

**IMPLEMENTATION REPORT FOR THE EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL
COOPERATION GOAL
PART A**

IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

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2. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 14(3)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013)

Key information on the implementation of the cooperation programme for the year concerned, including on financial instruments, with relation to the financial and indicator data.

2018 was a crucial year for the Programme implementation. In terms of projects generation and selection, again it has been a year of overlapping calls, thus multiplying the possibility for applicants to submit a project proposal. At the same time, many animation actions were carried out. The TA organised up to 17 applicants' seminars further to one important projects' generation programme event.

The continued effort to boost the projects' generation kept paying back.

By the end of 2018, the Programme had committed 65% of its budget and selected 55 operations. It is to be noticed that if we consider the outcome of the Monitoring Committee of January 2019 (which selected projects submitted and assessed in the second half of 2018) the number of approved projects raises to 68 and the budget committed to 88% (69 projects and above 90% of budget committed if we consider the very last project approved under a fast track procedure in March, following the MC of January 2019 decision). Thanks to these efforts, the Programme is likely to be able to commit all its available funds by January 2020 (and possibly overcommit), and this despite the adverse external factors such as the continued uncertainties linked to the Brexit.

Further progresses concerning the development of some important pending functionalities of the Electronic Exchange Platform / Programme Monitoring System (EEP/PMS) have also been done in 2018.

3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRIORITY AXIS

3.1 Overview of the implementation

| ID | Priority axis | Key information on the implementation of the priority axis with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems |
|----|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL INNOVATION | <p>During 2018, in the framework of call 7, a total of 19 Concept Notes (CN) were submitted by applicants. In 2018, a total of 11 Application Forms were submitted in step 2 (mostly in the framework of call 6, but it included also some referred back projects from call 5 whose step 1 was launched in 2016). The Programme approved a total of 9 projects under this priority axis in 2018. This leads to a total of 30 projects approved by the end of 2018 under this axis. In general, innovation continues to be the most popular axis, with the highest number of project applications submitted and the highest amount of approved projects. The following consideration from the previous AIR stays true: the success rate per SO within this priority axis stays variable if we consider step 1, however much more balanced performance can be observed when considering step 2. In other words, whereas CN submitted under SO 1.3 are less likely to become an approved project compared to the ones submitted under SO 1.1. and 1.2, this is much less the case when comparing AF submitted under step 2. The Programme efforts (reported already in the past AIR) to reinforce the quality of the projects' generation as well as its alignment with the Programme expectations proved to be rather effective.</p> |
| 2 | LOW CARBON TECHNOLOGIES | <p>During 2018, in the framework of call 7, under this axis a total of 9 Concept Notes (CN) were submitted by applicants. No Application Forms were submitted in call 6 step 2 under this axis in 2018. In total, 8 projects approved by the end of 2018 under this axis (one project was submitted at the end of 2017 and selected in February 2018, thus the extra project compared to the previous APR while no Application Forms were submitted in 2018. As for 2017, this axis continues to be characterised by a high level of success rate and it is probably due to the fact that projects in this axis tend to be more concrete and have less difficulties in complying with the strong result orientation of the 2014-2020 programming period. Considering the types of activities and outputs envisaged by projects, it is more straightforward for applicants to come up with measurable results and clear intended changes.</p> <p>So far, approved projects cover 4 out of the 5 themes targeted by the SO (no approved projects yet on agriculture).</p> |
| 3 | ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE | <p>During 2018, in the framework of call 7, under this axis, 3 Concept Notes (CN) were submitted by applicants. 2 Application Forms were submitted in step 2 (either in call 6 or referred back from call 5). The Programme approved 2 projects under this priority axis in 2018. This leads to a total of 9 projects approved by the end of 2018 under this axis. Likewise SO 1.3, in the framework of the first call for proposal (2015), a 0% of success rate was experienced under this axis. The Programme has worked hard in providing extra guidance in the types of projects expected and this was well communicated to applicants (via seminars, presentations and the call Terms of Reference). This negative trend was totally reversed in 2016-17 and 2018 confirmed this positive evolution. The projects keep focusing on strengthening the adaptation capacity of the area notably with regards to flooding.</p> |
| 4 | RESSOURCE EFFICIENT ECONOMY | <p>During 2017, in the framework of call 7, under this axis a total of 9 Concept Notes (CN) were submitted by applicants. A total of 3 Application Forms were submitted in step 2 (either in call 6 or referred back from call 5). The Programme approved 3 projects under this priority axis in 2018. This leads to a total of 7 projects approved by the end of 2018 under</p> |

| ID | Priority axis | Key information on the implementation of the priority axis with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems |
|----|----------------------|---|
| | | <p>this axis. Likewise SO 1.3 and, in the framework of the first call for proposal (2015), a 0% of success rate was experienced in this axis. The Programme has worked hard in providing extra guidance in the types of projects expected under this axis and this was well communicated to applicants (via seminars, presentations and the Terms of Reference of the call). This negative trend was reversed in 2016-17. Like in SO 1.3, the first results of this renewed effort have been confirmed in 2018 with the approval of the 3 more projects in 2018 under axis 4 (all under SO 4.2), keeping a fairly high success rate.</p> <p>The problem of the low amount of CN the Programme received is still there but has indeed decreased with last running calls.</p> |
| 5 | TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE | <p>2018 was again a very busy year for Technical Assistance. After the take off in terms of projects' generation and selection during 2016 and 2017, the Programme intended to reinforce this trend and even speed up further the Programme commitment rate against financial and output indicators. At the same time, the amount of approved projects kept on increasing, therefore the TA was more and more mobilized around the projects' implementation phase too. Concerning projects' generation, 3 calls were running during the year. 2 Strategic Task Force (dealing with step 1 CN) and 3 Monitoring Committee meetings took place.</p> <p>2018 has kept being a full year with overlapping calls, meaning step 1 running in parallel of step 2 of the previous call. Next to that, the Programme has kept multiplying the offer of seminars, events and animation actions in order to counteract as much as possible the negative effect of the BREXIT referendum and reinforce even further the applicants' preparedness. Applicants seminars, participation to local events, webinars, projects labs were among the key animation actions organised during the year.</p> <p>Next to the support for projects generation, the TA, and in particular the Joint Secretariat, has been mobilized with the monitoring phase of the approved projects.</p> <p>The other key aspect for 2018 for this priority axis has been the work done around the Programme management and control system: further fine tuning have taken place and important development of the Programme Monitoring System took place over the year.</p> <p>Finally, the last task of the Programme evaluation subsequent contract n.2 was carried out during the year.</p> |

3.2 Common and programme specific indicators (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

Priority axes other than technical assistance

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Priority axis | 1 - TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL INNOVATION |
| Investment priority | 1b - Promoting business investment in R&I, developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the higher education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation, and supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advanced manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies |

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 1.1b

| (1) | ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Target value | 2018 | Observations |
|-----|-------|--|------------------|--------------|--------|---|
| F | CO41 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | Enterprises | 16.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operations yet. |
| S | CO41 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | Enterprises | 16.00 | 90.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | CO42 | Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | Organisations | 40.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operations yet. |
| S | CO42 | Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | Organisations | 40.00 | 163.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 1.1.1 | Number of joint strategies and action plans developed to improve the framework conditions for innovation | Number | 9.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operations yet. |
| S | 1.1.1 | Number of joint strategies and action plans developed to improve the framework conditions for innovation | Number | 9.00 | 9.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 1.1.2 | Number of networks and structures established or enlarged to improve the framework conditions for innovation | Number | 5.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operations yet. |
| S | 1.1.2 | Number of networks and structures established or enlarged to improve the framework conditions for innovation | Number | 5.00 | 8.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 1.1.3 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the framework conditions for innovation | Number | 33.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operations yet. |
| S | 1.1.3 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the framework conditions for innovation | Number | 33.00 | 34.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 1.2.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the delivery of technological innovation | Number | 74.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operations yet. |
| S | 1.2.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the delivery of technological innovation | Number | 74.00 | 170.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 1.2.2 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the delivery of technological innovation partly or entirely supported by the operations | Number | 43.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operations yet. |
| S | 1.2.2 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the delivery of technological innovation partly or entirely supported by the operations | Number | 43.00 | 16.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 1.3.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the development of social innovation applications | Number | 124.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operations yet. |
| S | 1.3.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the development of social innovation applications | Number | 124.00 | 98.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 1.3.2 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the development of social innovation applications partly or entirely supported by the operations | Number | 24.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operations yet. |
| S | 1.3.2 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the development of social innovation applications partly or entirely supported by the operations | Number | 24.00 | 15.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |

