



SHARING  
SOLUTIONS ON  
STRUCTURAL FUNDS

Tenerife 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2005

S<sup>3</sup>  
**Sharing  
Solutions on  
Structural Funds**

An example of interregional  
co-operation

*Stefania Sommacal*  
*Regione Emilia-Romagna*





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## Project description

<b>Programme</b>	Interreg III C (Network operation)
<b>Topic</b>	Objective 1 and 2 areas
<b>Project duration</b>	25 Months
<b>Starting / Ending date</b>	(9/2004 - 9/2006)
<b>Total budget</b>	1.367.228,30 €
<b>ERDF co-funding</b>	861.249.15 €





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**S**OLUTIONS ON  
**S**TRUCTURAL FUNDS

## The project

**The project has created a discussion network of Managing Authorities and intermediate bodies of Objective 1 and 2 regions, in order to:**

- identify innovative tools in SF programming and managing**
- share their experiences**
- disseminate information**

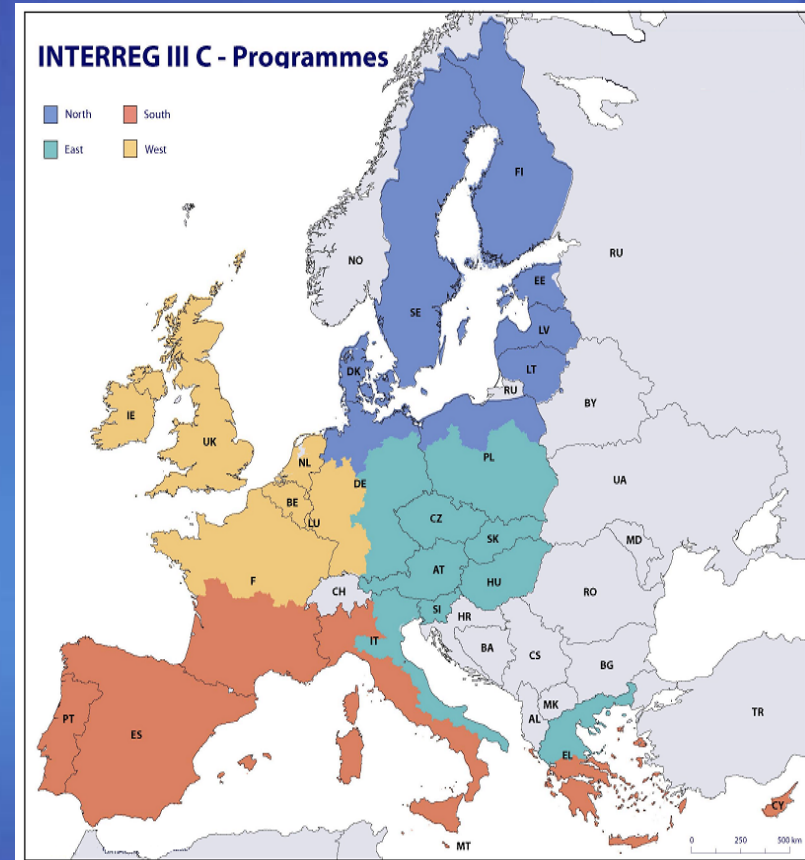




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## Partnership

- 14 partners
- 4 NMS, 5 old MS
- Partner profile: 8 public bodies, 6 public equivalent bodies
- Managing Authorities or institutions supporting them in the implementation of SF programmes





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## Partnership

1. Emilia- Romagna Region, GD industry, trade and tourism, (IT) – LP
2. Ostrava Regional Development Agency, (CZ)
3. Office of the Košice Self-Governing Region, (SK)
4. Regional Development Agency of North Great Plain, (HU)
5. Directorate generale of European affairs, Madrid (ES)
6. Development Bank of Saxony-Anhalt, (DE)
7. Ignalina Regional Development Agency, (LT)
8. Campania Region, (IT)
9. Centre for Innovation and Business Development, Catalunya (ES)
10. Lazio Region, (IT)
11. Finlombarda Ltd, (IT)
12. Region of Western Greece, (GR)
13. Objective 1 Programme Directorate South Yorkshire, (UK)
14. E.C. Business and Innovation Centre (BIC) of Western Greece





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Project goal

Enhancing **direct co-operation** among Regional authorities across Europe on mechanisms and tools used for programming and managing EU Structural Funds.

