



Project idea feedback

Please complete this form to request feedback on your project idea from the Interreg Europe secretariat. You also have the possibility to ask more detailed questions in the last section of the form. Please be as precise, clear and understandable as possible. Visit www.interregeurope.eu for more programme information.

How would you prefer to receive feedback?

Only one in-depth feedback (written or oral) can be provided per project idea.

written

We will get back to you as soon as possible.

by phone **by Skype**

Please book your preferred time slot for a 45-minute consultation here: www.interreg4c.eu/interregeurope/consultationbooking. We will then confirm your booking.

at a national event

See the following link to check if there is an event in your country offering consultations: <http://www.interreg4c.eu/interregeurope/nationalevents>

Please register to the event and then book your preferred time slot for a 45-minute consultation on the link next to the event. We will then confirm your booking.

1/ Contact details of the lead applicant





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2/ Description of the project idea

Project idea title: **Promoting a regional governance of food security as a new driver for innovative and sustainable territorial economies**

Please select the specific objective you intend to contribute to (only one should be selected):
See section 2.5 of the programme manual

	Research, technological development and innovation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Objective 1.1: Improving innovation infrastructure policies
<input type="checkbox"/>	Objective 1.2: Improving innovation delivery policies
	Competitiveness of SMEs
<input type="checkbox"/>	Objective 2.1: Improving SMEs competitiveness policies
	Low-carbon economy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Objective 3.1: Improving low-carbon economy policies
	Environment and resource efficiency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Objective 4.1: Improving natural and cultural heritage policies
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Objective 4.2: Improving resource-efficient economy policies

What is your project idea about? Please explain the issue tackled by your project?
(max. 2,000 characters)

While some 40 million people in Europe are still unable to offer themselves a basic meal every day, a new facet of food insecurity has raised its head in recent decades with a drastic increase in the number of people who are overweight or obese or suffering from more or less severe micro-nutrient deficiencies together with the related public health consequences. Furthermore, it is now estimated that more than 50% of agricultural production is not consumed. This situation, which relates to the wastage of food and thus the resources used to produce them, is becoming increasingly unacceptable.

There are numerous determinants of this situation involving a wide range of stakeholders, be they producers and their organisations, professionals in the agro-food industries, actors from education, health or environment, professionals of the distribution sector (supermarkets, mass catering or school canteens), non-governmental organisations or simple citizen-consumers.



Both close to grass-roots level and in a position to promote integrated governance measures, the Regional and Local Authorities currently appear to be the “missing link” capable of giving a new, more holistic and structuring dimension to food security initiatives which are currently implemented by individuals, local organisations, citizens or professionals action groups, national or international institutions.

Examined via a global approach across an entire territory, the question of food security is particularly federative and political in nature. By restoring food to its primary role, which is to provide people with a sufficient volume of healthy food, it gives renewed meaning to a major part of the local economy ranging from agricultural production through the agro-food sector to distribution. By reaffirming the role of the farmer, it contributes to rebalancing territorial development, in particular with regard to relationships between the cities and the countryside. Promoting the economy and a more shared, integrated and inclusive society, it can serve as a guiding principle in implementing more sustainable practices in fields ranging from production to consumption, in particular by establishing closer geographical links between agents, promoting new professions based on the fight against waste, recycling all types of unsold products and structuring a social and solidarity-based economy. Conveying values close to grass-roots level, it also represents a key gateway to the education of the younger generations.

Some Regional and Local Authorities are already committed to this path, often favouring a particular gateway be it food education in schools, the fight against waste or the promotion of territorial food systems.

The present proposal aims to federate a number of Regional and Local Authorities NUTS I, II and III (depending of the country) around a common objective of formulating a global and sustainable territorial governance of food security able to provide an additional driver for innovation and economic and social development of the territories.

Who is involved? Please describe the partnership envisaged (i.e. nature and location).