| (1) | ID | Indicator | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|-----|------|--|-------|------|------|------|
| F | CO41 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | CO41 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | 53.00 | 9.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

| (1) | ID | Indicator | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|-----|-------|--|--------|--------|-------|------|
| F | CO42 | Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | CO42 | Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | 114.00 | 34.00 | 3.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 1.1.1 | Number of joint strategies and action plans developed to improve the framework conditions for innovation | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 1.1.1 | Number of joint strategies and action plans developed to improve the framework conditions for innovation | 6.00 | 6.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 1.1.2 | Number of networks and structures established or enlarged to improve the framework conditions for innovation | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 1.1.2 | Number of networks and structures established or enlarged to improve the framework conditions for innovation | 6.00 | 6.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 1.1.3 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the framework conditions for innovation | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 1.1.3 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the framework conditions for innovation | 28.00 | 24.00 | 3.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 1.2.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the delivery of technological innovation | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 1.2.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the delivery of technological innovation | 142.00 | 117.00 | 18.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 1.2.2 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the delivery of technological innovation partly or entirely supported by the operations | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 1.2.2 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the delivery of technological innovation partly or entirely supported by the operations | 10.00 | 8.00 | 4.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 1.3.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the development of social innovation applications | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 1.3.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the development of social innovation applications | 50.00 | 22.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 1.3.2 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the development of social innovation applications partly or entirely supported by the operations | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 1.3.2 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the development of social innovation applications partly or entirely supported by the operations | 9.00 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

(1) S=Cumulative value - outputs to be delivered by selected operations [forecast provided by beneficiaries], F=Cumulative value - outputs delivered by operations [actual achievement]

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| Priority axis | 1 - TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL INNOVATION |
| Investment priority | 1b - Promoting business investment in R&I, developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the higher education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation, and supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advanced manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies |
| Specific objective | 1.1 - Improve the framework conditions for the delivery of innovation, in relation to smart specialisation |

Table 1: Result indicators - 1.1b.1.1

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Baseline value | Baseline year | Target value (2023) Total | 2018 Total | 2018 Qualitative | Observations |
|-----|---|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------|---|
| 1.1 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the framework conditions for innovation | Number (scale from 1 to 5) | 3.3 | 2014 | 3.47 | | 3.76 | The result indicator values have been calculated as follows. In April 2019, the Joint Secretariat submitted a survey to experts on 2018. The survey delivery (questionnaire and sample of respondents) was based on the methodology decided in the programming phase so to ensure comparability. Despite the limited coverage of some Nuts-3 of the programme, available data allows updating the values of the result indicators. In case more than one expert expressed their view on a specific territory, an average of the responses was calculated. |

| ID | Indicator | 2017 Total | 2017 Qualitative | 2016 Total | 2016 Qualitative | 2015 Total | 2015 Qualitative | 2014 Total | 2014 Qualitative |
|-----|---|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 1.1 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the framework conditions for innovation | | no value | | no value | | no value | | 3.3 |

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| Priority axis | 1 - TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL INNOVATION |
| Investment priority | 1b - Promoting business investment in R&I, developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the higher education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation, and supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advanced manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies |
| Specific objective | 1.2 - Increase the delivery of innovation in smart specialisation sectors |

Table 1: Result indicators - 1.1b.1.2

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Baseline value | Baseline year | Target value (2023) Total | 2018 Total | 2018 Qualitative | Observations |
|-----|--|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------|---|
| 1.2 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the delivery of innovation in smart specialisation sectors | Number (scale from 1 to 5) | 3.7 | 2014 | 3,89 | | 4.27 | The result indicator values have been calculated as follows. In April 2019, the Joint Secretariat submitted a survey to experts on 2018. The survey delivery (questionnaire and sample of respondents) was based on the methodology decided in the programming phase so to ensure comparability. Despite the limited coverage of some Nuts-3 of the programme, available data allows updating the values of the result indicators. In case more than one expert expressed their view on a specific territory, an average of the responses was calculated. |

| ID | Indicator | 2017 Total | 2017 Qualitative | 2016 Total | 2016 Qualitative | 2015 Total | 2015 Qualitative | 2014 Total | 2014 Qualitative |
|-----|--|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 1.2 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the delivery of innovation in smart specialisation sectors | | no value | | no value | | no value | | 3.7 |

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| Priority axis | 1 - TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL INNOVATION |
| Investment priority | 1b - Promoting business investment in R&I, developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the higher education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation, and supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advanced manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies |
| Specific objective | 1.3 - Increase the development of social innovation applications in order to make more efficient and effective local services to address the key societal challenges in the 2 Seas area. |

Table 1: Result indicators - 1.1b.1.3

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Baseline value | Baseline year | Target value (2023) Total | 2018 Total | 2018 Qualitative | Observations |
|-----|---|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------|---|
| 1.3 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the development of social innovation applications | Number (scale from 1 to 5) | 3.7 | 2014 | 4.07 | | 3.67 | The result indicator values have been calculated as follows. In April 2019, the Joint Secretariat submitted a survey to experts on 2018. The survey delivery (questionnaire and sample of respondents) was based on the methodology decided in the programming phase so to ensure comparability. Despite the limited coverage of some Nuts-3 of the programme, available data allows updating the values of the result indicators. In case more than one expert expressed their view on a specific territory, an average of the responses was calculated. |

| ID | Indicator | 2017 Total | 2017 Qualitative | 2016 Total | 2016 Qualitative | 2015 Total | 2015 Qualitative | 2014 Total | 2014 Qualitative |
|-----|---|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 1.3 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the development of social innovation applications | | no value | | no value | | no value | | 3.7 |

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|----------------------|---|
| Priority axis | 2 - LOW CARBON TECHNOLOGIES |
| Investment priority | 4f - Promoting research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies |

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 2.4f

| (1) | ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Target value | 2018 | Observations |
|-----|-----|--|------------------|--------------|--------|---|
| F | 2.1 | Number of solutions (methods/ tools/services) established to increase the adoption of low carbon technologies | Number | 57.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 2.1 | Number of solutions (methods/ tools/services) established to increase the adoption of low carbon technologies | Number | 57.00 | 42.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 2.2 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the adoption of low-carbon technologies | Number | 27.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 2.2 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the adoption of low-carbon technologies | Number | 27.00 | 42.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 2.3 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the adoption of low carbon technologies partly or entirely supported by the operations | Number | 8.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 2.3 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the adoption of low carbon technologies partly or entirely supported by the operations | Number | 8.00 | 717.00 | One operation, the project SHINE, has a very high target for this output indicator and this corresponds to each and very dwelling the project aim at renovating in their pilot district. Clearly, at the time of defining the target for this output indicator in the Cooperation Programme, the Programme Preparation Group did not anticipate the selection of such a type of project. To be noticed that the total value decreased following a major modification of the project SHINE and consequent decrease of the projects' target. |

| (1) | ID | Indicator | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|-----|-----|--|--------|--------|------|------|
| F | 2.1 | Number of solutions (methods/ tools/services) established to increase the adoption of low carbon technologies | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 2.1 | Number of solutions (methods/ tools/services) established to increase the adoption of low carbon technologies | 40.00 | 30.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 2.2 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the adoption of low-carbon technologies | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 2.2 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the adoption of low-carbon technologies | 38.00 | 26.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 2.3 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the adoption of low carbon technologies partly or entirely supported by the operations | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 2.3 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the adoption of low carbon technologies partly or entirely supported by the operations | 804.00 | 793.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

(1) S=Cumulative value - outputs to be delivered by selected operations [forecast provided by beneficiaries], F=Cumulative value - outputs delivered by operations [actual achievement]

