# Horizontal principles & Youth involvement

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- Woke
- Climate change actions
- Fair trade
- Ethical Consumerism
- Sustainability
- Equal opportunities
- Zero waste movement
- Veganism/plant based living
- Diversity and inclusion













# What are the challenges on your way to a greener & more inclusive NPA project?

5 mins



# What practices worked well and what did not?

5 mins



# What more can we do, on a project and/or Programme level?

5 mins



### Interreg Volunteer Youth





### What is an IVY?

- IVY is a volunteering programme to support cooperation among regions.
- IVY volunteers are involved in programmes and projects funded by Interreg to boost solidarity and cooperation.





### Who is an IVY?

- IVY is a young volunteer age 18 30
- Resident or a citizen of participating countries
- Skilled and motivated in their field of interest for the benefit of territorial cooperation and solidarity





### Why to consider an IVY?

- ✓ benefit from the support of a skilled and motivated young person to implement their project with new ideas, fresh perspectives and creativity.
- ✓ Make the benefits of cooperation more visible among local communities and beyond
- ✓ Free of costs





### What can an IVY help with?

- ✓ communication about Interreg (articles, newsletters, posts for social media, support for event organisation);
- √ communication with project partners;
- ✓ promotion of projects with local media and stakeholders;
- ✓ implementation of activities that express the solidarity aspects of projects;
- ✓ etc...





### How does it work?

- √ Volunteering period 2-6 months
- ✓ Max 35 hours a week
- ✓ Volunteers will relocate to the location of the hosting organisation
- ✓ depending on the needs of the host organisation, AEBR pre-selects 6 candidates with interest and competences in the specific field of the project/programme





### Who is eligible to host?

- ✓ Lead Partners
- ✓ Project partners
- ✓ Associated partners
- √ 7/7 NPA regions are eligible to host the IVYs

### Host an IVY! Link here







## Any questions?





# Preparing Interreg NPA 25th anniversary event together

Michela Gaifami, Lucia Brhlikova





#### To celebrate and think ahead

Reflect on the programme's **impact**, showcase **achievements**, and strengthen **collaboration** among people in the NPA areas.

Highlight how NPA projects have contributed to **regional development**, **resilience**, and **sustainability** in Arctic and near-Arctic communities



#### When

**30**<sup>th</sup> **September** Welcome reception

1st October Plenary and side events

Conference dinner

**2<sup>nd</sup> October** Plenary Future of the Interreg NPA

Site visits



# Be part of the programme, run a side event!



#### In practice by side events we mean...

... a 45-minute, theme-focused session (presentation, workshop, panel, etc.) prepared by your project or a group of NPA projects to showcase the positive impact of transnational cooperation on people in NPA areas.



#### Our idea of side events...













Photo credit from top, right to left: Interreg NPA project Drifting Apart, Interreg NPA project Circular Ocean, Interreg NPA project N-LITE, Unsplash

### Good-to-know practicalities

• **Duration:** 45 minutes

Format: be creative!

 Audience: up to 50 ppl, mostly representatives of NPA projects, local / regional / national authorities

Projector & screen available

- Due to limited time slots, we recommend joining forces in organizing the sessions
- Themes: Sharing stories, Building blocks, Emerging themes (youth, preparedness)



### What do you think?

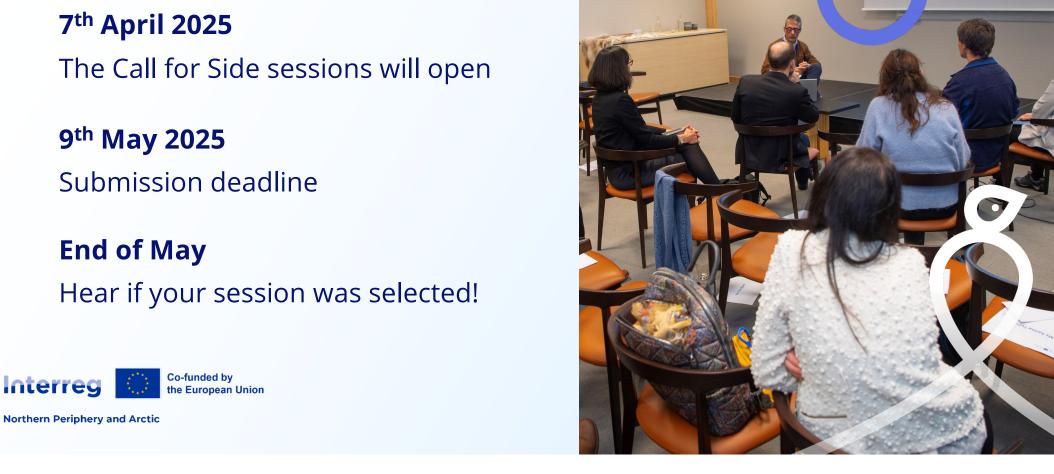






### Next steps







### **Next Funding Opportunity**

- Sixth Call for main and small-scale capacity building projects
- The Terms of Reference in June 2025.
- Official launch: Interreg NPA 25th Anniversary Conference in Bodø on 1 October 2025
- Deadline: 2 February 2026
- Decisions: May 2026 tbc
- If needed, ERDF for partners from Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Iceland.





### **Closing Remarks**

- Helpdesk and direct Q&A
- Please complete our **feedback form** about today's event
- See you at the Joint Interreg Arctic Cooperation Dinner at the River Lee Hotel at 18:30
- Tomorrow, Partner Search event for the Interreg Arctic Cooperation Clustering Call
- **Note**: if you are not staying for the 20th of March, please return your lanyards.







