

Cooperation across macro-regional strategies

15th Steering Group meeting of the
EUSDR Priority Area 4 'Water Quality'

18 April 2018 | Budapest, Hungary

Baiba Liepa, Interact



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Interact: who we are?

Cooperation can be complex - our job is to make it easier



Interact programme objectives

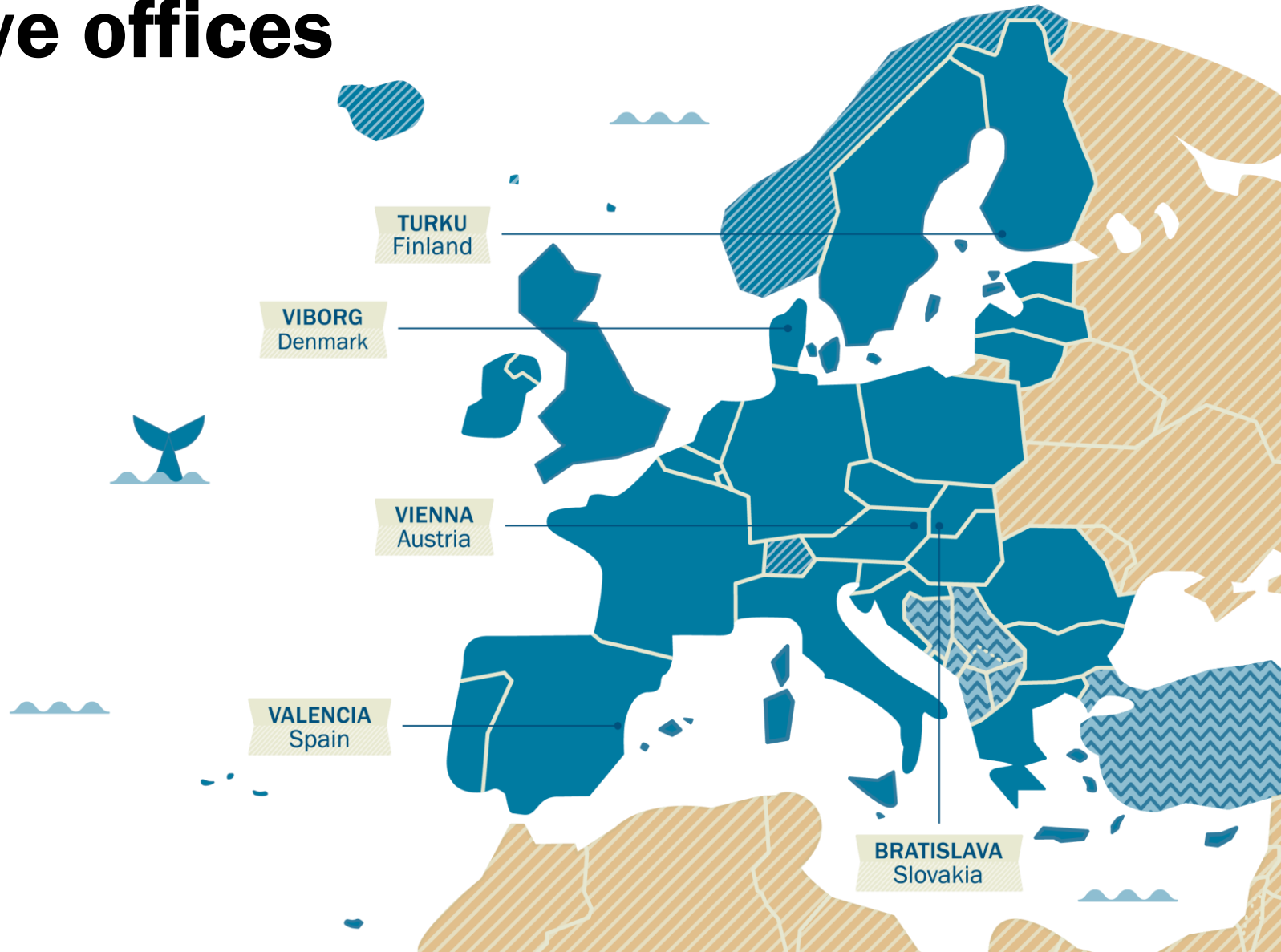
Improve the management capacity of Interreg programmes