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Priority axis | 2 - LOW CARBON TECHNOLOGIES |
| Investment priority | 4f - Promoting research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies |
| Specific objective | 2.1 - Increase the adoption of low-carbon technologies and applications in sectors that have the potential for a high reduction in greenhouse gas emissions |

Table 1: Result indicators - 2.4f.2.1

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Baseline value | Baseline year | Target value (2023) Total | 2018 Total | 2018 Qualitative | Observations |
|-----|--|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------|---|
| 2.1 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the adoption of low-carbon technologies and applications | Number (scale from 1 to 5) | 4.06 | 2014 | 4.47 | | 4.18 | The result indicator values have been calculated as follows. In April 2019, the Joint Secretariat submitted a survey to experts on 2018. The survey delivery (questionnaire and sample of respondents) was based on the methodology decided in the programming phase so to ensure comparability. Despite the limited coverage of some Nuts-3 of the programme, available data allows updating the values of the result indicators. In case more than one expert expressed their view on a specific territory, an average of the responses was calculated. |

| ID | Indicator | 2017 Total | 2017 Qualitative | 2016 Total | 2016 Qualitative | 2015 Total | 2015 Qualitative | 2014 Total | 2014 Qualitative |
|-----|--|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 2.1 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the adoption of low-carbon technologies and applications | | no value | | no value | | no value | | 4.06 |

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| Priority axis | 3 - ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE |
| Investment priority | 5a - Supporting investment for adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches |

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 3.5a

| (1) | ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Target value | 2018 | Observations |
|-----|-----|--|------------------|--------------|--------|---|
| F | 3.1 | Number of strategies and action plans developed to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects | Number | 16.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 3.1 | Number of strategies and action plans developed to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects | Number | 16.00 | 23.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 3.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects | Number | 51.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 3.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects | Number | 51.00 | 32.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 3.3 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects partly or entirely supported by the operations | Number | 8.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 3.3 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects partly or entirely supported by the operations | Number | 8.00 | 210.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |

| (1) | ID | Indicator | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|-----|-----|--|--------|--------|------|------|
| F | 3.1 | Number of strategies and action plans developed to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 3.1 | Number of strategies and action plans developed to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects | 21.00 | 8.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 3.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 3.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects | 17.00 | 7.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 3.3 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects partly or entirely supported by the operations | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 3.3 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects partly or entirely supported by the operations | 196.00 | 180.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

(1) S=Cumulative value - outputs to be delivered by selected operations [forecast provided by beneficiaries], F=Cumulative value - outputs delivered by operations [actual achievement]

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| Priority axis | 3 - ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE |
| Investment priority | 5a - Supporting investment for adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches |
| Specific objective | 3.1 - Improve the ecosystem-based capacity of 2 Seas stakeholders to climate change and its associated water-related effects |

Table 1: Result indicators - 3.5a.3.1

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Baseline value | Baseline year | Target value (2023) Total | 2018 Total | 2018 Qualitative | Observations |
|-----|---|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------|---|
| 3.1 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects | Number (scale from 1 to 5) | 3.76 | 2014 | 3.95 | | 3.81 | The result indicator values have been calculated as follows. In April 2019, the Joint Secretariat submitted a survey to experts on 2018. The survey delivery (questionnaire and sample of respondents) was based on the methodology decided in the programming phase so to ensure comparability. Despite the limited coverage of some Nuts-3 of the programme, available data allows updating the values of the result indicators. In case more than one expert expressed their view on a specific territory, an average of the responses was calculated. |

| ID | Indicator | 2017 Total | 2017 Qualitative | 2016 Total | 2016 Qualitative | 2015 Total | 2015 Qualitative | 2014 Total | 2014 Qualitative |
|-----|---|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 3.1 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects | | no value | | no value | | no value | | 3.76 |

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| Priority axis | 4 - RESSOURCE EFFICIENT ECONOMY |
| Investment priority | 6g - Supporting industrial transition towards a resource-efficient economy, promoting green growth, eco-innovation and environmental performance management in the public and private sectors |

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 4.6g

| (I) | ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Target value | 2018 | Observations |
|-----|-------|--|------------------|--------------|-------|---|
| F | 4.1.1 | Number of strategies and action plans developed for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number | 7.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 4.1.1 | Number of strategies and action plans developed for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number | 7.00 | 3.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 4.1.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number | 29.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 4.1.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number | 29.00 | 8.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 4.1.3 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number | 8.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 4.1.3 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number | 8.00 | 9.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 4.1.4 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments, partly or entirely supported by the operations, related to a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number | 4.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 4.1.4 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments, partly or entirely supported by the operations, related to a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number | 4.00 | 0.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 4.2.1 | Number of strategies and action plans developed for a more circular economy | Number | 7.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 4.2.1 | Number of strategies and action plans developed for a more circular economy | Number | 7.00 | 7.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 4.2.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more circular economy | Number | 29.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 4.2.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more circular economy | Number | 29.00 | 24.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 4.2.3 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented for a more circular economy | Number | 8.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 4.2.3 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented for a more circular economy | Number | 8.00 | 35.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |
| F | 4.2.4 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to a more circular economy partly or entirely supported by the operations | Number | 4.00 | 0.00 | No fully implemented operation yet. |
| S | 4.2.4 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to a more circular economy partly or entirely supported by the operations | Number | 4.00 | 19.00 | The current ongoing evaluation activities are examining the list of output indicators. These findings will be used, inter alia, to: (1) illustrate and detail the programme impact (type of target groups addressed), (2) verify the capacity of the programme to achieve final targets and (3) draw lessons learned for the future programming period. |

| (I) | ID | Indicator | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|-----|-------|--|-------|------|------|------|
| F | 4.1.1 | Number of strategies and action plans developed for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 4.1.1 | Number of strategies and action plans developed for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | 3.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 4.1.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 4.1.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | 8.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 4.1.3 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 4.1.3 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | 9.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 4.1.4 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments, partly or entirely supported by the operations, related to a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 4.1.4 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments, partly or entirely supported by the operations, related to a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 4.2.1 | Number of strategies and action plans developed for a more circular economy | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 4.2.1 | Number of strategies and action plans developed for a more circular economy | 4.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 4.2.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more circular economy | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 4.2.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more circular economy | 6.00 | 5.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 4.2.3 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented for a more circular economy | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 4.2.3 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented for a more circular economy | 13.00 | 9.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 4.2.4 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to a more circular economy partly or entirely supported by the operations | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 4.2.4 | Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to a more circular economy partly or entirely supported by the operations | 9.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

(1) S=Cumulative value - outputs to be delivered by selected operations [forecast provided by beneficiaries], F=Cumulative value - outputs delivered by operations [actual achievement]

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|----------------------|---|
| Priority axis | 4 - RESSOURCE EFFICIENT ECONOMY |
| Investment priority | 6g - Supporting industrial transition towards a resource-efficient economy, promoting green growth, eco-innovation and environmental performance management in the public and private sectors |
| Specific objective | 4.1 - Increase the adoption of new solutions for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials |

Table 1: Result indicators - 4.6g.4.1

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Baseline value | Baseline year | Target value (2023) Total | 2018 Total | 2018 Qualitative | Observations |
|-----|---|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------|---|
| 4.1 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the adoption of new solutions for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number (scale from 1 to 5) | 3.37 | 2014 | 3.71 | | 3.84 | The result indicator values have been calculated as follows. In April 2019, the Joint Secretariat submitted a survey to experts on 2018. The survey delivery (questionnaire and sample of respondents) was based on the methodology decided in the programming phase so to ensure comparability. Despite the limited coverage of some Nuts-3 of the programme, available data allows updating the values of the result indicators. In case more than one expert expressed their view on a specific territory, an average of the responses was calculated. |

| ID | Indicator | 2017 Total | 2017 Qualitative | 2016 Total | 2016 Qualitative | 2015 Total | 2015 Qualitative | 2014 Total | 2014 Qualitative |
|-----|---|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 4.1 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the adoption of new solutions for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | | no value | | no value | | no value | | 3.37 |

