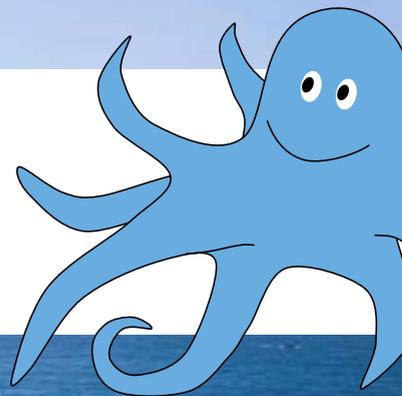


# KNOWLEDGE OF THE SEAS NETWORK AT THE EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY 2017



Interreg   
KNOWLEDGE OF THE SEAS  
NETWORK

**INTERact**



facilitates

supports



## Knowledge of the seas network

The 'Knowledge of the seas' network brings together EU funding programmes supporting maritime cooperation across borders and maritime experts and stakeholders from all over Europe. Besides promoting maritime cooperation supported by EU funding at events like the European Maritime Day, the network regularly meets to exchange and discuss relevant themes.

In the past years, the network organised thematic meetings on Blue Growth, Coastal and Maritime Tourism and lately Blue Skills. These thematic meetings enabled the exchange between EU funding programmes and maritime experts and organisations such as Baltic Area Legal Studies BALEX (Finland), CPMR, Danish Maritime Authority, EMODnet, European Commission, FARNET (European Fisheries Area Network), HELCOM, Idimar (Cluster de innovacion marina de las islas Baleares), NECSTour (Network of European Regions for a Sustainable and Competitive Tourism), State Chancellery Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (Germany), STC Group (Netherlands), Swedish Police Authority or the University of Gent (Belgium).

The activity of this network and especially of the funding programmes involved in it has to be seen in the bigger context of European Territorial Cooperation, rather known as Interreg.

## Interreg

Interreg is the name for EU funding programmes which support cooperation across borders in a number of thematic fields. Interreg programmes with a maritime character or component are the core of the 'Knowledge of the seas' network. Some of the programmes are present at the European Maritime Days stand.

During the funding period 2014-2020, in total 107 Interreg programmes provide funding of about 10 Billion EUR to local and regional stakeholders across Europe tackling various problems and societal challenges together with partners from the other side of the (maritime) border. Since the year 2000, in total over 20.000 projects have been co-financed by Interreg all over Europe. Detailed information is available at [www.keep.eu](http://www.keep.eu), an online database of EU co-financed projects set up and maintained by Interact.

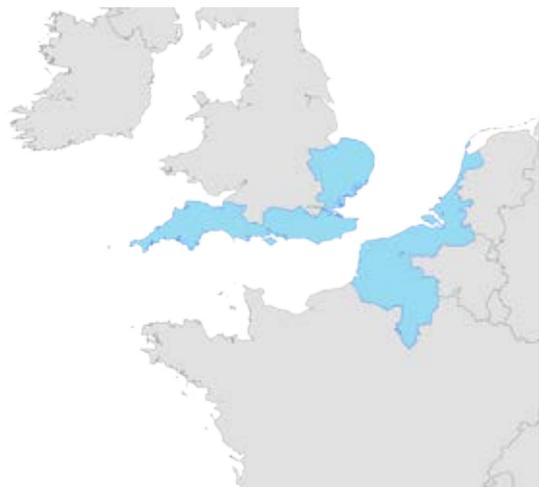


## Interact

The mission of Interact is to support all the Interreg programmes (maritime and non-maritime) in their daily work by providing advice, by organising learning events and developing a wide range of tools for programme management, including communication. Through facilitating thematic networks, like the 'Knowledge of the seas' network and its stand at the European Maritime Day 2017, Interact helps promoting the added value and the success stories of cooperation across borders in Europe – for a simple reason, cooperation works!



**ERDF:** €241 m  
**Countries:** Coastal areas of Belgium, England, France and the Netherlands  
**Priorities:** P1 Technological and social innovation  
P2 Low carbon technologies  
P3 Adaption to Climate Change  
P4 Resource efficient economy  
**Projects:** 26  
**Webpage:** [www.interreg2seas.eu](http://www.interreg2seas.eu)  
**Contact:** Kathleen McCarron – Project Officer, [k.mccarron@interreg-2seas.eu](mailto:k.mccarron@interreg-2seas.eu) or [contact@interreg2seas.eu](mailto:contact@interreg2seas.eu)



The overall objective of Interreg 2 Seas 2014-2020 is to develop an innovative, knowledge and research based, sustainable and inclusive 2 Seas area, where natural resources are protected and the green economy is promoted.