Improve Interreg capacity in capturing and communicating results

Improve the implementation of new ways of cooperation



One programme in five offices



Macro-regional strategies team



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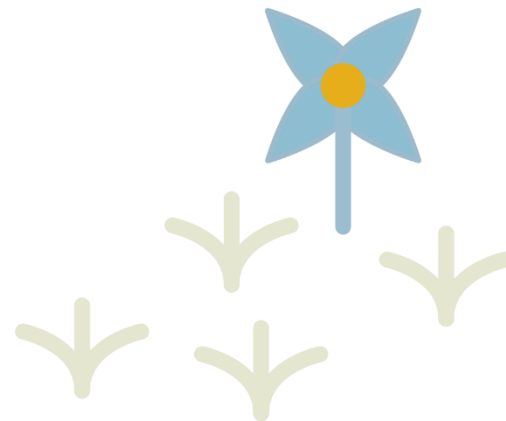


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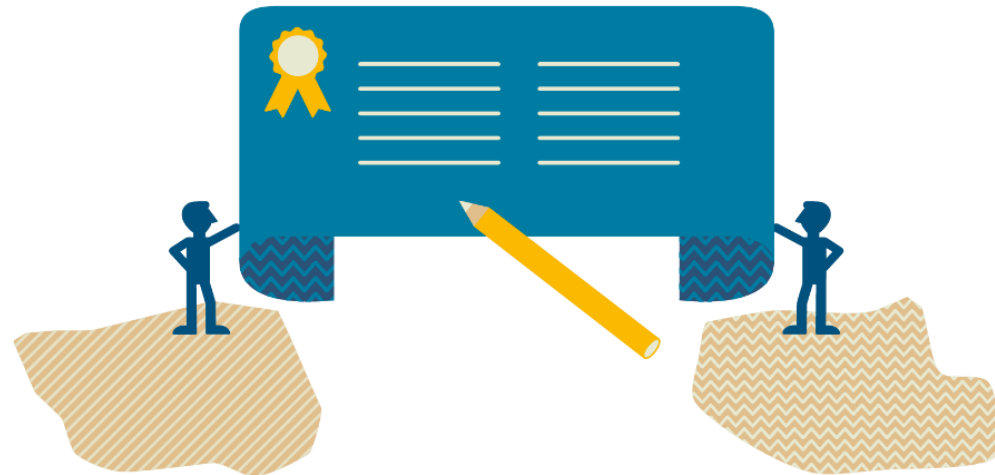
What did we learn?

**Conclusions from services supporting
cross macro-regional cooperation**



Overall conclusions and observations

1. Similar development process
2. Different contexts and similar challenges
3. Potential for further cooperation and exchanges
4. Informal exchange and learning



In more details...

Governance

- Coordinator's role differ in the Strategies
- Allocation of resources to the function
- Need to embed political level commitments in concrete actions (allocations and implementation) on the ground
- Setting-up steering/coordination groups is an exhaustive task
- Defining realistic targets that coordinators can achieve

In more details...

Funding alignment

- Openness of funding sources to invest into macro-regional projects
- Added value and benefit for programmes
- Labelling
- Funding flexibility and differentiation of support
- Knowledge of funding sources
- Funding – inclusive or exclusive?

In more details...

Communication and visibility

- Communication and visibility of the work is in a core for the success
- Communication at all governance levels – from the EU to local
- Common and simple terminology
- Shared approaches and similar ways of addressing questions
- Targeted information activities/campaigns



In more details...

What is in a focus of the macro-regional strategy - policy development/change or project implementation?

Macro-regional process is:

an organised and inclusive long-term cooperation, implemented by blending different activities (networks, projects, tools), based on identified gaps and needs of the macro-region and aiming for greater policy impact and change of existing approaches

We will continue working...

Plans for 2018



Plans for 2018

1. Organising cross-strategy thematic meetings
2. Working towards more coordination of communication
3. Exchanging across transnational programmes dedicated to support macro-regional strategies
4. Working for alignment of funding – embedding platform
5. Discussing a need for a joint capacity building platform
6. Sharing experiences and knowledge
7. Contributing to external events
8. Running Interreg capitalisation networks



Cooperation works

Thank you for your attention!

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