



Measure:

Knowledge Economy

Promoters:

ERNACT

Title:

Border Corridor Digital Economy Network



The core objective of this project was to implement the Digital Economy Strategy in the North West Cross Border region and to replicate the process that led to its development within the ICBAN and East Border regions. The original strategy was the result of a project funded under Interreg IIA entitled “Digital Economy Project”, which was one of the earliest cross border digital economy initiatives in Europe.

The wider objective of the project was to reduce the impact, which the border has on the lives and livelihoods of the people living in the border region, by stimulating economic growth and by encouraging collaboration across the national divide.

The project team recognised that other regions in Europe are developing and implementing new ICT based services, and that the cross border region could benefit from studying what had been done overseas and from establishing pilots of similar services.

Implementation took the form of a portfolio of pilot initiatives, in which new services were established and validated by project stakeholders (local authorities, commercial groups, etc.) Each pilot utilised ICT to deliver enhanced services, with an impact on social, economic, tourism or other development. Examples included online applications and resources in support of procurement, tourism and education.

One of the most successful pilots involved a Cross Border eProcurement Pilot for Public Services. This pilot continues and demonstrates the efficiencies achievable by using eProcurement as the preferred means of procurement by councils. Eleven local authority users have signed up and over 500 SMEs have listed their services.

Total Project Cost: €1,884,000

Grant Awarded: €1,413,000

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