



Norfolk County Council

Interreg 
France (Channel
Manche) England
European Regional Development Fund

Channel News

€50 million available!

We're open for business

We can reassure all project partners that exiting the European Union with a deal means funding through our Programme is guaranteed for the lifetime of a project. To give applicants a little extra time to apply, we'll be launching some new call dates though 2020 and beyond.

So if you don't want to miss out on a share of the €50m funding pot we have left, now is the time to come forward! We are particularly looking for project ideas for our 'innovation' funding category.

[Get in touch with your local facilitator.](#)



Video launch

We've created a series of inspiring, bite-sized films about some of our projects to highlight their achievements so far.

The videos feature one project from each of our five specific objectives to illustrate the variety of ideas we co-fund, and the collaboration that goes into forming a successful cross-Channel partnership.

[Go to the news section on our website to watch the films.](#)



First claims surgery held

To help improve our partners' understanding about submitting a payment claim and support them through the process, we have held our first claims surgeries, starting with our newly-approved projects. Due to the success of these, we are pleased to open up the offer to any other approved projects wanting extra support, so do get in touch if you need a bit of extra help.

Please note, due to the coronavirus situation, we are now planning how we can offer this support via an alternative method to face-to-face meetings.



Project to tackle plastic pollution hotspots

The Channel area will be the focus of a €14m three-year project to remove and prevent plastic pollution at hotspots in the UK and France.

Preventing Plastic Pollution (PPP) will develop a model to gather data on the amount and likely sources of plastic pollution at seven pilot sites where rivers meet the sea. Experts will then create a range of removal methods to prevent and manage pollution.

The idea stemmed from a 'targeted lab' event on plastic pollution organised by the Programme.

[Read more here.](#)



Link between obesity and unemployment tackled

The €10 million project ASPIRE is aimed at helping obese and overweight people who are unemployed across the France (Channel) England zone. Partners will use food production to increase awareness, reduce weight, boost self-esteem and improve the employability of people via new skills and work experience.

The project is expected to reach 20,000 people across seven locations, develop an innovative model covering health and employability, and create a hub for ASPIRE activities.

[Read more here.](#)



Biodegradable fishing nets project launched

An innovative project to reduce plastic pollution at sea by developing biodegradable fishing nets has been launched.

INDIGO, which has a budget of €4.3m and will run for 3 years 9 months, aims to reduce the amount of plastic in the Channel area by 3%.

Fishing equipment (eg nets and traps) is made from plastic that can last several hundred years, which can have grave consequences for marine wildlife.

INDIGO will also create an app to locate discarded or lost fishing equipment on beaches.

[Read more here.](#)



Coronavirus

We have received a number of enquiries from partners in the light of COVID-19 regarding attendance at meetings or the organisation of events. We will continue to send out relevant communications to partners via lead partners, but you can also keep an eye on the [news section of our website](#), where we will post any updates.



Joyeuse Pâques ! Happy Easter!

Spring is coming and April is on the way, so it's nearly time to turn the clocks forward and prepare for Easter egg antics! Happy Easter!

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