Setting up a wide **discussion network** where Managing Authorities of Objective 1 and 2 regions exchange experiences on methodologies and approaches





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## Project organisation

The project is divided into 4  
Components:

**COMP. 1:** Management and Co-ordination

**COMP. 2:** Networking experiences

**COMP. 3:** Networking people

**COMP. 4:** Networking results





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## Project Idea

### Networking experiences



Identifying, analysing and sharing practices in programming, managing and evaluating SF programmes, with focus on transferability

### Networking people



Through study tours and staff exchanges, partners move from theoretical analysis to practical implementation, to acquire first hand knowledge of the practices in their operational context

### Networking results



Dissemination of information on practices at a larger audience (regional and national stakeholders)





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## Networking experiences

### 11 PRACTICES

- IDENTIFIED** as experiences providing innovative elements
- ANALYSED** and grouped into 3 thematic groups
- COMPARED** through TWG meetings focusing on transferability of most innovative and succesful aspects (definition of conditions for transferability)





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## Networking experiences

### 3 Thematic Working Groups:

**Partnership** →

Methodologies to create/stimulate and manage partnerships

**Programming  
Strategy  
and Project  
Development** →

Integrated and participated approaches adopted in programming and tools used to implement the strategy

**Technical  
Assistance** →

Different approaches to technical assistance in the implementation of programmes





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## The practices

1. Partnership in Programming
2. Pro-active project development approach and commissioning of projects
3. Territorial Integrated Projects
4. Integrated Local Development
5. Infrastructural Revolving Fund
6. Fostering urban recovery by selective cross-department actions
7. Management Expertise (Operational network providing TA to MAs)
8. Management Organisation Unit for the development of an expert support structure
9. Agencies supporting the development of personnel and organisation within SME
10. Evaluation of the Madrid Region Information and Publicity Plan
11. Use of information technologies in Small and Medium Enterprises





11 SHORT PAPERS DESCRIBING THE  
EXPERIENCES SELECTED

FIRST ROUND OF THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS

1 BENCHMARK REPORT

SECOND ROUND OF THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS

1 FINAL REPORT WITH METHODOLOGICAL  
CONSIDERATIONS ON TRANSFERABILITY OF  
GOOD PRACTICES





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## Networking people

**11 STUDY VISITS** UNDER ORGANISATION,  
ENABLING FUNCTIONNAIRES OF DIFFERENT EU  
REGIONS TO GAIN HANDS ON EXPERIENCE OF THE  
SELECTED PRACTICES IN THEIR ORIGINAL CONTEXT.

**DIRECT KNOWLEDGE** OF THOSE MECHANISMS /  
INSTRUMENTS CONSIDERED AS INNOVATIVE AND  
TRANSFERABLE





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## Networking results

- **Tools** for the dissemination of results (intranet, web-site, e-newsletter)
- Organisation of **events** to disseminate knowledge on the practices, at the regional and national levels, involving relevant stakeholders



Networking results  
Website – Homepage  
[www.S3-interreg.net](http://www.S3-interreg.net)



- ABOUT S<sup>3</sup>
- REGIONS
- RESULTS
- CONTACTS
- LINKS

 PROJECT PART-FINANCED  
BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

North EAST South West  
 INTERREG III C

## PROJECT IDEA

S3 is a European integrated network of people, experiences and information whose main goal is to share ideas, knowledge and solutions in managing Structural Funds, also in view of the next programming period and of the EU enlargement.

## • NEWSLETTER

- THE PROJECT BACKGROUND
- GOALS
- THE STORY SO FAR

01  
NEWS

## • EVENTS

• ARCHIVE

10-13/10/2005, Bruxelles - S3 has been selected for the "Challenges for interregional co-operation" Session of the Open Days (Session 11C08)

22/09/2005, Prague (Czech Republic) - All zones meeting INTERREG III C - 3 years of working with the regions.



• HOME • ABOUT S<sup>3</sup> • REGIONS • RESULTS • LINKS

### • NETWORKING EXPERIENCES

The **best practices and the needs from NMS collected** have been **analyzed and grouped** following the principles agreed on by the partners; a more detailed analysis has been carried out during the TWG meetings, where the best practices grouped under the same **themes** (**partnership, technical assistance, programming strategy and project development**) have been discussed.

### • NETWORKING INFORMATION

Once different approaches and tools have been identified, information will be shared within the partnership and more widely Europe-wide.  
Seminars, conferences, web-site and other on-line communication tools will be used to disseminate results.