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|----------------------|---|
| Priority axis | 4 - RESSOURCE EFFICIENT ECONOMY |
| Investment priority | 6g - Supporting industrial transition towards a resource-efficient economy, promoting green growth, eco-innovation and environmental performance management in the public and private sectors |
| Specific objective | 4.2 - Increase the adoption of new circular economy solutions in the 2 Seas area |

Table 1: Result indicators - 4.6g.4.2

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Baseline value | Baseline year | Target value (2023) Total | 2018 Total | 2018 Qualitative | Observations |
|-----|--|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------|---|
| 4.2 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the adoption of new circular-economy solutions | Number (scale from 1 to 5) | 3.38 | 2014 | 3.72 | | 3.84 | The result indicator values have been calculated as follows. In April 2019, the Joint Secretariat submitted a survey to experts on 2018. The survey delivery (questionnaire and sample of respondents) was based on the methodology decided in the programming phase so to ensure comparability. Despite the limited coverage of some Nuts-3 of the programme, available data allows updating the values of the result indicators. In case more than one expert expressed their view on a specific territory, an average of the responses was calculated. |

| ID | Indicator | 2017 Total | 2017 Qualitative | 2016 Total | 2016 Qualitative | 2015 Total | 2015 Qualitative | 2014 Total | 2014 Qualitative |
|-----|--|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 4.2 | Average level of performance of the 2 Seas area with regards to the adoption of new circular-economy solutions | | no value | | no value | | no value | | 3.38 |

Priority axes for technical assistance

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|---------------|--------------------------|
| Priority axis | 5 - TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE |
|---------------|--------------------------|

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 5. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

| (1) | ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Target value | 2018 | Observations |
|-----|-------|---|------------------|--------------|--------|---|
| F | 5.1.1 | Number of animation measures to stimulate the generation of projects | Number | 31.00 | 62.00 | value for 2018 include 17 Applicant seminars. |
| S | 5.1.1 | Number of animation measures to stimulate the generation of projects | Number | 31.00 | 0.00 | Reported as fully implemented operations. |
| F | 5.1.2 | Number of cross-border applications submitted to the Programme | Number | 307.00 | 145.00 | |
| S | 5.1.2 | Number of cross-border applications submitted to the Programme | Number | 307.00 | 0.00 | Reported as fully implemented operations. |
| F | 5.1.3 | Number of cross-border cooperation operations selected | Number | 133.00 | 55.00 | |
| S | 5.1.3 | Number of cross-border cooperation operations selected | Number | 133.00 | 0.00 | Reported as fully implemented operation, the focus of this indicator under axis 5 being here the action of selecting an operation. |
| F | 5.1.4 | Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance | Number | | 90.00 | The amount is stable from 2015. As requested by the EC in the past AIR, the figures indicate cumulative values also for this output indicator: the number of employees in 2018 is the same as for 2015; therefore the value for 2018 is three times the value for 2015. |
| S | 5.1.4 | Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance | Number | | 0.00 | Reported as fully implemented operation. |
| F | 5.2.1 | Number of progress reports monitored and leading to payment | Number | 931.00 | 153.00 | As expected, a real take off for 2018, with 104 claims treated (more than double compared to 2017). |
| S | 5.2.1 | Number of progress reports monitored and leading to payment | Number | 931.00 | 0.00 | The meaning of " selected operation " is considered not logical for this indicator. |
| F | 5.2.2 | ERDF decommitted from the Programme | € | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| S | 5.2.2 | ERDF decommitted from the Programme | € | 0.00 | 0.00 | The meaning of " selected operation " is considered not logical for this indicator. |

| (1) | ID | Indicator | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|-----|-------|---|--------|-------|-------|------|
| F | 5.1.1 | Number of animation measures to stimulate the generation of projects | 45.00 | 27.00 | 18.00 | 1.00 |
| S | 5.1.1 | Number of animation measures to stimulate the generation of projects | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 5.1.2 | Number of cross-border applications submitted to the Programme | 104.00 | 76.00 | 36.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 5.1.2 | Number of cross-border applications submitted to the Programme | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 5.1.3 | Number of cross-border cooperation operations selected | 40.00 | 25.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 5.1.3 | Number of cross-border cooperation operations selected | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 5.1.4 | Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance | 67.50 | 45.00 | 22.50 | 0.00 |
| S | 5.1.4 | Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 5.2.1 | Number of progress reports monitored and leading to payment | 49.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 5.2.1 | Number of progress reports monitored and leading to payment | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| F | 5.2.2 | ERDF decommitted from the Programme | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| S | 5.2.2 | ERDF decommitted from the Programme | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

(1) S=Cumulative value - outputs to be delivered by selected operations [forecast provided by beneficiaries], F=Cumulative value - outputs delivered by operations [actual achievement]

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Priority axis | 5 - TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE |
| Specific objective | 5.1 - Assist the generation of good-quality projects and ensure the effective contribution of selected operations to the achievements of programme specific objectives |

Table 1: Result indicators - 5.5.1

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Baseline value | Baseline year | Target value (2023) Total | 2018 Total | 2018 Qualitative | Observations |
|-----|--|--|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------|--|
| 5.1 | Satisfaction of Programme beneficiaries about Programme assistance with regard to the generation of projects | Degree of satisfaction of beneficiaries (scale 1 to 5) | 4.1 | 2014 | Increase | | no value | The evolution of the value of this result indicator will be based on data extracted from the closure reports of selected operations. No operations are closed at this stage therefore there is nothing to report against the baseline. |

| ID | Indicator | 2017 Total | 2017 Qualitative | 2016 Total | 2016 Qualitative | 2015 Total | 2015 Qualitative | 2014 Total | 2014 Qualitative |
|-----|--|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 5.1 | Satisfaction of Programme beneficiaries about Programme assistance with regard to the generation of projects | | no value | | no value | | no value | | 4.1 |

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| Priority axis | 5 - TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE |
| Specific objective | 5.2 - Ensure the smooth and effective management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programme |

Table 1: Result indicators - 5.5.2

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Baseline value | Baseline year | Target value (2023) Total | 2018 Total | 2018 Qualitative | Observations |
|-----|--|--|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------|---|
| 5.2 | Satisfaction of Programme beneficiaries about Programme management with regard to project implementation | Degree of satisfaction of beneficiaries (scale 1 to 5) | 3.9 | 2014 | Increase | | no value | The evolution of the value of this result indicator will be based on data extracted from the closure reports of selected operations. No operations are closed at this stage, therefore there is nothing to report against the baseline. |

| ID | Indicator | 2017 Total | 2017 Qualitative | 2016 Total | 2016 Qualitative | 2015 Total | 2015 Qualitative | 2014 Total | 2014 Qualitative |
|-----|--|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 5.2 | Satisfaction of Programme beneficiaries about Programme management with regard to project implementation | | no value | | no value | | no value | | 3.9 |

3.3 Table 3: Information on the milestones and targets defined in the performance framework

| Priority axis | Ind type | ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Milestone for 2018 total | Final target (2023) total | 2018 | Observations |
|---------------|----------|-------|--|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1 | F | 1 | Total amount of eligible expenditure entered into the accounting system of the certifying authority and certified by the authority for Priority axis 1 | € | 20 231 815 | 165,834,546.00 | 30,010,890.56 | |
| 1 | I | 1.1.3 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) to improve the framework conditions for innovation of selected operations | Number | 13 | 33.00 | 34.00 | |
| 1 | I | 1.2.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies of selected operations related to the delivery of technological innovation | Number | 28 | 74.00 | 170.00 | |
| 1 | I | 1.3.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies of selected operations related to the development of social innovation applications | Number | 47 | 124.00 | 98.00 | |
| 1 | O | 1.1.3 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the framework conditions for innovation | Number | 0 | 33.00 | 0.00 | |
| 1 | O | 1.2.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the delivery of technological innovation | Number | 0 | 74.00 | 0.00 | |
| 1 | O | 1.3.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the development of social innovation applications | Number | 0 | 124.00 | 0.00 | |
| 2 | F | 2 | Total amount of eligible expenditure entered into the accounting system of the certifying authority and certified by the authority for Priority axis 2 | € | 9 634 197 | 78,968,831.00 | 12,073,851.90 | |
| 2 | I | 2.1 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) of selected operations to increase the adoption of low carbon technologies | Number | 22 | 57.00 | 42.00 | |
| 2 | O | 2.1 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to increase the adoption of low carbon technologies | Number | 0 | 57.00 | 0.00 | |
| 3 | F | 3 | Total amount of eligible expenditure entered into the accounting system of the certifying authority and certified by the authority for Priority axis 3 | € | 7 225 648 | 59,226,623.00 | 6,992,087.07 | |
| 3 | I | 3.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) of selected operations to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change | Number | 19 | 51.00 | 32.00 | |
| 3 | O | 3.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to | Number | 0 | 51.00 | 0.00 | |

