

NORTH WEST EUROPE

FLUCTUATIONS

2026-2028

UNTAPPING CULTURE
ALONG WATERWAYS IN
INNER PERIPHERIES AND
UNDERSERVED REGIONS



[Interreg North West Europe Fluctuations](#) (deck [here](#))

Lead Partner :

SMMMILE, is a french based NGO leading the project Fluctuations.

Fluctuations is a transnational itinerant festival, using a boat as its stage, traveling along European rivers and addressing social, environmental, and democratic issues. In 2024, supported by Creative Europe, a consortium organized events in Lille, Brussels, Utrecht, and Budapest, attracting over 4,500 participants.

INTERREG NWE : FLUCTUATIONS

Untapping culture along waterways in inner peripheries and underserved regions

A. Objectives :

Democratizing access to culture in under-served areas with low economic potential, referred to as "inner peripheries," located along European rivers and canals.

We see this project as an opportunity to **strengthen connections between different territories, fostering social cohesion** at a time when our societies are hyper-connected but lack true unity. It seeks to empower citizens in these peripheral areas by placing them in environments where they can fully realize their potential. Lastly, it aims to bridge the gap between major cultural institutions, actors of the cultural ecosystem and audiences who are often far removed from their reach.

B. Main actions

1/ Pilot Actions: Testing an innovative itinerary festival along rivers of NWE to Reach Inner Peripheries and unprivileged areas

- **Transformation of a Barge into a Mobile Music Stage:** The barge will serve as a mobile music stage, hosting concerts at each stop and connecting territories.
- **Organization of a Cycle of Pilot Events:** These events will take place in targeted territories of the "inner peripheries," combining culture, ecological transition, and local community engagement (for instance in Zeeland in NL, Wallony in BE, Northern France) with activities such as participatory workshops, exhibitions, and citizen forums will take place on the banks.
- **Cultural Actions Before and After Events:** We will collaborate with social and cultural organizations from the target territories to implement cultural actions both before and after the events.
- **Testing Eco-Friendly and Social Solutions:** This will include sustainable energy systems, short supply chains for local provisioning, and environmental and social awareness campaigns.

2/ Awareness and Capacity Building for cultural actors with a focus on the music industry on "Addressing Inner Peripheries and Vulnerable Populations"

- **Transnational Joint Training:** Training will focus on managing cultural initiatives in economically disadvantaged areas. This will involve meetings with experts, on-the-ground structures, training workshops, and sharing best practices.
- **Network Animation:** We will facilitate network-building through meetings and visits to initiatives.



C. Project Details

- **Project Duration:** January 2026 to August 2028.
- **Budget:** Between €2M and €3M.
- **Final Call Result:** Expected in Autumn 2025.
- **Current Deadline:** The first step deadline is January 16, followed by a second step mid-2025.

D. Co-Financing

- Ideally, each partner will contribute their own co-financing (40%). However, there are options to adapt the budget, and we can discuss this further.
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Partnerships

A. What is expected from partners:

At the (light) 1st step of the application

- no big work, time or engagement is needed: contact details and legal structure info are necessary, as well as shortly explaining the **role and relevance of the partner** in the consortium. Discussing our main project objectives is ideal and will anyway be needed for the second step.
- One or two online meetings before January 16th

Nota : (Partners are allowed to be added or withdrawn after the 1st step)

B. Current partners of the project :

SMMILE (FR) : lead partner (French NGO)

ASCW (FR) : Association des centre sociaux de Wattrelos

Grabuge (FR) : Network of music professionals of *Grand Est* region in France

Innofest (NL) : Netherland based structure specialized in involving impact startups in festivals

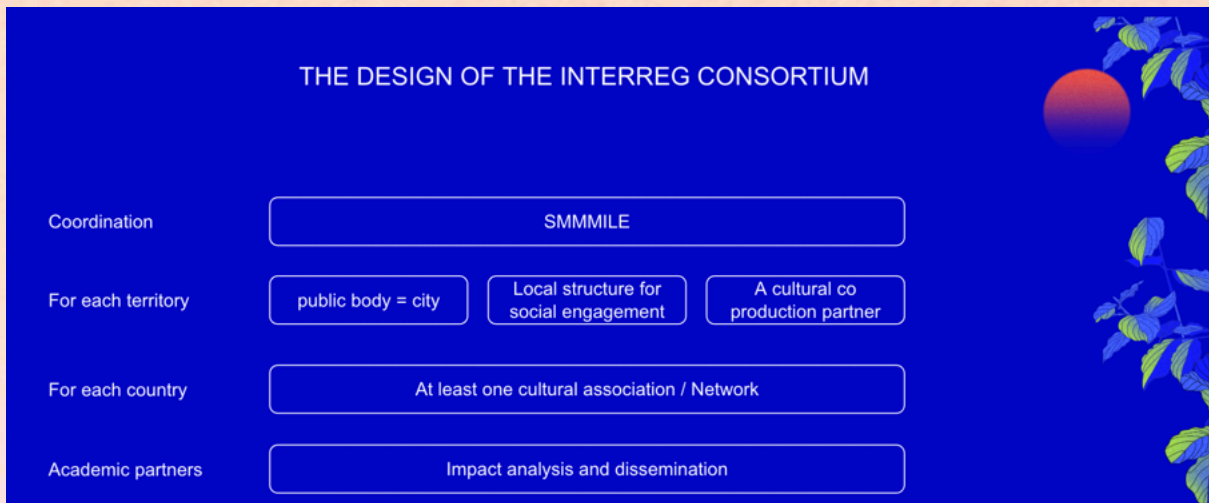
University of Galway - Urban Lab (IRL) - TBC : studying the impact of culture in rural and unprivileged area

