



**Interreg
Europe**

European Union | European Regional Development Fund



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly

In practice – How do you Develop a Regional Action Plan?

**REGIONAL
ACTION PLAN**

Remember: What is Interreg Europe Interested in?

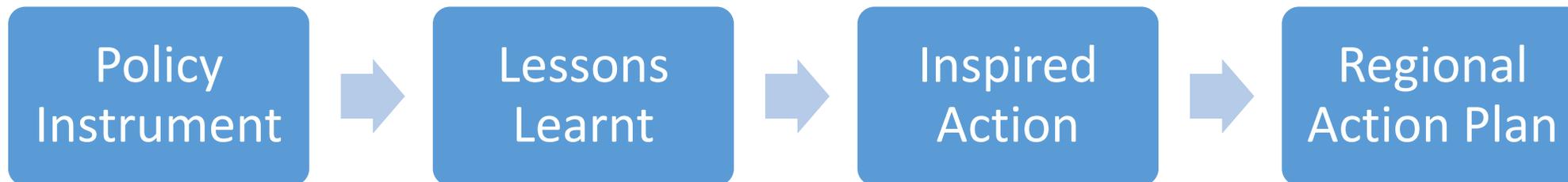
What lessons you have learnt from your Interregional Partners that has inspired you to undertake an action that will improve your policy instrument:



**REGIONAL
ACTION PLAN**

However in Practice: The process should be as Follows:

Understanding your Policy Instrument at the outset will allow you to focus your attention on the areas you can influence.



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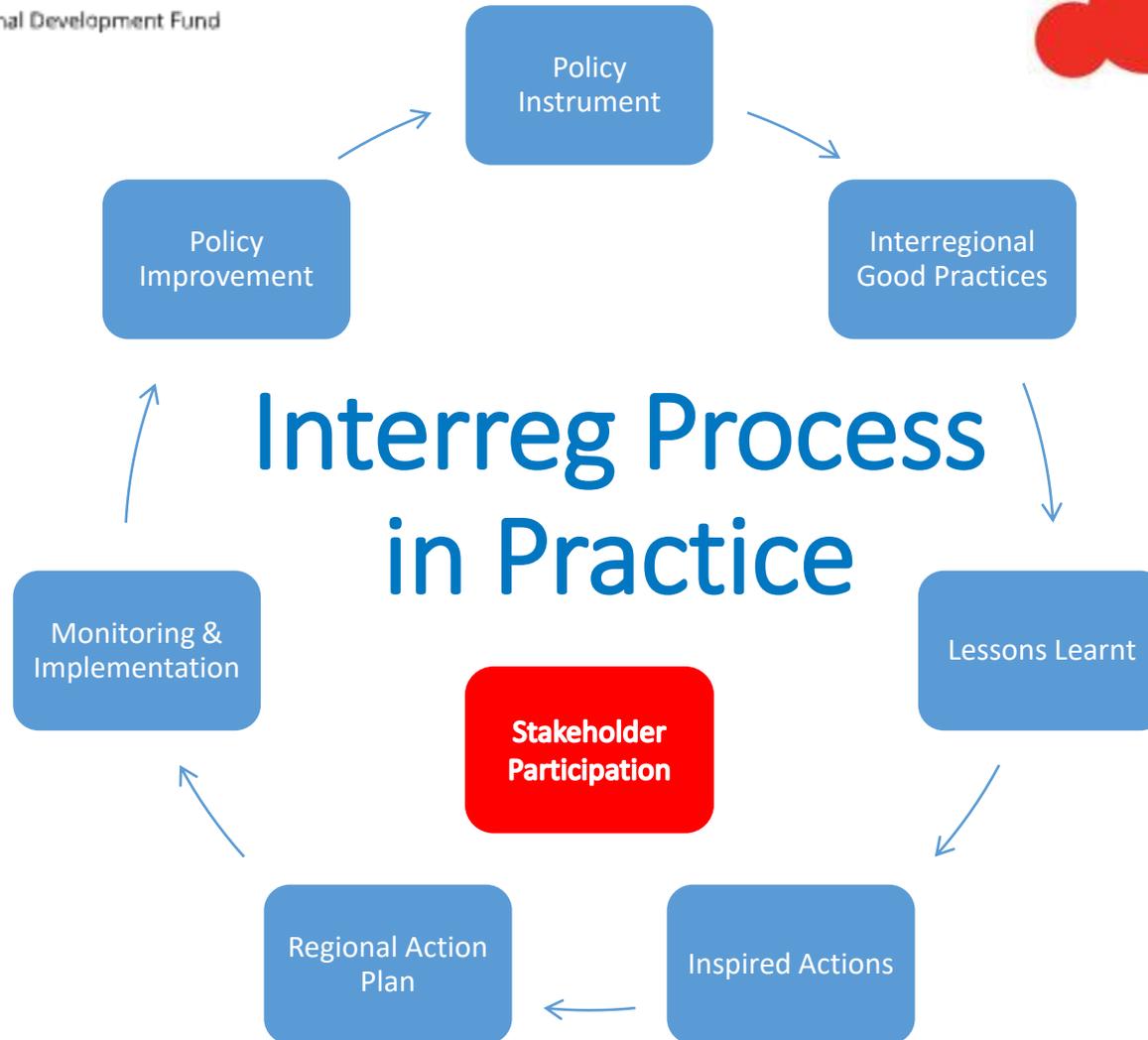