| Priority axis | Ind type | ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Milestone for 2018 total | Final target (2023) total | 2018 | Observations |
|---------------|----------|-------|--|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|---|
| | | | improve the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects | | | | | |
| 4 | F | 4 | Total amount of eligible expenditure entered into the accounting system of the certifying authority and certified by the authority for Priority axis 4 | € | 8 189 068 | 67,123,507.00 | 7,233,068.68 | |
| 4 | I | 4.1.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number | 11 | 29.00 | 8.00 | This key implementation step is the only one not achieving the 2018 milestone (73% achieved). However it is to be noticed that these figures do not include the 10 additional projects that have been approved in January 2019 (11 projects if we consider the fast track procedure launched for one project - BHC21 - but the MC held in January. The project has been approved in March) in the framework of call 6 (which closed in November 2018). If one considers those projects, the priority axis will be deemed to have achieved its milestones according to Article 6(2) of EU Reg. 215/2014. |
| 4 | I | 4.2.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more circular economy | Number | 11 | 29.00 | 24.00 | |
| 4 | O | 4.1.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number | 0 | 29.00 | 0.00 | |
| 4 | O | 4.2.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more circular economy | Number | 0 | 29.00 | 0.00 | |

| Priority axis | Ind type | ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|---------------|----------|-------|--|------------------|--------------|-------|------|------|
| 1 | F | 1 | Total amount of eligible expenditure entered into the accounting system of the certifying authority and certified by the authority for Priority axis 1 | € | 7,943,040.67 | | | |
| 1 | I | 1.1.3 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) to improve the framework conditions for innovation of selected operations | Number | 28.00 | 21.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1 | I | 1.2.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies of selected operations related to the delivery of technological innovation | Number | 142.00 | 99.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1 | I | 1.3.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies of selected operations related to the development of social innovation applications | Number | 50.00 | 22.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1 | O | 1.1.3 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the framework conditions for innovation | Number | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1 | O | 1.2.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the delivery of technological innovation | Number | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1 | O | 1.3.1 | Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the development of social innovation applications | Number | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2 | F | 2 | Total amount of eligible expenditure entered into the accounting system of the certifying authority and certified by the authority for Priority axis 2 | € | 2,151,094.52 | | | |
| 2 | I | 2.1 | Number of solutions (methods/ tools/services) of selected operations to increase the adoption of low carbon technologies | Number | 40.00 | 30.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2 | O | 2.1 | Number of solutions (methods/ tools/services) established to increase the adoption of low carbon technologies | Number | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | F | 3 | Total amount of eligible expenditure entered into the accounting system of the certifying authority and certified by the authority for Priority axis 3 | € | 1,411,362.65 | | | |
| 3 | I | 3.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) of selected operations to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change | Number | 17.00 | 7.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | O | 3.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects | Number | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | F | 4 | Total amount of eligible expenditure entered into the accounting system of the certifying authority and certified by the authority for Priority axis 4 | € | 1,510,859.26 | | | |
| 4 | I | 4.1.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number | 8.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | I | 4.2.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more circular economy | Number | 6.00 | 5.00 | | 0.00 |
| 4 | O | 4.1.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials | Number | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | O | 4.2.2 | Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more circular economy | Number | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

3.4. Financial data

Table 4: Financial information at priority axis and programme level

As set out in Table 1 of Annex II to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1011/2014 (Model for transmission of financial data) and table 16 of model for cooperation programmes under the European territorial cooperation goal

| Priority axis | Fund | Calculation basis | Total funding | Co-financing rate | Total eligible cost of operations selected for support | Proportion of the total allocation covered with selected operations | Public eligible cost of operations selected for support | Total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the managing authority | Proportion of the total allocation covered by eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries | Number of operations selected | Total eligible expenditure incurred by beneficiaries and paid by 31/12/2018 and certified to the Commission |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--|---|---|--|--|-------------------------------|---|
| 1 | ERDF | Total | 165,834,546.00 | 65.00 | 134,268,144.00 | 80.97% | 114,340,579.12 | 25,823,672.20 | 15.57% | 30 | 30,010,890.56 |
| 2 | ERDF | Total | 78,968,831.00 | 65.00 | 51,334,342.65 | 65.01% | 39,723,917.59 | 8,860,899.39 | 11.22% | 8 | 12,073,851.90 |
| 3 | ERDF | Total | 59,226,623.00 | 65.00 | 52,407,418.68 | 88.49% | 50,306,711.04 | 4,778,934.97 | 8.07% | 9 | 6,992,087.07 |
| 4 | ERDF | Total | 67,123,507.00 | 65.00 | 40,142,700.28 | 59.80% | 32,769,361.34 | 6,122,575.77 | 9.12% | 8 | 7,233,068.68 |
| 5 | ERDF | Public | 20,989,997.00 | 73.36 | 20,989,997.00 | 100.00% | 20,989,997.00 | 6,740,346.31 | 32.11% | 8 | |
| Total | ERDF | | 392,143,504.00 | 65.45 | 299,142,602.61 | 76.28% | 258,130,566.09 | 52,326,428.64 | 13.34% | 63 | 56,309,898.21 |
| Grand total | | | 392,143,504.00 | 65.45 | 299,142,602.61 | 76.28% | 258,130,566.09 | 52,326,428.64 | 13.34% | 63 | 56,309,898.21 |

Where applicable, the use of any contribution from third countries participating in the cooperation programme should be provided (for example IPA and ENI, Norway, Switzerland)

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Table 5: Breakdown of the cumulative financial data by category of intervention

As set out in Table 2 of Annex II to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1011/2014 (Model for transmission of financial data) and tables 6-9 of Model for cooperation programmes

