

# 2020

## Programme Highlights



@Channel\_Manche



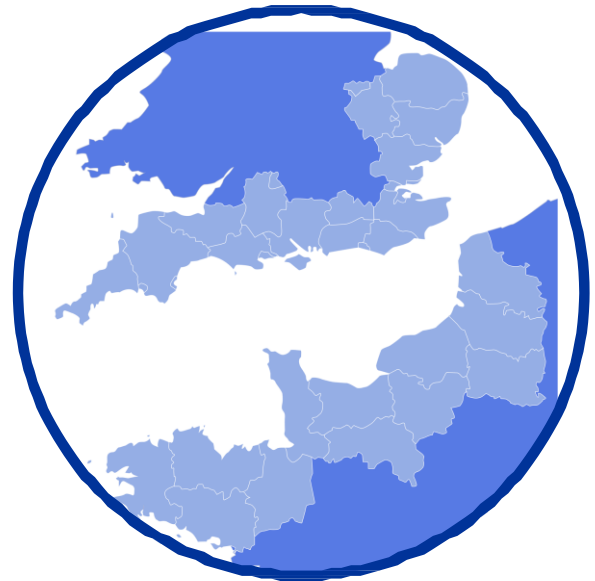
Interreg France  
(Channel) England



[www.channelmanche.com](http://www.channelmanche.com)

# AN OVERVIEW

A cornerstone of European integration, European Territorial Cooperation helps to ensure that borders are not barriers, and that ideas and assets are shared to resolve common problems across Europe. Interreg France (Channel) England falls under this umbrella helping to fund projects that benefit the French and English regions around the Channel.



**Programme Area**

SHARING BORDERS,  
GROWING CLOSER

## 2020 in focus

2020 was a year that tested our resilience and adaptability. The Covid-19 pandemic saw the programme and our projects adapt quickly to new ways of working.

There was uncertainty around Brexit, but the good news was that programme funding was guaranteed up until the 31 December 2023 and the year finished with the EU and the UK securing trade agreement.

Together, we overcame obstacles by creatively finding solutions to keep our projects on track. The Programme delivered tailored and regular communications with the latest advice and guidance, introduced a new suite of project training online and introduced monthly project meetings to ensure our projects received additional support in the face of an unprecedented situation.

Despite the external challenges, the Programme approved 13 new projects (including two micro projects) in 2020, bringing the total amount of EU funding invested by the Programme to 201 million euros (almost 96% of target commitment spend).

We also celebrated project Cool Food winning the DG RegioStars award for sustainability, making it the second year running that one of our projects has received this coveted prize and providing further recognition that our Programme delivers some of Interreg's most impactful projects.

More details about some of the projects we've helped fund can be found on the next few pages.

# WHAT WE'VE FUNDED SO FAR



## Innovation



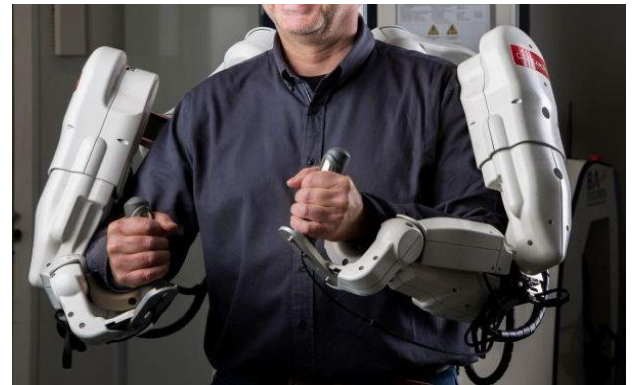
Nine new projects were approved under the programme's specific objective of innovation. Some are highlighted below:

AIBLE will use cutting-edge technology in artificial intelligence and virtual reality to develop the first robotic exoskeleton to help stroke patients to regain limb function and movement.

EUROSWAC will develop an innovative and environmentally friendly seawater air conditioning solution, to help businesses and operators in the channel area reduce CO2 emissions.

FIREDRONE will develop a compact airborne robotic system to monitor dangerous smoke emissions, helping to improve the safety, speed and accuracy of firefighters' response to industrial fires and wildfires.

REVERT will develop innovative medical tools to rapidly and accurately diagnose patients with a form of dementia known as normal pressure hydrocephalus.

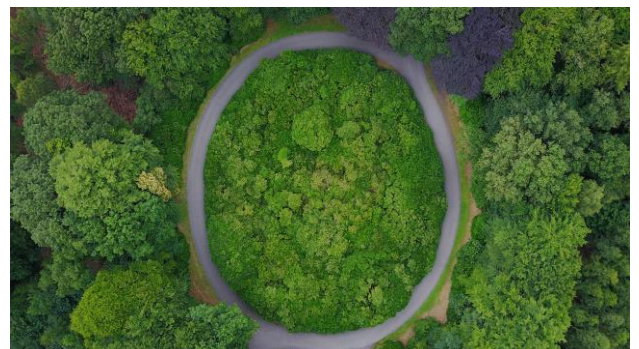


## Social innovation



One new project was approved under the specific objective of social innovation.

BLUEPRINT aims to develop new policies and approaches to support local authorities in transitioning to a circular economy. It will upskill 18 social enterprises, helping them to train 2000 disadvantaged individuals to secure jobs linked to the circular economy.



## Low Carbon Technologies



One project was approved that will help us promote the use of low carbon technologies.

BIO-CIRC will develop prototypes for innovative low carbon insulation from recycled polyester duvet and pillowcases, that typically end up in landfill. It is estimated that this recycled polyester technology could insulate between 360,000 to 900,000 homes annually.

## Natural & Cultural Heritage



One project was approved that will help us promote and protect the regions natural and cultural heritage.

USAC will introduce a sustainable model of tourist development to UNESCO sites on both sides of the channel, to manage increased tourism demand and create new business opportunities and jobs.



## Coastal & Transitional Water Ecosystems



One project was approved with the aim of protecting water ecosystems around the Channel.

PACCO will recreate 100 hectares of coastal wetland, in two pilot sites in Devon (UK) and Normandy (France). delivering significant ecosystem services and socioeconomic benefits. The restoration of this land will enable better management of flooding, absorb carbon and provide benefits for people and wildlife.