(max. 2,000 characters)

See section 4.4 of the programme manual

At this stage, the partnership must still be consolidated. Three types of partner will be involved in the projects:

(i) a group of Regional and Local Authorities (NUTS I, II or III, depending on the country) keen to commit to this approach which is both collective (network of Regional and Local Authorities) and individual (formulation and implementation of regional governance for improved food security in conjunction with their regional Growth and Jobs programmes). The number of Regional and Local Authorities and their distribution is still to be determined, given that initial



contacts in France and Spain have shown that there is genuine interest for this project. Ultimately, we will endeavour to obtain a representative distribution at European level by incorporating Local Authorities of the North and East;

(ii) the organisations and institutions capable of accompanying the Local Authorities in formulating and then implementing a new, explicit governance of food security. For southern Europe, this will be the CIHEAM Montpellier while other entities will be identified according to the final panel of Local Authorities;

(iii) federative structures capable of serving as relays in disseminating the experience and results of this initiative. At an international level, the CIHEAM Montpellier has already opened dialogue on this theme with the French Region Assembly and the ORU Fogar. Other entities, such as the Assembly of European Regions or the UCLG, will be called on to join the partnership. It should be noted that outside Europe, Regions such as the province of Quebec (Canada) or Antioquia (Colombia) are also very interested.

Which policy instruments would the above partners like to improve? Please specify the main policy instruments addressed by the project:

(max. 1,000 characters)

See section 4.1 of the programme manual

In light of its transversal nature, various policy instruments should be addressed through the dynamics of the project (to be consolidated once the partnership will be established), such as:

- stimulate innovation and the creation of new professions relating to the green economy by attempting to limit all types of food waste;
- promote education with regard to the fight against food wastage and a healthy, balanced diet with a view to strengthening health and education policies,
- promote social cohesion and solidarity by educating young people and endeavouring to make optimum use of the available food through redistribution and re-use,
- contribute to territorial cohesion by recreating economic and cultural links between the rural food-producing territories and urban consumer hubs,
- contribute to protection of the environment and the fight against climate change by promoting a set of virtuous and eco-responsible behaviours.

Please describe the main activities and approach envisaged for the exchange of experience among partners?

(max. 2,500 characters)

See section 4.2 of the programme manual



Activities

In the first phase of "interregional learning process", the project will be based on an exchange of experiences and dialogue with a view to committing each of the partners to improving its governance of food security and to translate this into an action plan linked with the relevant policy instruments.

An initial step will enable all the partners to developed and adhere to a common and shared vision of the territorial approach to food security.

In the 2nd step, the existing initiatives in the partners' territories will be identified, recorded and described precisely using a common analysis chart.

These highly operational materials will then be used in the 3rd step to support the construction of genuine territorial food security strategies in each partner Region, enabling them to evolve from a situation of several more or less independent initiatives to an integrated global strategy by developing synergies between the regional sector-based policies impacting on food security (agriculture, education, innovation, culture, environment, etc.) and enhancing them by means of measures specifically oriented towards food security derived from the partners' experiences or designed during the discussion forums. This step ended with the formulation of an action plan by each local authority, to be monitored in its implementation in the second phase.

Capitalisation and communication actions and the development of a "policy learning platform" will make it possible to learn lessons from the project and to make a broader public aware of the objectives of improved territorial governance of food security as a driver for the local economies development.

Methodology

Achieving the results of the project requires a more robust dialogue on the issue of food security, both between the partners and between the stakeholders concerned within each territory. A dual networking action will thus be implemented, within each territory and between territories.

The exchange of experiences and the organisation of thematic workshops will help promote the existing initiatives in the territories while mobilising the stakeholders within these territories and generating a common thought process initially relating to the shared objectives of food security then to the new instruments and initiatives to be promoted in all or part of the partner territories.

On condition that they are new and structuring, tangible initiatives will be supported by the project to strengthen existing policies.

The institutions tasked with accompanying the local authorities will be required to foster



dialogue and reflection and to satisfy the partners' demands in terms of feasibility analyses or identification of external resource persons.

If you would like to ask further questions, please list them below

Please return the form with subject line 'AssistanceF' to: info@interregeurope.eu

Feedback is provided for information purposes only and is not binding. Applications will be assessed only through the official application form.