| Priority axis | Fund | Intervention field | Form of finance | Territorial dimension | Territorial delivery mechanism | Thematic objective dimension | ESF secondary theme | Economic dimension | Location dimension | Total eligible cost of operations selected for support | Public eligible cost of operations selected for support | The total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the managing authority | Number of operations selected |
|---------------|------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|---|--|-------------------------------|
| 1 | ERDF | 060 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 01 | BE256 | 2,857,449.75 | 2,473,360.15 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 060 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 02 | BE255 | 5,699,865.10 | 5,135,545.30 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 060 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 07 | BE254 | 4,568,619.35 | 4,028,514.75 | 2,280,624.27 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 060 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 10 | NL333 | 7,184,812.15 | 6,795,183.40 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 060 | 01 | 07 | 07 | 01 | | 20 | FR301 | 7,476,119.00 | 6,610,410.59 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 061 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 05 | NL333 | 3,781,577.25 | 3,170,712.44 | 233,105.51 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 061 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 01 | | 11 | NL321 | 4,189,804.05 | 3,424,835.61 | 2,368,815.93 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 062 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 06 | NL333 | 6,843,950.50 | 5,793,039.67 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 062 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 07 | NL339 | 3,553,244.25 | 2,879,083.85 | 998,853.39 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 062 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 20 | FR301 | 12,759,183.35 | 11,168,177.41 | 3,166,692.07 | 3 |
| 1 | ERDF | 062 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 20 | UKJ21 | 2,724,815.05 | 2,573,814.89 | 882,139.34 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 064 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 06 | NL411 | 3,223,529.46 | 2,765,403.26 | 1,263,577.71 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 064 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 12 | BE211 | 4,154,162.02 | 3,520,881.96 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 064 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 15 | BE251 | 2,915,773.30 | 2,464,095.58 | 856,346.61 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 064 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 24 | BE212 | 3,165,503.25 | 2,975,301.57 | 470,868.21 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 064 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 24 | FR301 | 3,277,434.75 | 2,684,685.01 | 1,240,895.96 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 064 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 24 | UKJ21 | 3,085,130.70 | 2,030,871.42 | 1,786,428.10 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 064 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 24 | UKJ42 | 2,855,596.80 | 2,467,923.14 | 1,230,154.23 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 069 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 22 | BE211 | 4,330,154.85 | 3,846,408.19 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 112 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 19 | UKJ41 | 4,880,801.75 | 4,424,313.79 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 112 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 20 | UKJ42 | 24,844,627.25 | 20,109,588.31 | 6,153,774.89 | 4 |
| 1 | ERDF | 112 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 01 | | 21 | BE212 | 6,551,264.65 | 5,609,216.13 | 1,843,975.35 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 112 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 01 | | 01 | UKH12 | 2,562,395.10 | 1,666,215.11 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 112 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 01 | | 20 | FR302 | 4,320,051.45 | 3,475,622.07 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 1 | ERDF | 112 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 01 | | 20 | NL342 | 2,462,278.87 | 2,247,375.52 | 547,420.63 | 1 |
| 2 | ERDF | 013 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 04 | | 08 | BE213 | 6,872,391.20 | 6,535,517.36 | 2,274,929.60 | 1 |
| 2 | ERDF | 065 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 04 | | 07 | BE234 | 10,296,001.70 | 4,502,404.26 | 297,737.56 | 1 |
| 2 | ERDF | 065 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 04 | | 08 | BE254 | 3,639,750.95 | 3,583,348.55 | 1,147,144.16 | 1 |
| 2 | ERDF | 065 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 04 | | 08 | NL333 | 5,297,095.30 | 5,250,231.30 | 1,304,825.74 | 1 |
| 2 | ERDF | 065 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 04 | | 10 | NL411 | 3,522,856.90 | 3,522,856.90 | 295,938.10 | 1 |
| 2 | ERDF | 065 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 04 | | 12 | BE255 | 8,070,649.35 | 5,650,913.60 | 1,893,483.36 | 1 |
| 2 | ERDF | 065 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 04 | | 08 | FR223 | 4,350,900.51 | 4,152,557.51 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 2 | ERDF | 065 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 04 | | 24 | NL321 | 9,284,696.74 | 6,526,088.11 | 1,596,840.87 | 1 |
| 3 | ERDF | 087 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 05 | | 22 | BE255 | 6,350,307.20 | 6,350,307.20 | 423,114.25 | 1 |
| 3 | ERDF | 087 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 05 | | 22 | NL339 | 6,840,256.68 | 6,673,388.68 | 1,170,761.63 | 1 |
| 3 | ERDF | 087 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 05 | | 22 | NL342 | 7,948,971.80 | 7,407,240.20 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 3 | ERDF | 087 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 05 | | 22 | UKH31 | 6,380,472.10 | 6,270,472.10 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 3 | ERDF | 087 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 05 | | 22 | UKJ42 | 4,380,190.84 | 4,255,444.84 | 287,812.29 | 1 |
| 3 | ERDF | 087 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 05 | | 22 | UKK23 | 5,108,892.00 | 4,893,687.20 | 1,011,454.11 | 1 |
| 3 | ERDF | 087 | 01 | 02 | 07 | 05 | | 22 | UKK41 | 7,755,069.21 | 7,491,847.83 | 1,586,798.64 | 1 |
| 3 | ERDF | 087 | 01 | 03 | 07 | 05 | | 08 | UKH13 | 2,116,635.15 | 2,007,663.23 | 119,604.96 | 1 |
| 3 | ERDF | 087 | 01 | 07 | 07 | 05 | | 22 | BE100 | 5,526,623.70 | 4,956,659.76 | 79,389.09 | 1 |
| 4 | ERDF | 062 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 06 | | 01 | BE234 | 3,176,262.85 | 2,798,340.72 | 242,871.38 | 1 |
| 4 | ERDF | 069 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 06 | | 01 | BE234 | 3,353,732.95 | 2,693,136.44 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 4 | ERDF | 069 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 06 | | 11 | BE234 | 4,421,521.50 | 3,587,316.12 | 57,903.43 | 1 |
| 4 | ERDF | 069 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 06 | | 11 | BE254 | 7,007,863.54 | 5,050,110.21 | 1,668,326.00 | 1 |
| 4 | ERDF | 069 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 06 | | 22 | BE234 | 9,450,153.65 | 7,971,796.95 | 50,000.00 | 1 |
| 4 | ERDF | 069 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 06 | | 22 | NL333 | 5,869,343.48 | 4,710,008.41 | 1,407,057.91 | 1 |
| 4 | ERDF | 069 | 01 | 01 | 07 | 06 | | 22 | NL339 | 4,821,010.01 | 4,327,850.53 | 2,295,116.08 | 1 |
| 4 | ERDF | 069 | 01 | 07 | 07 | 06 | | 02 | FR302 | 2,042,812.30 | 1,630,801.96 | 351,300.97 | 1 |
| 5 | ERDF | 121 | 01 | 07 | 07 | | | 24 | FR301 | 19,800,040.00 | 19,800,040.00 | 6,517,602.08 | 6 |
| 5 | ERDF | 122 | 01 | 07 | 07 | | | 24 | FR301 | 419,985.00 | 419,985.00 | 79,352.91 | 1 |

| Priority axis | Fund | Intervention field | Form of finance | Territorial dimension | Territorial delivery mechanism | Thematic objective dimension | ESF secondary theme | Economic dimension | Location dimension | Total eligible cost of operations selected for support | Public eligible cost of operations selected for support | The total eligible expenditure declared by eneficiaries to the managing authority | Number of operations selected |
|---------------|------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|---|---|-------------------------------|
| 5 | ERDF | 123 | 01 | 07 | 07 | | | 24 | FR301 | 769,972.00 | 769,972.00 | 143,391.32 | 1 |

Table 6: Cumulative cost of all or part of an operation implemented outside the Union part of the programme area

| 1. Operation (2) | 2. The amount of ERDF support(1) envisaged to be used for all or part of an operation implemented outside the Union part of the programme area based on selected operations | 3. Share of the total financial allocation to all or part of an operation located outside the Union part of the programme area (%) (column 2/total amount allocated to the support from the ERDF at programme level *100) | 4. Eligible expenditure of ERDF support incurred in all or part of an operation implemented outside the Union part of the programme area declared by the beneficiary to the managing authority | 5. Share of the total financial allocation to all or part of an operation located outside the Union part of the programme area (%) (column 4/total amount allocated to the support from the ERDF at programme level *100) |
|------------------|---|---|--|---|
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(1) ERDF support is the Commission decision on the respective cooperation programme.

(2) In accordance with and subject to ceilings set out Article 20 of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013.

4. SYNTHESIS OF THE EVALUATIONS

In 2018, as part of the last report foreseen under programme evaluation subsequent contract n.2, evaluators have analysed the quality and reliability of data contained in a sample of projects annual progress reports, in particular when it comes to the outputs and specific results reported (details on this in reported under section 10.1).

As part of the overall framework contract for the design, development and implementation of an integrated evaluation approach within the framework of a robust 2 Seas 2014 - 2020 Monitoring & Evaluation system, the programme has launched at the end of the 2018 a subsequent contract n.3 which will inter alia: (1) update the analysis of programme effectiveness and the aforementioned analysis of the quality and reliability of data of project annual progress reports, (2) foresee a focus on the programme performance (programme performance framework in particular), (3) conduct a first impact evaluation (to be carried out in the second half of 2019).