Projects can be part-financed for up to 60 % of their total project budget. Projects are also encouraged to take into account the two 2 Seas cross-cutting themes: “support to SMEs” and the “Maritime dimension”.

Interreg 2 Seas supports: public organisations, organisation that fall within public law (e.g. universities), private organisations and not-for-profit organisations. A 2 Seas project must have at least two organisations from 2 different Member States of the Programme area and at least one UK partner.

A good Interreg 2 Seas project contains a distinct cross-border dimension that is illustrated by a clear benefit for both the partners and the Programme area, is result-oriented and clearly identifies the change it wants to achieve, demonstrates a demand-driven character and is based on a common territorial need, strategically fits with one of the seven Specific Objectives of the Programme, brings together resources, knowledge and good practice to achieve innovative outputs and results.

There are currently 2 calls undergoing, which are at different stages of the application process. For call 5, the first step will be open from the 1 August until the 27 October 2017. Step 2 will then be open on 2 February 2018 until 2 May 2018.



**Project MIRG EU**

**Programme priority:** Priority 2 b. Develop activities to prevent and cope with natural, technological and human risks and to guarantee the quality of the environment  
**Duration:** 01.01.2012 - 30.09.2014  
**Total budget:** €3 094 818  
**ERDF:** €1 547 409

To provide safety in the 2 Seas area, the fire brigades from the four member states decided to cooperate and establish a cross-border Maritime Incident Response Group (MIRG EU). Three maritime incident response groups (MIRGs) in Belgium, France and the Netherlands were created, using the existing knowledge and skills of the MIRG team in England. They now are a specialised group of firefighters using a common set of procedures for firefighting and incident response, on passenger ships and cargo vessels.

After the end of the project, the MIRG continued to train together. They organised an exercise in October 2016: “with nearly 500 participants, including observers from 15 EU and neighbouring countries, and the deployment of five ships and three helicopters, this was one of the largest maritime incident response exercises ever held in European waters.”

**Project MET-CERTIFIED**

**Specific Objective:** 2.1. Adoption of low carbon technologies  
**Duration:** 01.09.2016 - 31.12.2019  
**Total budget:** €9 284 697  
**ERDF:** €5 570 818

This project brings together stakeholders across the 2 Seas region to demonstrate the first internationally recognised certified tidal power technologies for both floating and dam integrated markets. They expected to increase the adoption of tidal power project arrays in the 2 Seas region and beyond by making these technologies insurable and therefore bankable. They want to make the sector more attractive for investors.

Therefore the project will develop seven mature and verified international standards and three certification schemes for wave and tidal technologies. They will do three certification pilots on different existing devices: submerged (in the UK), dam-integrated, floating (in the Netherlands), as well as four scale tests under controlled conditions in France. The partners will also develop a new floating platform with a capacity of 500kW near the Isle of Wight that will answer these international quality standards.



**ERDF:** €140 m

**Countries:** Portugal, Spain, France, United Kingdom and Ireland

**Priorities:** P1 Innovation & competitiveness  
P2 Resource Efficiency  
P3 Territorial Risks  
P4 Biodiversity, natural and cultural assets

**Projects:** -

**Webpage:** [www.atlanticarea.eu](http://www.atlanticarea.eu)

**Contact:** Carla Guimarães, Communication Officer, +351 22 60 50 114, [carla.guimaraes@atlanticarea.eu](mailto:carla.guimaraes@atlanticarea.eu)



The Atlantic Area programme intends to contribute to the achievement of economic, social and territorial cohesion of 37 Atlantic regions of five countries. The primary features drawing this area are its environmental heritage and maritime dimension, together with a territorial development common pattern.

This programme aims to achieve significant and tangible progress of these regions, promoting solutions to respond to challenges in the fields of innovation and competitiveness, resource efficiency, environment and cultural assets, supporting regional development and sustainable growth.

