


Sustainable and Innovative Food Systems: The Mediterranean Diet as a Tool for Tourism and Local Development in EUSAIR Communities

Bari (Italy), 29-30 September 2025

<p>Name and surname of the speaker: Etienne VERHELLE-RODZINKA</p> <p>Name of the institution: Interreg Europe</p>	
<p>Short CV</p> <p>Etienne Verhelle-Rodzinka is a Policy Officer at Interreg Europe, with over a decade of experience in EU programmes on capacity-building, environment, sustainable local development. He has previously worked with ERRIN, the Interreg South Baltic Programme, and a French regional cluster focusing on circular economy. Etienne is now supporting cooperation projects dealing with culture and tourism, urban and rural development, and circular economy.</p>	
<p>Title of the presentation: Interreg Europe – a support for the capacity-building of local and regional communities</p> <p>3 KEY TALKING POINTS – please list here your 3 key talking points in presentation:</p> <p>Interreg Europe supports a portfolio of projects supporting tourism as a tool for sustainable local development. With its focus on capacity-building at policy level for the benefit of local and regional authorities, Interreg Europe enables fruitful cooperation on key issues between partners from 36 countries. Recurring topics include sustainable tourism, its contribution to local development and its link with local culture.</p> <p>Interreg Europe supports a Platform available to all policy-makers. As an additional service to the funding provided to projects, Interreg Europe also capitalises on their results and on thematic expertise to deliver to interested policy-makers policy briefs, webinars, workshops.</p> <p>Interreg Europe also provides tailored solutions to policy challenges. The Interreg Europe Platform also assists policy-makers in providing tailored services : a helpdesk, a matchmaking service, and a full on-site peer review solution. All three services answer the needs of local policy makers in answering concrete challenges related to local and regional development.</p>	<p>Contact details for online connection:</p> <p>Email: e.verhelle@interregeurope.eu</p>