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Interreg Process in Practice

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Policy Instrument

- When should you review the policy instrument – **Now** if not already done. Ideally at application stage or prior to kick off meeting.
- **Talk to the policy owner** to identify policy constraints: funding, timing, restrictions, governance etc.
- Policy owners should be **invited to become stakeholders** in your project. They may be unable to attend all meetings – However keep them informed of project progress as you will need them to assist you in implementing policy improvement.

How to improve a policy instrument?

1. Implement **new projects**
2. Change programme **governance**
3. Change programme **content**

} May not require funding!

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Interregional Good Practices

- **Examine** each of your partners good practices with your policy instrument in mind. Examine the Policy behind the project – not the project itself.
- Remember to **enquire about the softer issues** of the Good Practice i.e. Governance, Selection Criteria, Process etc. (As you may not have any funding for implementing your policy improvement)

“We can only find the right answers to the challenges we face by involving as many stakeholders as possible in the
Process”

European Commission (Science in Dialogue Towards a European Model for Responsible Research and Innovation, 2012)

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Lessons Learnt (Record Everything)

- Once you have identified any learnings that could influence your Policy Instrument then:
 - Record the **learning in detail**
 - Record the **date** and **event** that the learning took place – Remember it does not have to be a Good Practice
 - Record the **partner** you obtained the learning from
 - Record all of the above details for **any follow up interactions**, discussions or further information provided on this learning
- All of the information will be critical when you come to write your Regional Action Plan



Learn from each other to
improve policies

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Inspired actions

- Remember actions are inspired by your learnings – They **do not have to replicate exactly** what you have learnt from your project partners.
- Your action is not required to change the world – a **small policy change can have a significant impact.**

SMALL ACTIONS
X LOTS OF PEOPLE
= **BIG CHANGE!**



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Regional Action Plan – Minimum Information

- **General information** about your organisation and Region – You have this information already
- Policy Context – What is the **current status of the problem** you are trying to address in your Region, **what improvement will you make** to your policy instrument to help address this issue
- Actions – What action is to be implemented, what **interregional learning inspired this action**, what stakeholders are required to implement this action, timeframe for implementation, how much will it cost and where are you getting the funding from.

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Regional Action Plan Continued

- Finally, the easy part. If you have followed the process and recorded everything along the way **writing the Regional Action Plan is the easy part.**
- It should contain a **cover page, table of contents, glossary** and should be **referenced** correctly.
- The report should be **clear and concise** – 10-20 pages
- **Endorsements** – Stakeholders critical to implementation of the Regional Action Plan should be requested to endorse the plan, so you should keep these stakeholders engaged throughout the project.
- Remember to be realistic with your actions as you will need to implement these actions in Phase 2 of the project.

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Thank You

More Information

<https://www.southernassembly.ie/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/about-us/what-is-interreg-europe/>

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