

Channel News - April 2019

WELCOME
BIENVENUE

Welcome to new staff members!

Happy Easter!

Since our December newsletter, the France Channel England team has expanded further, with two new Finance and Appraisal Officers joining the team, Gary and Melanie, and a third, Léa, starting with us very soon.

Congratulations to our colleagues Manon, Amandine, Ewa and Morgane who have progressed from interns to Graduate trainees.

We are also pleased to develop our internship scheme, with our new interns, Guillaume and Jeanne, who recently started on the programme, and Elizabeth, who will be joining us this summer.

2014-2023: The Programme at mid-point

Now mid-way through the Programme, a total of 25 projects have been approved. These include our first four micro-projects that were approved in 2018: SMARTHEALTH, E-CHANNEL, COO-L FOOD and OPTIWOOD, which still have their best days ahead!

Here are some examples of our approved projects:

- Specific Objective: Low Carbon Technology:

COO-L FOOD (Low-CARBON FOODprint) is one of our micro-projects. It aims at developing a new mobile application that will encourage consumers to adopt more sustainable behaviours in relation to food consumption and waste management, helping them to save money and reduce their carbon footprint.

- Specific Objective: Innovation:

ADAPT (Assistive Devices for empowering disAbled People through robotic Technologies) is one of our first projects, approved in 2016. The project will help tackle mobility problems faced by elderly and disabled people, by developing a new smart electronic powered wheelchair and virtual reality wheelchair simulator.

- Specific Objective: Social Innovation:

AWE (Accelerating Women's Enterprise) has been approved in 2018. It will bring together organisations working in business creation to address the gender imbalance in business start-ups, where men are currently twice as likely to start a business compared to women.

- Specific Objective: Natural and Cultural Heritage:

GO Trade (Growth Of the Visitor Economy through TRADitional Markets and Employment and Skills) has



been approved in 2017. It will aim to stop the economic decline of town centres by creating a unique brand of local markets. The new markets aim to attract over 327,000 new visitors to towns in the South of England and North of France, helping to provide a significant boost to local economies.

- Specific Objective: Coastal and Transitional Water Ecosystems:

Project CPES (Channel Payment for Ecosystem Services) has been approved in 2017 as well. CPES will significantly improve the water quality in a number of rivers and lakes in the South of England and the North of France. CPES will aim to reduce nutrient levels by implementing six pilot PES (Payment for Ecosystem Services) schemes across the channel area.

With €132.9 million (63%) of ERDF still remaining, and €76.8 million ERDF committed so far, we are looking for applicants to apply for funding under one of our **5 specific objectives**.

For more information and to get support with making an application, you can **contact** your local facilitator who can help you to develop your project and guide you through the application process. You can continue to apply for funding until April 2020 for micro projects and until June 2020 for regular projects, so, don't miss your chance!

If you have a project idea, you can send us a few words about it on our website **here**.



SAVE THE DATE

Themed event on flooding

We're pleased to announce that we are launching a one-day themed event in London on 10 July.

This lab will focus on mitigation and solutions to the risk of flooding in the Channel area. This will be a fantastic opportunity for potential project partners and interested organisations to network and work closely with the Interreg FCE programme.

team to develop a project idea and partnership

More information soon.



Update on the impact of a no-deal Brexit

An update has been provided to the article issued by the UK government on the impact of a no-deal Brexit on certain EU-funded programmes, including the France (Channel) England programme.

Article 50 has been extended meaning the UK will continue to have all the rights and responsibilities of an EU member state.

During this extension, UK organisations remain eligible to bid for funding, and approved project partners should continue delivering and making payment claims, throughout the extension.

The extension period is designed to ensure that a withdrawal agreement is in place before EU Exit, but in the event of a no deal, the government guarantee remains in place for UK project partners.

[You can find the full article on the UK Government's webpage dedicated to Brexit.](#)



Contact us:
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