

(Commission of the European Community)

Community Initiatives.

Interreg.

Breaking through borders.

which
1992

Community's many border regions have lived back to back, and peripheral to developments in their own countries. — result = disadvantages which, in context of single market, are obstacles to be overcome.

Interreg — an initiative launched by EC in July '90, it will give a necessary financial boost, as well as a fresh political impulse.

Cross-border ^{nature} effect of the initiative in effect calls for closer cooperation b/w regions concerned. The action is not multi-sectoral.

INTERREG — can play a crucial role in strengthening Community cohesion and in shaping Europe's new economic landscape.

frontiers — source of distortion in their natural hinterlands, and handicap the development of the regions which border them.

Problems of frontiers?

1. transport.
2. Medical / Technical equip, duplicated

On both sides or missing completely on one.

3. Non-existent or deficient contacts between
chambers of commerce
business circles
SMEs
professional associations.
training institutions

4. Diff legal and financial systems.

* 5. Traditions or mentalities which do not accord well.

Interreg. -
planned assistance specifically
designed and geographically
targeted - to eliminate internal
borders as economic barriers.

Commission believes that Interreg's
action may contribute, in the
medium term, to resolving political
difficulties by demonstrating,
on an economic basis, that
they run counter to the interests
of each party.