Preliminary analysis of the approved projects highlights the capacity of each SO to achieve output indicator targets for 2023. **SO 1.1 is the best performing**, because all the output indicators would reach the target values if all the projects realise the expected outputs. **In both SOs 1.2 and 1.3, three out of four output indicators would achieve the target**, including the indicator in the performance framework, which is expected to cover most priority axis resources. **SOs 2.1, 3.1, and 4.2 would achieve all their targets except for the indicator in the performance framework**. For this indicator, SOs 2.1 and 4.2 are not far from their targets, which can be achieved with other projects. The situation of SO 3.1 is more challenging because all resources have been already committed. **SO 4.1 has the most critical situation** as three of the four output indicators are unlikely to reach their final targets. Among these is the indicator in the performance framework.

Overall these findings could be used **for the current programming** to reflect upon **possible revision of the targets** and to **stimulate the project selection towards the missing outputs**.

Analysis of results from selected project confirms that the Programme is in line with its strategy. All the programme SOs fulfil expectations of creating **knowledge and learning benefits** and contributing to **making cooperation dynamic** in the area by involving new partners and / or developing new forms of cooperation. More specifically, SO 1.1, as expected, is contributing to cross-border clusters. For governance and policy benefits, SO 4.1 and 4.2 projects have a lower than expected capacity to affect policy making and improved governance. **Socio-economic benefits** are core to the programme contribution to change in the cooperation area. All SOs are expected to contribute with some projects to increased business activity / capacity (new products, processes, services, techniques) and to cost savings, while SOs 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 4.1 and 4.2 contribute to job creation. **Environmental benefits** are mainly concentrated in SO 1.2 and as expected in priority axes 2, 3 and 4. These preliminary findings on results represent the starting point of the impact evaluation.

It is to be noted that the above synthesis is part of the draft reports that needs to be discussed in the Programme Evaluation Task Force in June. Its final version will be discussed and eventually acknowledged by the Monitoring Committee scheduled for November 2019.



| Name | Fund | From month | From year | To month | To year | Type of evaluation | Thematic objective | Topic | Findings |
|------|------|------------|-----------|----------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|-------|----------|
|------|------|------------|-----------|----------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|-------|----------|

5. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND MEASURES TAKEN

(a) Issues which affect the performance of the programme and the measures taken

The issues highlighted in the previous reporting years are still a challenge for the Programme performance, however they have been minimized thanks to the great effort undertaken by the Programme in the past 2 years.

1. In line with the trend that emerged in 2017, the improvement of the quality of the proposals has been visible throughout 2018 as well. This allowed keeping a good pace of programming, with around 45% of success rate of projects once reached step 2 of the application.

2. General low level of participation at projects' generation stage that emerged during 2016 has been confirmed during 2017 and 2018. This seems to be very much linked to some key external factors already identified in the previous AIR, namely the BREXIT (affecting to different degrees the participation from all 4 Member States) and the general difficulty to participate from French organisations. The low participation from France and UK inevitably affects the projects' generation. The Programme has multiplied the effort to attract applicants and help them in the projects' general process and this has been crucial to keep a fair programming path.

This said, the situation of the programming has improved considerably over the past years and if one takes into account the last round of selection that took place at the Monitoring Committee held on the 24 January 2019 (so few weeks after the year on which this AIR refers to) the Programme has reached a remarkable level of commitment (88% at the end of January 2019) and a very positive performance when it comes to the key implementation steps foreseen for the 2018 milestones.

(b) OPTIONAL FOR LIGHT REPORTS, otherwise it will be included in point 9.1. An assessment of whether progress made towards targets is sufficient to ensure their fulfilment, indicating any remedial actions taken or planned, where appropriate.

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6. CITIZEN'S SUMMARY (ARTICLE 50(9) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

A citizen's summary of the contents of the annual and the final implementation reports shall be made public and uploaded as a separate file in the form of annex to the annual and the final implementation report

You can upload/find the Citizen's summary under General > Documents

7. REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (ARTICLE 46 OF REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013)

8. PROGRESS IN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MAJOR PROJECTS AND JOINT ACTION PLANS (ARTICLE 101(H) AND ARTICLE 111(3) OF REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013 AND ARTICLE 14(3)(B) OF REGULATION (EU) No 1299/2013)

8.1. Major projects

Table 7: Major projects

| Project | CCI | Status of MP | Total investments | Total eligible costs | Planned notification/submission date | Date of tacit agreement/ approval by Commission | Planned start of implementation | Planned completion date | Priority Axis/ Investment priorities | Current state of realisation — financial progress (% of expenditure certified to Commission compared to total eligible cost) | Current state of realisation — physical progress Main implementation stage of the project | Main outputs | Date of signature of first works contract (1) | Observations |
|---------|-----|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|--------------|---|--------------|
|---------|-----|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|--------------|---|--------------|

(1) In the case of operations implemented under PPP structures the signing of the PPP contract between the public body and the private sector body (Article 102(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013).

Significant problems encountered in implementing major projects and measures taken to overcome them

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Any change planned in the list of major projects in the cooperation programme

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8.2. Joint action plans

Progress in the implementation of different stages of joint action plans

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Table 8: Joint action plans (JAP)

| Title of the JAP | CCI | Stage of implementation of JAP | Total eligible costs | Total public support | OP contribution to JAP | Priority axis | Type of JAP | [Planned] submission to the Commission | [Planned] start of implementation | [Planned] completion | Main outputs and results | Total eligible expenditure certified to the Commission | Observations |
|------------------|-----|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------|
|------------------|-----|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------|

Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them

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9. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 50(4) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013 AND ARTICLE 14(4) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1299/2013)

9.1 Information in Part A and achieving the objectives of the programme (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Priority axis | 1 - TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL INNOVATION |
|---------------|---|

The below analysis is an extract of the external programme evaluation draft report on Programme effectiveness. The evaluation has been launched at the end of 2018 and is still ongoing; the draft report will be discussed in the Programme evaluation task force scheduled for the 21 June. The final version of the report is foreseen to be acknowledged by the MC 13 scheduled for November 2019.

SO 1.1 has been designed to address the development challenges of increasing global competition, diminishing public resources and the risk of brain drain. As to address these challenges, SO 1.1 supports the improvement of the framework conditions for innovation across borders. Compared to other policy tools, the Two Seas Programme promotes mainly cross-border cooperation for delivering innovation instead of pure research activities, as Horizon 2020. Accordingly, SO 1.1 invests in increased cross-border integration and interaction, promoting common economic specialisations, supporting a business innovation model against a low-cost one.

Programme operations are expected to produce the following outputs: new strategies and action plans, networks and structures, and joint solutions for the corresponding output indicators.

By the end of 2018, under this SO, three projects have been approved in call 1 (ISE, PROFIT and SEnt) and other two projects in call 2 (SEAS 2 Grow and ICAReS) and respectively 1 project per each call from call 3 to 5.

The ongoing Programme evaluation is analysing the state of play of each output indicators at the time of writing this AIR.

Approved projects are expected to create the following results/benefits.

- **Networking** benefits. They originate from the activation and stimulation of cooperation among quadruple helix stakeholders, new forms and types of partners and partnerships as well as from cluster activities across borders. Furthermore, since networking is a pre-condition for the delivery of innovation, the duration, stability and evolution of networking-related benefits are also relevant in the medium/long term. In this regard, SO 1.1 is expected to create the conditions to deliver innovation under SOs 1.2 and 1.3;
- **Knowledge** benefits. They refer to increased skills and capacities for stakeholders in the innovation chain, technological transfer, and the exchange of good practice across borders.
- **Governance and policy** benefits. Project can potentially have an influence on policy making, improved governance as well as a direct contribution to reducing (removing) barriers to cooperation in the field of innovation at cross-border level.

- **Socio-economic** benefits. These encompass improved services for international firms, new business opportunities. Moreover, project can potentially have an influence on triggered investments, increased employability and cost savings.
- **Environment**. According to the Environmental report of SEA (Strategic Environmental Assessment), eco-efficiency should result as an environmental benefit of SO 1.1.

SO 1.2 has been defined in order to exploit the high potential for innovation in the Two Seas area and the existing clusters and business-university networks in the smart specialisation domains. The SO promotes the use and delivery of research outcomes even if applied research projects in line with the quadruple-helix approach could be financed as well. Compared to other policy tools and SOs, SO 1.2 invests in projects under the Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 3 and 7 in line with the scale adopted by Horizon 2020.