Cooperation projects are expected to deliver against the programme outputs and produce tangible and sustainable results, by involving key and relevant local and regional stakeholders from at least three countries of the programme area in the thematic priorities defined.

The first call for projects was launched in two steps from April 2016 to January 2017. From the 405 Expressions of Interest received in step 1, the Monitoring Committee (MC) selected 102 proposals to present a full application in step 2. The MC meets in May to approve the first Atlantic projects. No dates are defined yet for the launch of the second call.

## Project ARCOPOL

**Specific Objective:** 2.1 Reinforce maritime security

**Duration:** 01.01.2014 - 30.6.2015

**Total budget:** €1 584 980

**ERDF:** €1 030 243

ARCOPOL platform aimed to further improve maritime safety in the Atlantic Area and reinforce the protection of the coastal regions from maritime pollution through the capitalization and upgrading of ARCOPOL and ARCOPOLplus outcomes.

This project involved partners from the five countries and contributed to a better preparedness of local and regional authorities to face maritime accidents thanks to the implementation of Local Contingency Plans in more municipalities and Natural Protected Areas, organising pilot actions, always considering the singularities of these areas and post-spill environmental monitoring issues.

Moreover, these actions were improved by the inclusion of the previous projects deliverables, with spill modelling tools upgraded shared among regions and transferred to competent authorities through tailored training. Furthermore, all activities contributed to the development of the Atlantic Technological Platform



**ERDF:** €115 m

**Countries:** Estonia, Finland (incl. Åland), Latvia, Sweden

**Priorities:** P1 Competitive economy  
P2 Sustainable use of common resources  
P3 Well-connected region  
P4 Skilled and socially inclusive region

**Projects:** 67

**Webpage:** [www.centralbaltic.eu](http://www.centralbaltic.eu) and [database.centralbaltic.eu](http://database.centralbaltic.eu)

**Contact:** Ari Brozinski, +358 4425757136, [ari.brozinski@centralbaltic.eu](mailto:ari.brozinski@centralbaltic.eu)

The Central Baltic programme is located in the middle of the Baltic Sea between Estonia, Finland (incl. Åland), Latvia and Sweden. We want to improve the programme region by supporting actions leading to concrete results, whether it's through finding better ways to transport people and goods, or by supporting youngster start-ups. Ours vision is reflected in our priority axes and specific objectives, reflects the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region by supporting objectives “save the sea”, “connect the region” and “increase prosperity”, and is realised by our projects.

Projects have to contribute to the results and output indicators of the programme. Additionally, involvement of end-users and sustainability has to be taken into account. Projects also have to provide clear added value, when a common challenge between at least two countries located inside the programme area, is to be solved. Project partners can be public organisations, NGOs or private entities.

The Central Baltic programme has had three calls. The third, and likely last full call, closed on 27 February 2017. Currently, we have 67 projects in all priorities and specific objectives.

## Project MASAPO

**Programme Priority:** P3 Well-connected region

**Programme Specific Objective:** 3.2. Improved services of existing small ports to improve local and regional mobility and contribute to tourism development

**Sub-programme:** Archipelago and Islands

**Duration:** 01.10.2015 - 31.03.2018

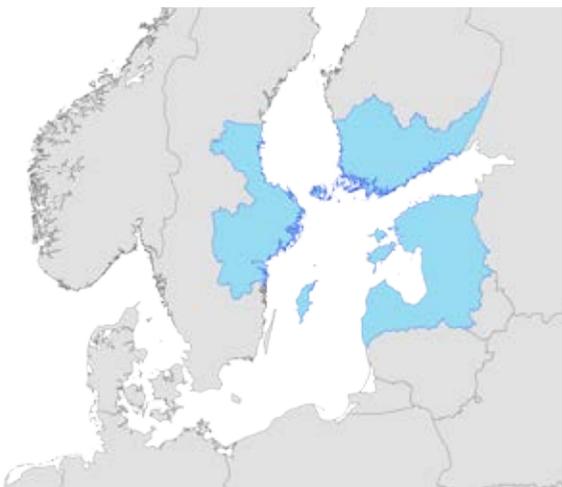
**Total budget:** €1 178 136

**ERDF:** €953 597

The project aims at developing maritime safety in small ports in the Baltic Sea Region by tackling the lack of information about small ports and safety services in Estonia and Åland. MASAPO develops cooperation between small ports in Estonia and Åland islands to provide better information about the ports and their safety services. The project involves pilot voluntary maritime rescue organisations to use their international experience in developing and implementing higher safety standards in the ports for tourists and local habitants.

