, per project) art 20a
- SCO are possible (GBER) (EU nr 651/2014) art 7, P.1
- Indirect aid are possible (GBER) (EU nr 651/2014) art 5, P.2(ea)

De minimis

- With De minimis, certificates is necessary from companies that they have not received de minimis support, (over the threshold) and granting authority need to inform that granted support is a de minimis support.



EU-financing rates and national co-financing

EU-financing rate, Interreg Aurora

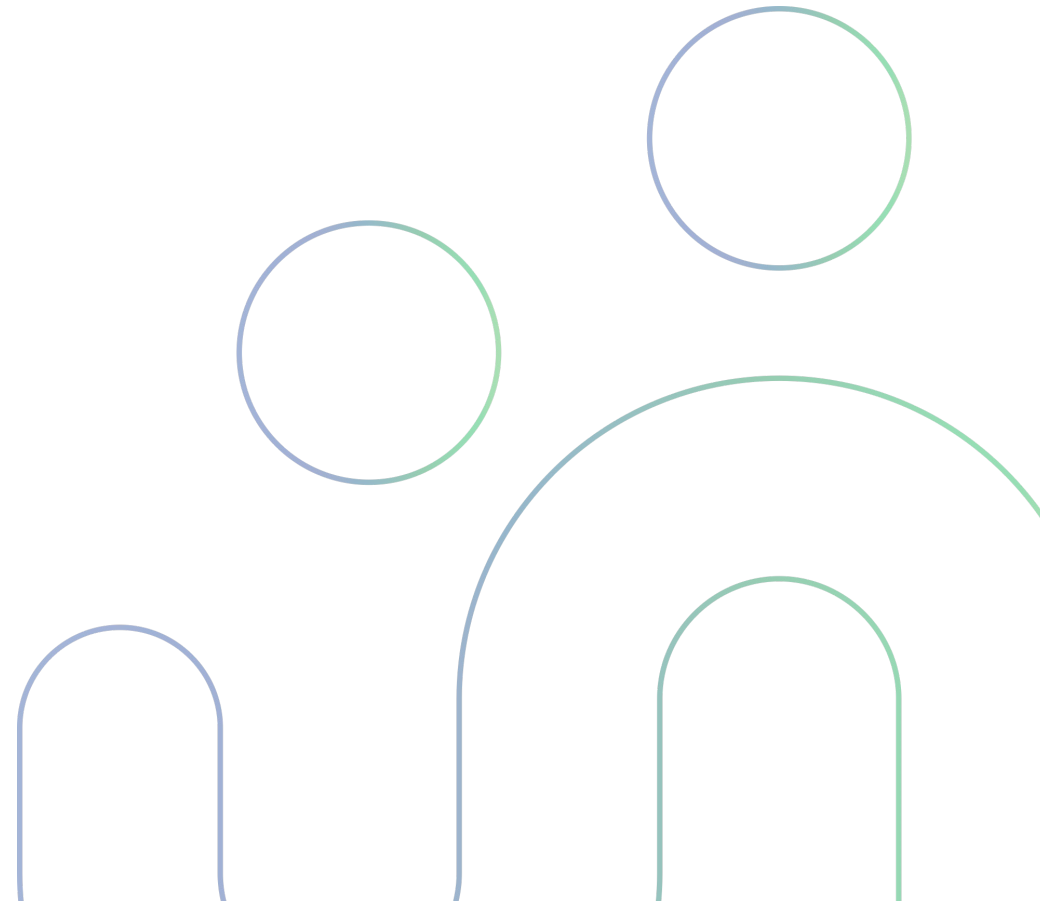
- 65% EU-funding for Swedish and Finnish partners
- 50% IR-funding for Norwegian partners

National co-financing

- Finland - **NEW!** Administrated by Lapin liitto
- Sweden – own financing or external financing
- Norway - own financing or external financing

Can be both public and/or private funding

Read more [Funding - Interreg Aurora](#)