Work in progress

### • NETWORKING PEOPLE

Through study tours and staff exchanges, partners work on the practical implementation of relevant tools. This phase enables the network to examine the feasibility of transferring best practice. Hands-on experience will highlight the viability of implementing innovative programming tools. During study tours partners will look at developing solutions for the practical problems associated with implementing different practices in their own regions

Work in progress

## PARTNERS' LIST AND OFFICIAL WEBSITES

Emilia-Romagna Region,  
GD industry, trade and tourism  
Country IT  
Region: EMILIA-ROMAGNA  
[>>Read more](#)



Ostrava Regional Development Agency  
Country CZ

Region Moravskoslezsko  
[>>Read more](#)



Office of the Košice Self-Governing  
Region  
Country SK

Region Vychodne Slovensko  
[>>Read more](#)



Regional Development Agency of North  
Great Plain  
Country HU

Region Eszak-Alfold  
[>>Read more](#)



Directorate generale of state cooperation  
& European affairs  
Country ES

Region COMUNIDAD DE MADRID  
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Development Bank of Saxony-Anhalt  
Country DE

Region SACHSEN-ANHALT  
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Ignalina regional development agency  
Country LT

Region Lietuva  
[>>Read more](#)



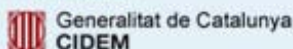
Regional Government of Campania  
Country IT

Region CAMPANIA  
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Centre for Innovation and Business  
Development - CIDEM  
Country ES

Region CATALUÑA  
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Lazio Region  
Country IT

Region LAZIO  
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Finlombarda Ltd  
Country IT

Region LOMBARDIA  
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Region of Western Greece  
Country GR

Region DYTIKI ELLADA  
[>>Read more](#)



Objective 1 Programme Directorate South  
Yorkshire  
Country UK

Region YORKSHIRE & THE HUMBER  
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GOVERNMENT OFFICE  
FOR YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER

E.C. Business and Innovation Centre  
(BIC)  
of Western Greece  
Country GRK

Region DYTIKI ELLADA  
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**Networking results  
Website - Regions**

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- THE PROJECT BACKGROUND
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### • THE STORY SO FAR

#### Building the partnership

A solid partnership made up of 14 institutions working at different level on the management of Structural funds programmes in Objective 1 and 2 area has been set up. People from Managing Authorities of Operational Programmes from old and new members states, and from regional institutions/agencies involved in the implementation of the programmes started working together on selected topics, comparing experiences.

#### Networking the experiences and sharing practices

Best practices related to tools and methods of programming and managing Structural Funds were collected among all partners, for the purpose of comparison. Collection and selection was made on the basis of criteria defining innovative approaches. <http://www.s3-interreg.net/results.htm>.

Practices collected have been grouped under three thematic areas representing relevant issues in management Structural Funds Programmes:

Technical assistance - the focus is on the different approaches for technical assistance for the Managing Authority (MA) within the implementation and development of the programmes.

[CIDEM](#), [Western Greece and BIC of Western Greece](#), [Lazio - Management Expertise](#), [Saxony-Anhalt POE Agencies](#), [Madrid](#)

Programming strategy and project development - refers to the selection of programmes and proposals to be implemented, and it also addresses financial issues and instruments.

[Emilia Romagna](#), [Lazio - Integrated Local Development](#), [South Yorkshire](#), [Finlombarda](#), [Saxony-Anhalt URBAN 21](#), [Campania](#)

Partnership - the focus is on the methodologies to create / stimulate and manage the partnership, co-ordinate different partners, and also on the results delivered by partnership.

[South Yorkshire](#), [Emilia Romagna](#), [Lazio - Integrated Local Development](#)





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## Networking results

### *Events*

- Open days in Brussels: presentation of S3 experience in the “Challenges for interregional co-operation” Session
- Prague: participation in Interreg3C All zones meeting
- National events organised by the Madrid Region and the Kosice Self-governing Region
- Regional events organised by CIDEM Catalunya and the Czech Republic
- Organisation of one-day dissemination events, at the regional level, in all partners’ Regions
- Cross-fertilisation events





## Lessons learned

- Increasing need for co-operation and networking among regions, both at national and EU level, based on concrete issues related to SF management and programming
- NMS interest in getting a set of experiences to be compared, especially in view of next programming period
- Necessity to support the participation of public institutions in the Programme, need for simplification of procedures





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**THANK YOU!**

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