In practice, joint surveys and mapping of the current safety situation in the participating small ports is performed. Based on this, plans for development and investments are made. The project does research and trains volunteers as well as local service providers in the pilot ports to have the necessary skills for preventive activities and for participation in rescue operations.

Through the actions, the number of visitors on the islands is expected to increase as higher safety standards improve reliability and attract more visitors to the region.



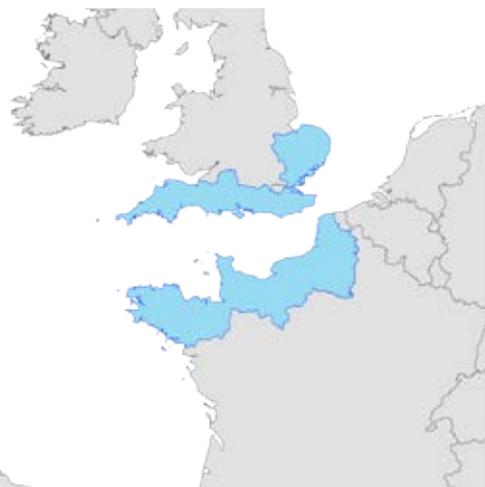
**ERDF:** €223 m  
**Countries:** France, United Kingdom  
**Priorities:** P1 Support innovation  
 P2 Support the transition to a low-carbon economy  
 P3 Enhance the attractiveness of the Channel Area  
**Projects:** 9  
**Webpage:** [www.interreg5a-fce.eu](http://www.interreg5a-fce.eu)  
**Contact:** [interregv@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:interregv@norfolk.gov.uk)

The France (Channel) England programme is a cross-border co-operation Programme between the UK and France. The area in which the Programme operates is either side of the English Channel including the South of England, stretching from Norfolk to Cornwall and the north coast of France, from Finistère to Pas-de-Calais.

The Programme has 3 priorities divided into 5 Specific Objectives. These highlight the areas where the Programme plans to have a significant impact within the Channel area.

The Programme has an ERDF budget of €223 million euros with a co-financing rate of 69%. All projects financed by the Programme need to apply under one of the Programme's Specific Objectives and should include at least one partner from both countries.

In January 2017 the Programme launched an exciting initiative called Micro Projects. The scheme aims to encourage smaller organisations to take part in cross-border projects. Small businesses, local authorities and charities are able to apply for as much as 80% ERDF funding towards their projects under the new scheme.



## Project ICE

### Programme Specific Objective:

2.1 Low Carbon Technologies

**Duration:** 01.09.2016 - 31.08.2020

**Total budget:** €8 000 062

**ERDF:** €5 499 343

The project aims to design and implement innovative smart energy solutions for isolated territories in the Channel area. Isolated communities often face unique energy issues related to efficiency, reliability and sustainability. This is commonly due to dependency on external and fossil fuel energy supply, low electricity grid capacity and limited or no connection to wider grids. As a result isolated communities have higher than average carbon emissions and are more vulnerable to fluctuating fuel prices. The ICE project will overcome these challenges by producing an innovative low-carbon energy system (Smart Grid) which will cover the entire energy cycle from production to consumption. One of the test sites for the project includes the Island of Ushant in France where a tidal turbine will be used to generate energy.



## Project EUROHAB

**Programme Specific Objective:** 3.2. Coastal and Transitional Water Ecosystems

**Duration:** 01.07.2017 - 01.06.2021

**Total budget:** €3 726 344

**ERDF:** €2 571 177

Led by Plymouth Marine Laboratory, this project will use the latest satellite technology to improve the way water quality and harmful algal blooms (HABS) are monitored in the English Channel. A web based alert system, the first of its kind in the Channel, will be developed to alert marine managers and fishing industries of the growth of potentially damaging algal blooms, helping reduce the millions of pounds lost each year as a result of HABS in both France and the UK.



