



## RESUMEN

### Título:

**Title of PhD research:** Contributions of the universities to regional development - their participation in International networks – the case of the Valencia region for the Interreg programming period 2007-2013

**Title of proposed presentation:** Overview of university participation in Interreg projects for the period 2007-2013 at EU level – mapping and literature overview

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**Institución pública o privada:** publica

**Área Temática:** Sesión especial de Jóvenes Investigadores

**Nota:** Este documento se propone para las sesiones de presentación del PROGRAMA ESPECIAL PARA NUEVOS INVESTIGADORES.

**Resumen:** (*máximo 300 palabras- una página*)

The last years have seen the role of the Universities<sup>1</sup> expand beyond their typical tasks<sup>2</sup>. They are becoming more active actors in regional development and their capacities in this field are developing in a more structured way.

In 2011, the European Commission published a guide (European Commission, Connecting Universities to Regional Growth: A Practical Guide., 2011. Print.) for

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<sup>1</sup> Universities here are discussed, as presented by the European Commission in its 2006 Communication “Delivering on the modernisation agenda for Universities: Education, Research and Innovation”: *In this document “universities” is taken to mean all higher education institutions, irrespective of their name and status in the Member States.*

<sup>2</sup> OECD. *Higher Education and Regions: Globally Competitive, Locally Engaged.* World Bank, 2007. Print



Managing Authorities of ERDF operational programmes (OP) on how to improve the universities' contribution to regional development. It should be also noted that universities' role got enhanced as well through their contribution to the Smart specialisation strategies<sup>3</sup>.

This guide, however, focuses mainly on mainstream programmes, thus excluding the European Territorial Cooperation goal.

The ETC goal, also called Interreg, allows local partners to collaborate with their equivalents from other European (and non-European) countries on topics of common interest, contributing to regional development<sup>4</sup>. Depending on the priority tackled, Universities can be partners of projects funded in Interreg programmes.

During the 2007-2013 period, there were 73 Interreg programmes approved. Their funding amounted to 3% of the total ERDF amount, or almost EUR 8 billion. The biggest share of the funding was allocated to 55 Cross-Border Cooperation programmes (CBC), and the rest was shared among Transnational Cooperation (TNC) and Interregional.

The proposed literature overview goes through the studies and analyses on university participation in Interreg projects at EU level, while the mapping exercise proposed is the first of its kind – it goes through all the universities, research centres, technological parks and institutes, participating in Interreg projects and maps them for the programming period 2007-2013. For that period, there are 7 950 entries, from 45 567 partners (the partners having more than one project have as many entries as projects), participating in Interreg projects. It allows a quite clear image of the large participation of Europe's higher education institutions, as well as a regional comparison of that participation.

<sup>3</sup> <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/home>

<sup>4</sup> Birte Wassenberg and Bernard Reitel, in cooperation with Jean and Jean Peyrony Rubió. Territorial Cooperation in Europe a Historical Perspective&nbsp;&, 2015. Print.