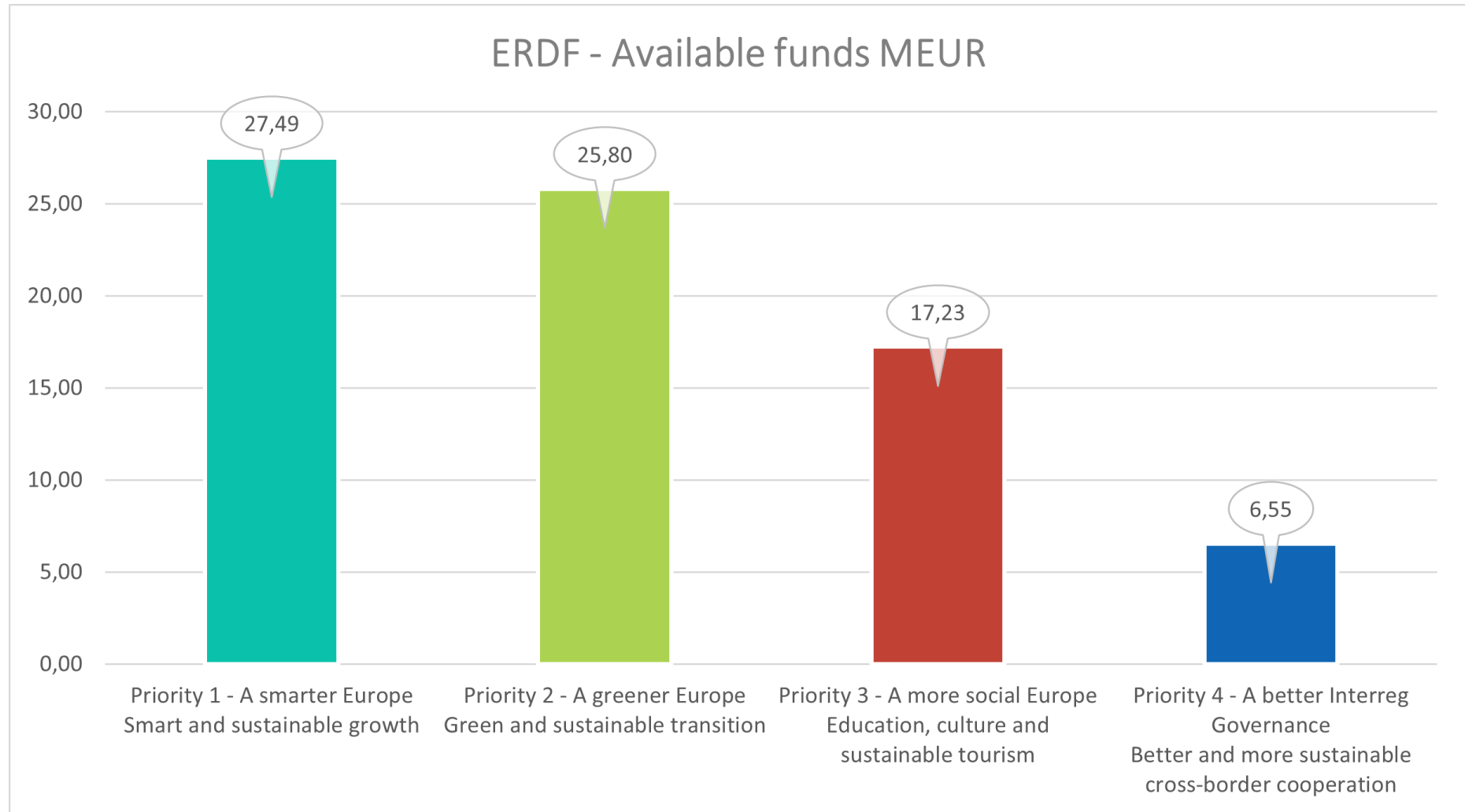


Upcoming calls 2024

- Calls for regular project applications
Call 4. 5 February - 5 March.
Call 5. 9 September - 7 October.
- Call for small-scale project applications
SSP Call 3. 12 August – 6 September.
- [Terms of reference](#) may differ for each call.