**ERDF:** €79 m  
**Countries:** Ireland, Wales  
**Priorities:** P1 Cross border innovation  
 P2 Adaptation of the Irish Sea and Coastal Communities to Climate Change  
 P3 Cultural and Natural Resources and Heritage  
**Projects:** 9  
**Webpage:** [www.irelandwales.eu](http://www.irelandwales.eu)  
**Contact:** [irelandwalescrossborderprogramme@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:irelandwalescrossborderprogramme@wales.gsi.gov.uk)



The Ireland Wales programme is a maritime programme connecting organisations, businesses and communities on the West coast of Wales with the South-East coast of Ireland. The programme focuses on seeking solutions to shared challenges on both sides of the Irish Sea, to improve the economic and sustainable development priorities of Wales and Ireland.

The programme focuses on Cross border innovation, Adaptation of the Irish Sea and Coastal Communities to Climate Change and Cultural and Natural Resources and Heritage. Organisations from the public, private and third sector can apply. Projects must involve at least one partner organisation from Wales and Ireland, with one organisation taking on the role of lead partner. The Welsh Government manages the programme with partners in Ireland – the Southern Regional Assembly and the Department for Public Expenditure and Reform.

The programme operates on an open call basis; the Programme Managing Authority intends to open a specific call for proposals in the area of Cultural and Natural Resources and Heritage, which will be open until the Summer 2017.

### Project Smart Coasts

**Programme priority:** Climate Change and Sustainable Regeneration  
**Specific Objective:** 2.1 Environment  
**Duration:** 4,5 years  
**Total budget:** €5 m  
**ERDF:** €3,75 m

‘Smart Coasts = Sustainable Communities’ – an award-winning project supported by the 2007-13 programme – helped improve the quality of coastal areas on both sides of the Irish Sea to boost tourism and support local economies. Partners collaborated to develop a new system to predict water quality, linked to electronic information systems providing bathers with up-to-date details of water conditions.

The aim was to improve understanding of pollution sources and help increase the number of Blue Flag beaches in line with European bathing water standards. The success of the project has been marked by an award from the UK Water Industry Forum in 2015 for research relevance to practitioners.

A 2014-2020 follow-on project, ‘Acclimatize’ will focus on the sustainable use of at-risk bathing waters and the identification of the main pollution pressures on bathing waters in urban and rural settings.

### Project Hydro-BPT

**Programme priority:** Climate Change and Sustainable Regeneration  
**Specific Objective:** 2.1 Environment  
**Duration:** 4 years  
**Total budget:** €975 000  
**ERDF:** €626 000

The 2007-2013 ‘Hydro BPT’ project researched the generation of low carbon energy from the water supply network, using micro-hydropower turbines. The aim was to reduce carbon emissions generated by the supply, treatment and disposal of drinking water and cut the operating cost of supplying treated water.

Over 300 water infrastructure sites across Wales and Ireland were examined to assess the suitability of micro-hydropower energy recovery. Through the study, it was identified that over 10 GWh could be recovered annually – the equivalent of a saving of €2.5 million and over 10,000 tons of CO2 emissions.

A 2014-2020 follow-on project, ‘Dwr Uisce’ aims to improve the efficiency of water distribution by developing new low carbon energy-saving technology, which will be trialed in both nations before being launched on the commercial market.





**ERDF:** €78 m

**Countries:** Germany, Denmark, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden

**Priorities:** P1 Strengthening international activeness and innovation capacity of the South Baltic blue & green economy  
P2 Exploiting the environmental and cultural potential of the South Baltic area for blue and green growth  
P3 Improving cross-border connectivity for a functional blue and green transport area.  
P4 Boosting human resource capacities for the area's blue and green economy”  
P5 Increasing cooperation capacity of local actors

**Projects:** 22

**Webpage:** [www.southbaltic.eu](http://www.southbaltic.eu)

**Contact:** Vassilen Iotzov, Communication and Capitalisation Officer, +48 58 746 38 55, [vassilen.iotzov@southbaltic.eu](mailto:vassilen.iotzov@southbaltic.eu),

