



Framework for the sustainable development of inland waterways

Update

Glenn Millar
Economic Development Manager
British Waterways

The Interreg IVB
North Sea Region
Programme





Structure

1. What waterways deliver in terms of sustainable development
2. Link to current EU / national / regional strategy
 - Illustrated by case studies ex. WfG pilots
3. Future EU themes
4. Priorities for future funding / investment
5. Taking the Framework forward
 - Action Plan



What waterways deliver

Multi-functional use:-

- Place Making and shaping
- Climate Change
- The natural environment
- Cultural heritage
- Health, well-being, recreation & sport
- Sustainable Transport
- Business development & tourism
- Fairer, Stronger and more Active Communities



Links to EU / national / regional policy

EU policy

- Cohesion policy (structural funds)
- Transport – Marco Polo, NAIADES
- Environment – Life Plus
- Agriculture – rural development
- Culture
- Research

National / regional policy

Information provided by partners for application to be updated

Illustrated by case studies ex. WPs 2-4



Future EU themes

- Innovation & knowledge
- Business development & growth
- Resource efficiency
- Climate change
- Nature & biodiversity
- Sustainable transport
- Urban development
- Tourism
- Active aging
- Young people
- Skills, training & jobs
- Culture & arts





Future of the structural funds

- Aligned with Europe 2020 – smart, sustainable, inclusive growth
- Major challenges to be taken account of:- globalisation, climate change, economic crisis
- Available funding for 2012-20 unlikely to increase above present levels
- Western Europe may largely lose Convergence funding. Intermediate category of regions may be introduced (GDP per head 75%-90% EU average)
- Cooperation objective (Interreg) to remain – funding may be increased
- Greater focus on cities & urban issues
- Better linkage between structural funds & other EU funding
- New financial models eg. Jessica





Future work

Priorities for future funding / investment

- Proposals to be put forward by partners

Action plan for taking the Framework forward

- To be developed at future workshops

Scottish pilot strategy & action plan

- Under way