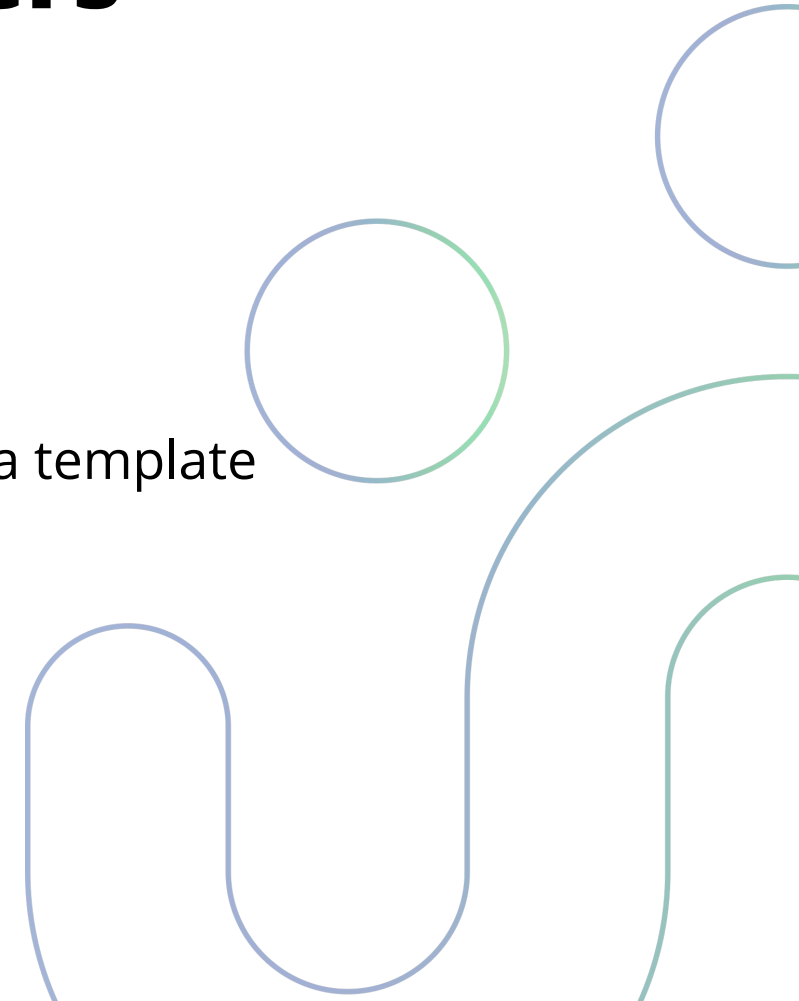


Available funding, January 2024



Specific for Norwegian partners

- Eligible partners
- Closed Priorities during specific calls
- Limitations in IR support
- Develop a good Interreg Aurora project idea - early project idea template



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Get prepared!



[Home](#) > [Support](#) > [For project applicants](#)

For project applicants

Please read the webpage about the Interreg Aurora Calls for applications for more detailed information about each specific call.

CALLS FOR APPLICATIONS

To guide applicants in the application process, there are supporting materials. Applicants should carefully read all supporting materials to gain a comprehensive understanding of the Programme rules, conditions for funding and functioning of the electronic application system.

The supporting materials includes:

- [The Programme documents](#)
- [The Programme Manual](#): the main guidance for applicants how to plan your project and apply for a project as well as guidance during implementation and finishing of a project.
- [Terms of Reference for the calls](#): the essential information about each specific call for applications
- The three tutorials
 1. [How to submit an Interreg Aurora application in the electronic application system Min ansökan](#)
 2. [How to create a budget in Min ansökan](#)
 3. [Indicators in an Interreg Aurora application](#)
- [Frequently asked questions \(FAQ\)](#)

Networking and Partner search



LinkedIn



New section/page on our website

www.interregaurora.eu/support/partner-search-and-networking/

Partner search - project ideas



DEVELOPING TOGETHER – INITIATIVES FOR THE LABOUR MARKET

Partner search: Partners from Finland, Sweden and Norway for a project consortium: education providers (public and private), employers, municipalities, employment services (public and private), business

2023-11-22

PARTNER SEARCH



SÁMI HANDICRAFTS

Partner search for a Sámi handicrafts related cross-border project in which the purpose is to develop Sámi handicrafts education with the Sámi schools who are

2023-11-13

PARTNER SEARCH



STRENGTHENING CROSS-BORDER CO-OPERATION IN SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IN SÁMI LANGUAGES

Partner search: In Finland, responsibility for organising social and health services was transferred from municipalities to wellbeing services counties 1.1.2023. Lapland wellbeing county has a