The Interreg South Baltic Programme aims at unlocking South Baltic’s potential for blue and green growth through cross-border cooperation between local and regional actors from Denmark, Germany, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden. Building on the maritime character of the Programme, “blue growth” addresses the economic potential of the Baltic Sea for growth and jobs across the shores of the South Baltic. At the same time, “green growth” underlines the need to pursue the path of economic growth in balance with the environment, in particular by utilising South Baltic’s rich natural and cultural heritage in a sustainable and preserving manner. The following types of organisations can form partnerships and submit applications (non-exhaustive): public administrations and agencies; public or private (having either public or non-profit character) companies dealing with communal and municipal environmental and energy management, public transport or transport infrastructure administration; chambers of commerce, clusters and business support organisations; R&D facilities and educational institutions; labour offices and unions, employer organisations; associations of public or private bodies and NGOs, natural and cultural heritage protection organisations. The programme has allocated ca. 33% of its financial capacity to projects dealing with maritime entrepreneurship, sustainable tourism, green technologies, sustainable transport, skills development for the maritime economy as well as cooperation capacity building. In the upcoming calls, the Programme is likely to seek for projects revolving around green technologies, sustainable transport, skills development for the maritime economy as well as cooperation capacity building.

## Projects INTERFACE and INTERFACE PLUS

**Programme priority:** Transport accessibility

**Sub-programme:** Archipelago and Islands

**Duration:** 2010-2013

**Total budget:** €1,6 m (INTERFACE), €2,8 m (INTERFACE PLUS)

**ERDF:** €1,3 m (INTERFACE), €2,4 m (INTERFACE PLUS)

Walking across the Baltic Sea – this is what a South Baltic product promises. The InterCombi ticket was designed by the project INTERFACE (2009-2012). It connects ferry and public transport, operated by different carriers across the border. With more than 7,000 tickets sold already during the pilot phase, the product has been integrated in local ticketing systems. With one single ticket, foot passengers can use the public transport of Rostock, the ferry between Germany and Denmark as well as the bus service to Nykøbing on the island of Falster. In addition, the project INTERFACE PLUS (2010-2015) introduced a unique cross-border passenger information system. It provides real-time information on schedules, delays or transfer times. A novelty for the region is the ability of the system to process and integrate multimodal data from rail, road and waterborne collective transport across the Baltic Sea. This data translates into a convenient information service for foot passengers displayed in buses, terminals and at bus stations



