

Interreg



EUROPEAN UNION

France (Channel Manche) England

European Regional Development Fund

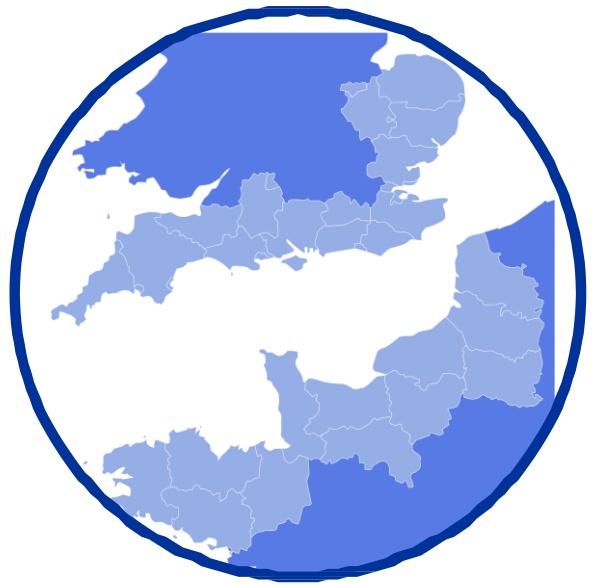
2019

Programme Highlights



AN OVERVIEW

A cornerstone of European integration, European Territorial Cooperation helps to ensure that borders are not barriers, and that ideas and assets are shared to resolve common problems across Europe. Interreg France (Channel) England falls under this umbrella helping to fund projects that benefit the French and English regions around the Channel.



Programme Area

SHARING BORDERS, GROWING CLOSER

2019 in focus

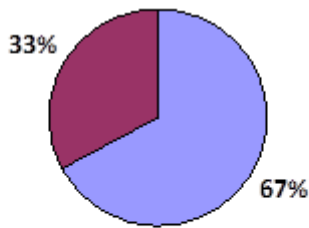
2019 was a year of huge successes despite the uncertainty generated by Brexit and its potential impact on the Interreg France (Channel) England Programme

During the year six projects were approved (including one micro project) worth in total €64.5m ERDF. Four of those (worth €56.8m ERDF) came from the Programme's targeted lab events. Projects approved included TIGER, the biggest ever project across all Interreg programmes (€46m) and Experience (€23m). In addition project CobBauge won the DG RegioStars award for sustainability further demonstrating that despite the uncertainty around Brexit, FCE can proudly boast that it has generated some of Interreg's most ambitious and impactful projects.

The focus for 2019 was on increasing awareness and understanding of the FCE Programme in order to commit as much as possible on quality projects from the remaining €135m (65%). Our annual cross-border event was a themed event on Flooding, generating a number of the projects currently in the project pipeline. The Joint Secretariat (JS) maximised opportunities in publicising news, project activities and major announcements across all platforms, including social media, and created a series of inspiring, bite-sized project videos for launch in 2020.

Out of the €209.7m total funding pot, by the end of 2019, €141.1m (67.3%) of ERDF was committed, leaving €68.5m (32.7%) of funding available (excluding Technical Assistance).

WHAT WE'VE FUNDED SO FAR



31
PROJECTS

285
PARTNERS

■ ERDF committed ■ ERDF available

Innovation



No new projects were approved in 2019 under the Programme's specific objective of Innovation.

Currently there are seven funded projects in this category: Labfact, a chemical manufacturing project; ADAPT, which is developing a smart wheelchair; CoRoT, a robotics project; SURFAS, which is creating energy-efficient devices for routers and smoke alarms; FLOWER, which is developing biocomposite materials from plant fibres for use in the automotive, advertising and sailing sectors; Smarthealth (microproject) which supports the development of new products and services in the field of e-health; and E-Channel (microproject), which offers e-commerce support to SMEs.



Social innovation



One project was approved in 2019 to support socially and economically disadvantaged groups.

Aspire will tackle the link between high levels of obesity and unemployment by using food production to increase awareness, reduce weight and improve employability via new skills and work experience. In addition, Connected Communities which met its conditions for approval in 2019, will improve early intervention and prevention in health and social services for older people to prolong autonomy,





Low Carbon Technologies



Two projects were approved in 2019 that will promote the use of low carbon technologies.

TIGER will develop new tidal energy technologies to make a stronger, cost-effective case for tidal stream energy as part of the energy mix in France and the UK.

SunPeople will test a cost-competitive, sustainable heat energy service based on heat pump and solar technologies that will reduce carbon emissions.

Natural & Cultural Heritage



One project was approved in 2019 that aims to attract new visitors to the Channel region.

EXPERIENCE will extend the tourism season (October-March) by offering experiential, rather than destination-based tourism. It will draw on successes from experiential tourism observed in other countries in order to attract off-season visitors.



Coastal & Transitional Water Ecosystems



Two projects were approved in 2019 that aim to protect the water ecosystems around the Channel.

INDIGO will reduce the plastic in the marine environment by developing biodegradable fishing gear.

PPP will remove and prevent plastic pollution at hotspots where waste enters the sea via rivers.

In addition, RanTrans, which met its conditions of approval in 2019, will develop methods to reduce algal mat coverage in areas of coastal eutrophication and help reduce nutrient levels.