Rural radicals- Private company (NL) - TBC : Rural Radicals is an emerging cultural enterprise dedicated to empowering and enriching non-urban creative spaces and communities.

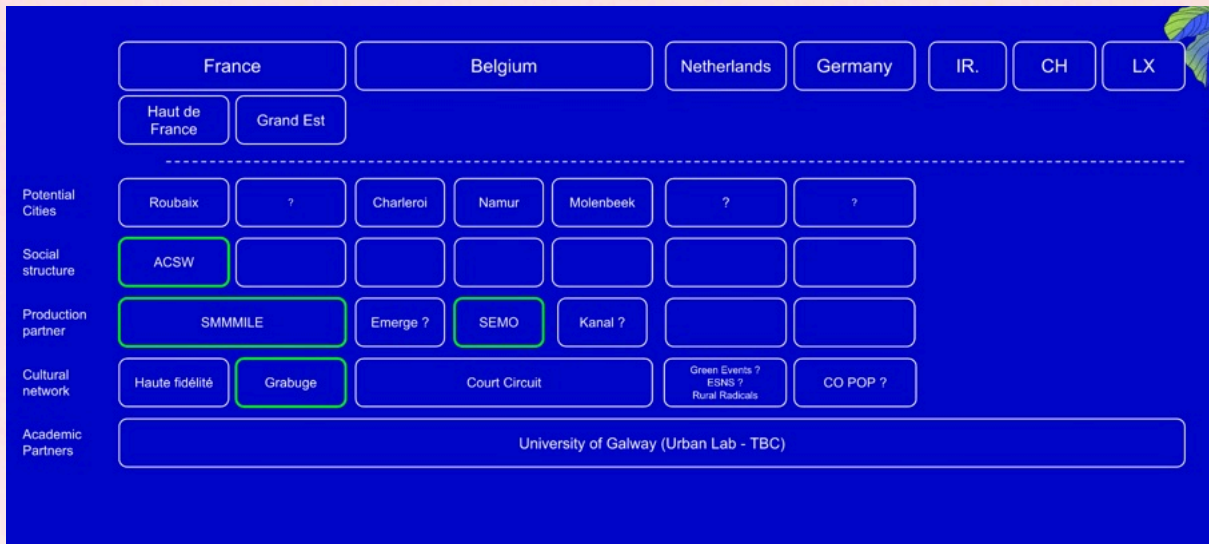
Pastoo (BE) - TBC : ASBL en charge de la production et de la programmation notamment de LaSemo et de Namur en mai



C. Ideal consortium and extra partners we are looking for :

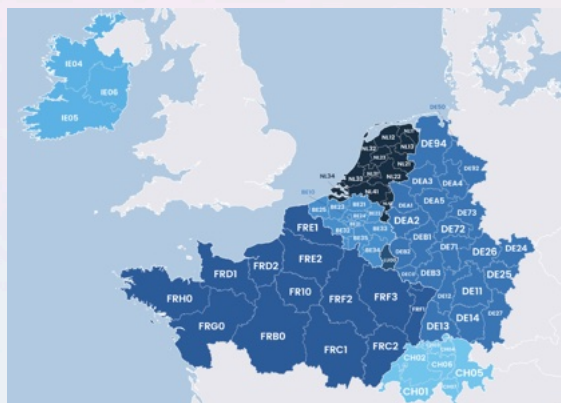


More in detail :



We are looking for :

- **Transnational or country based Network of cultural actors with a focus on the music industry**
- **Local Authorities:** We are also looking for municipalities, regional authorities, and other local entities to join the consortium. If you know any that are responsive and might be interested, we would be happy to receive their contacts.



[FAQ Interreg North West Europe](#)

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