## Interreg programmes at the EMD 2017 stand

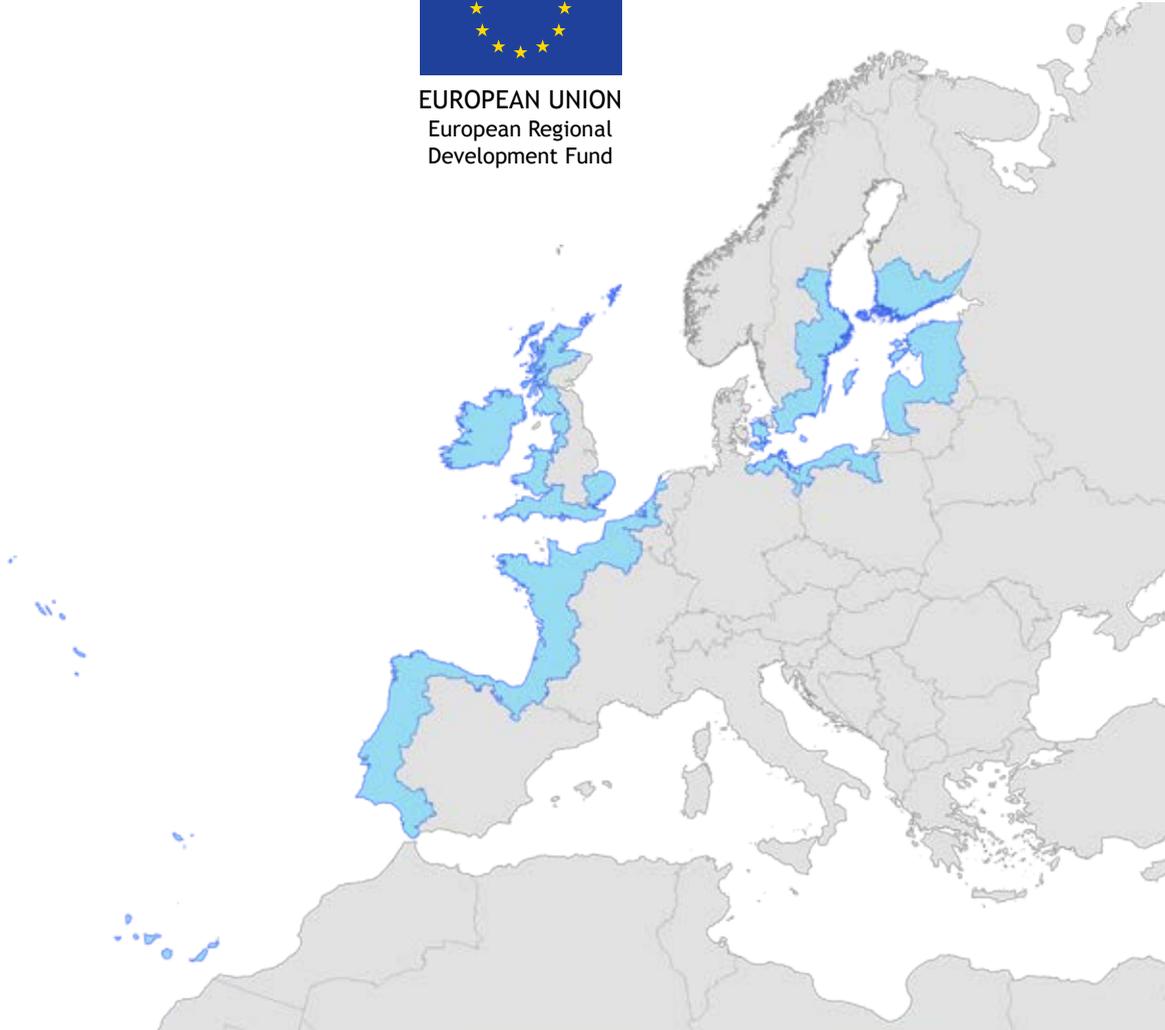
Programme name	Countries	Priorities	Total ERDF (m)	Allocated ERDF	Projects	Next call for applications	Notes	Webpage
<b>2 Seas</b>	Coastal areas of Belgium, England, France and the Netherlands	P1 Technological and social innovation, P2 Low carbon technologies, P3 Adaptation to Climate Change, P4 Resource efficient economy	€241	€78	26	Call 5 1st step open from 1.8.2017 - 27.10.2017; 2nd step 2.2.2018 - 2.5.2018	Funding up to 60%	<a href="http://www.interreg2seas.eu">www.interreg2seas.eu</a>
<b>Atlantic Area</b>	Portugal, Spain, France, United Kingdom, Ireland	P1 Innovation & Competitiveness, P2 Resource Efficiency, P3 Territorial Risks, P4 Biodiversity, Natural and Cultural Assets	€140	-	-	Announced later	First call for projects closed in Jan 2017 - projects to be approved in June 2017	<a href="http://www.atlanticarea.eu">www.atlanticarea.eu</a>
<b>Central Baltic</b>	Estonia, Finland (incl. Åland), Latvia, Sweden	P1 Competitive economy, P2 Sustainable use of common resources, P3 Well-connected region, P4 Skilled and socially inclusive region	€115	€ 68	67	There are likely no more full calls	Third call closed in February 2017.	<a href="http://www.centralbaltic.eu">www.centralbaltic.eu</a>
<b>France (Channel) England</b>	France, United Kingdom	P1 Support Innovation in order to address the economic and societal issues facing the France (Channel) England Area, P2 Support the transition to a low-carbon economy in the France (Channel) England Area, P3 Enhance the attractiveness of the territories of the France (Channel) England Area	€223	€34	9	The Programme is now running a open call for applications	Co-financing rate 69%	<a href="http://interreg5a-fce.eu">interreg5a-fce.eu</a>
<b>Ireland Wales</b>		P1 Cross border innovation, P2 Adaptation of the Irish Sea and Coastal Communities to Climate Change, P3 Cultural and Natural Resources and Heritage	€79		9			
<b>South Baltic</b>	Germany, Denmark, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden	P1 Strengthening international activeness and innovation capacity of the South Baltic blue & green economy, P2 Exploiting the environmental and cultural potential of the South Baltic area for blue and green growth, P3 Improving cross-border connectivity for a functional blue and green transport area. P4 Boosting human resource capacities for the area's blue and green economy	€78	€25	22		Co-financing rate 85%	<a href="http://www.southbaltic.eu">www.southbaltic.eu</a>







EUROPEAN UNION  
European Regional  
Development Fund



Maps: © EuroGeographics for the administrative boundaries.