



Developing impact pathways to demonstrate the added value of Interreg



27 May 2026

Draft agenda

Ljubljana, Slovenia





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Outline and objectives

This meeting is a follow-up to the pilot exercise “**Harmonised approach to capture and highlight the added value of Interreg.**” Six meetings have already taken place in this context. The materials and results from these meetings are available [here on SharePoint](#) and will be shared with participants in advance. The primary objective of this pilot is to support the launch of impact evaluations and facilitate the exchange on evaluation perspectives and methods, ultimately contributing to shaping the future of Interreg. This initiative adopts a bottom-up approach, empowering participating Interreg programmes to collaboratively decide on topics for exchanges and reflections, and developments. This includes jointly developing an evaluation methodology, agreeing on data collection methods, and defining common evaluation questions, impact pathways, and eventually maybe some core messages to be communicated to stakeholders and policymakers.

The event builds on recent events and aims to advance the development and use of impact pathways in programme evaluations. It has two main purposes. First, it will provide an opportunity for a **peer review exercise** based on the experience of the **Interreg Flanders–Netherlands programme**. Following the meeting [in Vienna in June 2025](#), the programme developed a first set of impact pathways based on the summary and background materials shared. Hence, during this event, the programme will present its approach, explain how the impact pathways were developed, and reflect on the challenges encountered. This will serve as the basis for a peer review discussion, allowing participants to provide feedback, draw lessons, and reflect on the applicability of the approach to their own programmes. On the other hand, it will benefit to the Flander-Netherlands programme to finetune their impact pathway and finally include it in the development of the terms of reference for impact evaluation.

Second, the event will focus on **jointly developing further impact pathways through group work**. Building on the common background and insights from previous events and the peer review exercise, participants will work together on drafting or refining impact pathways for different thematic areas. The group exercise will focus on clarifying the logical links between activities, outputs, outcomes, and longer-term impacts, and on identifying how these pathways can support evaluation design and practice.

The meeting will also create space to reflect on the formulation of **evaluation questions** that can be derived from impact pathways and that can guide future evaluations in a more strategic and structured way. Through a combination of presentations, group discussions, peer exchange, and collaborative exercises, the event is designed to be highly participatory. By the end of the meeting, participants should have a stronger shared understanding of impact pathways, practical feedback on a concrete programme approach, and group work results that can support the further development and use of impact pathways in Interreg evaluations.

Throughout the event, **Thomas Delahais from the European Commission Evaluation Helpdesk for Cohesion Policy** will actively support and contribute to the discussions and exercises.

Target group

The event is aimed at representatives of Interreg programmes participating in evaluation activities, especially impact evaluations.

Registration:

The registration is now open. Please access it [here](#).



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CET

Wednesday, 27 May 2026

08.30 – 09.00

Welcome coffee and registration

09.00 – 09.10

Introduction and objectives

Interact

09.10 – 09.45

Update on impact pathways: status quo

Interact and Thomas Delahais (Quadrant, Evaluation Helpdesk)

Objectives of the session:

To recap the progress made on impact pathways across the six previous events, the online exchanges, and the Vienna meeting, and to confirm the shared understanding developed so far. Interact will provide an overview of the main achievements from these discussions, while Thomas Delahais will present the core building blocks of an impact pathway and explain the method for developing impact pathways. Together, these inputs will provide the basis for agreeing on the current state of play and identifying next steps.

09.45 – 11.15

Peer review: Impact pathways of Interreg Flanders-Netherlands

Sofie Van Overscheld, Interreg Flanders-Netherlands

Objectives of the session: To present the methodology and selected concrete impact pathways of the Interreg Programme Flanders–Netherlands, including the challenges encountered in drafting them, the methodology applied, and the process through which the programme developed the impact pathways.

11.15 – 11.30

Coffee break

11.30 – 13.00

Development of impact pathways

All

Building on the progress achieved across the six previous events, we will continue developing impact pathways.

- Introduction to the exercise: A short briefing on the concept of impact pathways, the main building blocks to be considered (such as inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes, and impacts), and the purpose of the exercise.
- Working group session: Participants will work in groups to draft impact pathways for different topics or thematic areas. Each group will



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collaboratively map the logical links between activities, outputs, outcomes, and longer-term impacts.

Objectives of the session: To develop draft impact pathways for different relevant topics and ensure a clear and coherent logic from activities and outputs to expected outcomes and longer-term impacts.

13.00 – 14.00

Lunch

14.00 – 16.00

incl.

coffee break

Formulation of evaluation questions

All: group work

- Introduction: Brief overview of the role and importance of well-formulated evaluation questions in assessing impact pathways and guiding the evaluation process.
- Group work: Participants will work in small groups to identify and draft potential evaluation question.

Objectives of the session: To reflect on the role of evaluation questions in structuring an effective evaluation process and to collaboratively formulate potential questions that can guide and focus our future evaluation work.

16.00 – 16.45

From impact pathways to measures: open discussion

Interact, Viktoria Bolla (DG REGIO), Thomas Delahais (Quadrant, Evaluation Helpdesk)

Objectives of the session: To discuss how to use the results of the evaluation of the impact pathways to build measures.

16.45 – 17.00

Wrap up and next steps