MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CZ

GRANT SUPPORT PRESERVATION FOR INTERREG

Czech Perspective on European Territorial Cooperation after 2020

Position

The Czech Republic supports preserving the INTERREG programmes as grant support.

Rationale

The most typical interventions of the INTERREG programmes are soft, people-2-people activities and cooperation among institutions. This kind of activities do not result in immediate economic return, however, they meet the specific needs of the supported territory and contribute to the improvement of the relations among the citizens across the EU, or living on the other side of the border, and to the improvement of integration of the cross-border regions.

Example

As an example, a successful project of Interreg V-A Czech Republic – Poland could be briefly described. I its called *Brána do světa sbírek* (Gate to the World of Collections), where a regional museum of the town of Trutnov (CZ) and a municipal museum of Boleslawiec (PL) decided to exchange their knowledge and good practice in 3D digitalization and online presentation of their collections. They organize joint trainings with experts on digitalization, cooperation on joint online collection presentations and exchanges of physical exhibitions. This project, building on the effects of project cooperation from the previous programming period, has an overall ERDF funding of 207.639 EUR.

As both the museums are non-profit and depend on public financing, they would never be able to cover the above-described interventions from any kind of a financial instrument. If INTERREG is to support people-2-people activities and cooperation among institutions beyond 2020, preserving grant support for the INTERREG programmes would be most desirable.

Suggestion

To preserve grant support for the INTERREG programmes in post-2020.

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