2023-11-10

PARTNER SEARCH



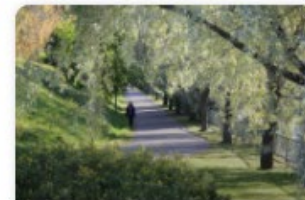
STRATEGIC COOPERATION BETWEEN EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY IN CONNECTION WITH THE GREEN TRANSITION

Partner search: Partners from regions with business establishments that entail large recruitment needs: VET educators,



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A CROSS BORDER COOPERATION PROJECT REGARDING FOOD WASTE PREVENTION?

Waste Insight is a research team at the University of Vaasa developing innovative solutions for food waste prevention and



SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY NORDIC CITIES FOR THE FUTURE

Partner search: The desired urban living environment of the future supports planetary health and well-being. Northern cities have great potential to create concentrations of sustainable,



What signifies a good Interreg Aurora project?

- Cross-border cooperation
- Relevance for the Programme (Specific Objective)
- Sustainable development
- The partnership (capacity, new partnerships)
- Project logic
- Relevance to target group
- Value for money
- Results (concrete, innovative, lasting, exit strategy, dissemination)
- Additional criteria sub-area Sápmi



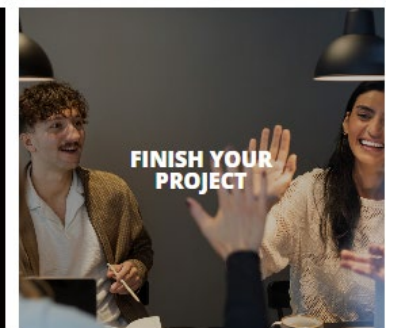
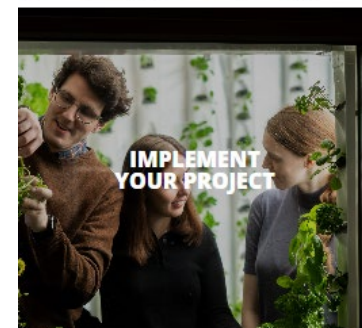
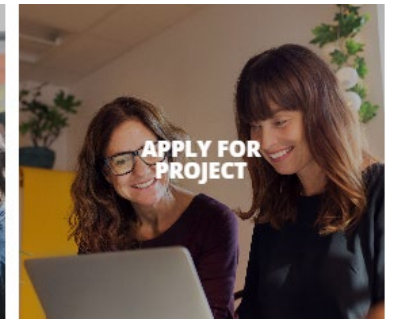
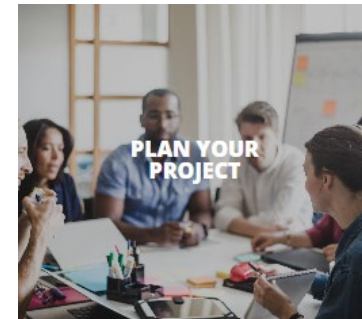
Some last important advice!

Project idea phase

- Involve the target group
- No ordinary business, no double funding
- Submit the [Project idea template](#) if you want feedback (NB! The terms for submitting project idea templates)
- Read the [Calls for applications](#)
- Read the [Programme Manual](#) (NB! Some things do not apply for small-scale projects)

Project application phase

- [Connections to other projects and initiatives](#) – be concrete
- [Exit strategy](#) – describe how you (and target group) will secure lasting results
- Indicators – [Definitions of output indicators](#) , [Definitions of result indicators](#)
- [Staff cost specifications](#) – mandatory for all projects
- Budgeted costs need to match – total budget vs activity plan
- Write clear and concise texts – read the instructions
- Finally, check and double-check



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GREAT IDEAS KNOW NO BORDERS

Get to know all Interreg Aurora funded projects and how cross-border cooperation improves the daily lives in our Programme area.



[Project Bank - Interreg Aurora](#)

**CLIMATE CHANGE
KNOWS NO
BORDERS.**

**MOTIVATION
KNOWS NO
BORDERS.**

**COMPETENCE
KNOWS NO
BORDERS.**



Thank you for your attention!

www.interregaurora.eu

#interregaurora

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