



### The PILLS project

The **PILLS** project (Pharmaceutical Input and Elimination from Local Sources) aims at applying purification methods and technologies to prevent the discharge of pharmaceutically contaminated waste water from hospitals and other medical institutions into the water cycle of public sewer networks. Investments will make possible to set up full-scale pilot plants in existing hospitals in order to establish an eco-toxicological analysis and test advanced technologies.

These results will be transferable and will benefit other regions with similar issues.

More information: [www.pills-project.eu/](http://www.pills-project.eu/)



**Remember, the JTS Officers and Contact Points are there to assist you!**

### Interested in applying for funding?

Any organisation involved in territorial development-related issues may participate in the NWE Programme on a non-profit basis. The Programme is not limited to specialists and is open to a wide range of actors.

Calls for projects proposals are held twice a year (spring and autumn). Information on calls and guidance to assist applicants is available on the Programme's website:

[www.nweurope.eu](http://www.nweurope.eu)



### Contact us:

**INTERREG IVB NWE**  
Joint Technical Secretariat

Les Arcuriales  
45, rue de Tournai, 6/D • F-59000 Lille, France  
T. +33 3 20 78 55 00 • F. +33 3 20 55 65 95  
[nwe@nweurope.eu](mailto:nwe@nweurope.eu) • [www.nweurope.eu](http://www.nweurope.eu)

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**INTERREG IVB**

# INTERREG IVB

## NORTH WEST EUROPE

### 2007-2013

Investing in Opportunities

# EU funding to promote territorial cohesion

North West Europe (NWE) is a cooperation zone of eight countries: France, Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Germany, United Kingdom, Ireland, and Switzerland. It is one of the most dynamic and prosperous areas of Europe, and thus offers strong territorial assets as opportunities for further development. On the other hand the NWE Member States, regions and cities suffer from common environmental, social and economic pressures.

Both the opportunities and the pressures are neither confined by national governments nor by administrative boundaries. Both often necessitate joint interventions. With an aim to facilitate such interventions, the European Union funds projects in the field of territorial development through the **INTERREG IVB NWE Programme**. It helps project promoters make the most of opportunities or transform pressures into opportunities for change. The projects funded by the Programme contribute to a cohesive, competitive and sustainable territorial development of NWE. They are adding value through transnational cooperation in strong partnerships.

The Programme has identified four fields (so-called Priorities) of intervention for the 2007-2013 period: **1: Innovation, 2: Environmental challenges, 3: Connectivity, 4: Promoting strong and prosperous communities**. Building on the success of the previous period, the IVB Programme started with an envelope of 355 million Euros from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) of which half was allocated by the end of 2009.

To welcome and help project promoters who wish to join forces in a project the Programme offers an extended structure: the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) together with a network of Contact Points (CPs) in each of the 8 countries support the project's development process up to its implementation phase. The JTS has also been delegated with the day-to-day implementation of the Programme by the Managing Authority.



**"First of all we had to agree on a common vocabulary. [...] The first part of our work was therefore to draft a glossary in order for all the project partners to speak the same language."**

*Daniel J. Gillain, Liege University Hospital, partner of the **HDC** project <http://hdc-cooperation.eu>*

## Transnational working

Transnationality is the first and most important criterion for project selection: a partnership that produces better and stronger results than the sum of its parts.

A project must involve partners from at least two different countries, one of which should be from the NWE cooperation area. Not surprisingly all projects go beyond this minimum involving an average of 9 partners per project.

Transnational working also means that all the partners of a project should actively participate and benefit from it. They should design, plan, invest, implement, evaluate and communicate together so that transnational cooperation is reflected in all stages of the project's cycle.

## What are the benefits?

Transnational working produces transferable working models and speeds up the process of innovation through the sharing of knowledge, best practices, and development costs. The collective benefits of such collaboration are invaluable: participating organisations acquire new skills, initiate effective working methods and increase their connections to European networks.

Transnational working rewards organisations that are well prepared. In addition to the financial support provided by the EU Structural Funds, the benefits of participating in a NWE project include:

### Benefits to the NWE area

- *Investment decisions based on sound European comparative territorial analysis*
- *Maximization of territorial assets which facilitates economic development*
- *Stronger cohesion*

### Benefits to your project

- *Reduction of development costs and efficient use of time*
- *Maximum use of available expertise through the transfer of knowledge and good practice*
- *A European dimension attracts media attention*

### Benefits for your organisation

- *Capacity building, both for your organisation and for your personnel*
- *Access to European networks and markets*
- *A European profile, particularly beneficial for attracting talented professionals*

## Focus on innovative approaches

Innovation is at the heart of policy goals at national and EU levels for the 2007-2013 programming period. Therefore INTERREG IVB NWE has put emphasis on innovative approaches to tackle territorial issues in all Programme Priorities (transversal requirement) but also on Innovation as a theme under Priority 1 (see *Operational Programme* on [www.nweurope.eu](http://www.nweurope.eu))

Simultaneously the Programme is trying out a pilot approach with Strategic Initiatives. They are a novel approach to project development. The general aim of the Strategic Initiatives is to

promote the distinctive character of the NWE cooperation area through higher visibility of promising (clusters of) projects.

There are different ways of developing strategic projects and the JTS team and the Contact Points are available to assist you further on these pilots.

## What results are expected?

Projects' results should be clear, definite, and measurable. In other words tangible results through actions, pilot investments, business cases or scenario developments etc. should guarantee concrete, on-site, and long-term interventions.



**Structural Funds 2007-2013: Transnational Cooperation areas, North West Europe**

- Cooperation areas
- Other cooperation areas