By the end of 2018, under this SO, six projects have been approved in call 1 (DOC2C's, DERMA, EDUCAT, INCASE, IMODE, 3D&FPP), two projects in call 3 and 4 (respectively, E2C, QUALIFY and 3DMed, CoBra), three projects in call 5 (ValgOrize, Hy4Dense and M.O.T.I.O.N.).

The ongoing Programme evaluation is analysing the state of play of each output indicators at the time of writing this AIR.

Approved projects are expected to create the following results/benefits.

- **Networking** benefits. These originate from the activation and stimulation of cooperation among quadruple helix stakeholders, new forms and types of partners and partnerships.
- **Knowledge** benefits. These refer to increased skills and capacities of stakeholders in the innovation chain, technological transfer, exchange and use of practices(uptake) by SMEs (Small Medium Enterprises) and increased awareness.
- **Governance and policy** benefits, especially regarding the influence on policy making.
- **Socio-economic** benefits. These encompass improved services, new products, cost savings, patent applications, increased jobs and employability, triggered investments and improved health and living conditions.
- **Environment** related benefits such as energy efficiency and reduced pressure on natural resources.

SO 1.3 tackles development challenges related to social inclusion and effective and efficient social support reducing unemployment by investing in areas related to key societal challenges (e.g. active and healthy ageing, demographic change and well-being, changing societies, secure societies).

The aforementioned types of operations are expected to produce outputs such as new tests/pilots and small-scale equipment and infrastructure. As in SO 1.2, two common indicators have been introduced.

By the end of 2018, under this SO, two projects have been approved during the first call (PACE, DWELL) and other two in call 2 (SAIL, CASCADE). Three projects have been approved in call 3 and 5 (respectively, SBS, TICC, SIREE, AGE'IN, FLAVOUR).

The ongoing Programme evaluation is analysing the state of play of each output indicators at the time of writing this AIR.

Approved projects are expected to create the following results/benefits in line with the programme expected results:

- **Networking** benefits. They originate from the activation and stimulation of cooperation among quadruple helix stakeholders, new forms and types of partners and partnerships;
- **Knowledge** benefits. They regard increased skills and capacities of stakeholders in the innovation chain, increase awareness, exchange and use of practices, technological transfer and behavioural change of stakeholders in the field of social innovation investments;
- **Governance and policy** benefits. Projects have the potential to influence policy making and remove barriers to cooperation in the field of social innovation;
- **Socio-economic benefits**. They encompass new/improved services and increased efficiency (cost savings), while economic opportunities refer to triggered investments, increased jobs and increased employability, new products and services and improved health and living conditions.

Priority axis

2 - LOW CARBON TECHNOLOGIES

The below analysis is an extract of the external programme evaluation draft report on Programme effectiveness. The evaluation has been launched at the end of 2018 and is still ongoing; the draft report will be discussed in the Programme evaluation task force scheduled for the 21 June. The final version of the report is foreseen to be acknowledged by the MC 13 scheduled for November 2019.

SO 2.1 invests to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy in order to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, exploit the potential of new renewable energy technology and reinforce public acceptance of renewable energy technology. SO 2.1 enhances the adoption of low carbon technologies through projects falling between TRL 6 and 7 notably in the renewable energy, transport, agriculture, manufacturing and building sectors.

Programme outputs encompass new solutions (methods, tools and services), new tests, pilots, demonstration actions and small-scale equipment and infrastructures.

By the end of 2018, under this SO, four projects have been approved during the first call (Shine, MET-CERTIFIED, BISEPS and CARBON2VALUE) and one single project (triple-A) in call 2. Two projects have been approved in call 3 (PECS, SLIC) and one in call 4 (SOLARISE).

The ongoing Programme evaluation is analysing the state of play of each output indicators at the time of writing this AIR.

Approved projects and their outputs are expected to create the following results / benefits.

- **Networking** benefits. These originate from the activation and stimulation of cooperation among quadruple helix stakeholders, new forms and types of partners and partnerships.
- **Knowledge** benefits. These refer to increased skills and capacities of stakeholders, created/increased skills and capacities, increased awareness and behavioural change of stakeholders and technological transfer in the field of the adoption of low-carbon technologies.
- **Governance and policy** benefits. Projects have the potential to influence policy making and remove barriers to cooperation in the field of low-carbon economy.
- **Socio-economic** benefits. They are related to triggered investments, increased jobs and employability, increased business activity and cost savings due to the adoption of more efficient technologies;
- **Environmental benefits** constitute the core benefits of the SO and regard energy efficiency, climate change mitigation due to the reduced GHG emissions and reduced pressure on natural resources thanks to the adoption of new technologies.

Priority axis

3 - ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

The below analysis is an extract of the external programme evaluation draft report on Programme effectiveness. The evaluation has been launched at the end of 2018 and is still ongoing; the draft report will be discussed in the Programme evaluation task force scheduled for the 21 June. The final version of the report is foreseen to be acknowledged by the MC 13 scheduled for November 2019:

SO 3.1 supports the improvement of the ecosystem-based adaptation capacity to climate change and associated phenomena to reduce/mitigate the vulnerability of coastal and inland areas in terms of adaptive capacity and regional exposure to coastal storm surges. Projects may include actions between TRL 6 and 7 in the most vulnerable sectors and those likely to be affected by stronger impacts.

Programme operations are expected to produce new strategies/action plans, solutions and small-scale equipment and infrastructures.

By the end of 2018, under this SO, four projects have been approved during the second call (SCAPE, SPONGE2020, WRC and TRIPLE C (2)) and two projects (ENDURE, STAR2Cs) in call 3. One project has been approved in call 4 (PROWATER) while two projects in call 5 (Cool Towns, NSCiti2S).

The ongoing Programme evaluation is analysing the state of play of each output indicators at the time of writing this AIR.

Approved projects and their outputs are expected to create the following results:

- **Networking** benefits. They originate from the activation and stimulation of cooperation among quadruple helix stakeholders, new forms and types of partners and partnerships.
- **Knowledge** benefits. They refer to increased skills and capacities of stakeholders, exchange and use of practices, increased awareness and behavioural change of stakeholders in the field of

climate change and water effects;

- **Governance and policy** benefits. Projects have the potential to influence policy making, improve governance quality and capacity and remove barriers to cooperation in the field of climate change and water effects;
- **Socio-economic** benefits. They relate to increased business activity, improved health and general living conditions and cost savings due to the adoption of more efficient technologies for improving ecosystem-based capacity of stakeholders to withstand climate change and water effects;
- **Environmental** benefits constitute the core benefits of the SO. They regard energy efficiency, reduction of pressure on marine and land ecosystems, climate change adaptation thanks to the improved ecosystem-based capacity of stakeholders to withstand climate change and water effects.

Priority axis

4 - RESSOURCE EFFICIENT ECONOMY

The below analysis is an extract of the external programme evaluation draft report on Programme effectiveness. The evaluation has been launched at the end of 2018 and is still ongoing; the draft report will be discussed in the Programme evaluation task force scheduled for the 21 June. The final version of the report is foreseen to be acknowledged by the MC 13 scheduled for November 2019:

SO 4.1 invests to reinforce the institutional framework conditions and capacity of business, public bodies and other stakeholders in society to adopt new business models and approaches for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials. In particular, the SO supports the adoption of new solutions through projects falling between TRL 6 and 7 in all sectors, including manufacturing, transport, energy, agriculture, fisheries and tourism. The SO will create new development opportunities in line with the EU Blue Growth strategy, which provides room for cooperation among maritime stakeholders with a lack of sufficient public resources.

Programme operations are expected to create new strategies/action plans, solutions, tests/pilots/demonstration actions, small scale equipment and infrastructure.

By the end of 2018, under this SO, 1 project has been approved during call 1 (USAR) while 2 projects during call 3 (SUMARIS, Bio4safe).

The ongoing Programme evaluation is analysing the state of play of each output indicators at the time of writing this AIR.

Approved projects and their outputs are expected to create the following results:

- **Networking benefits** are related to new forms of cooperation and partnership.
- **Knowledge** benefits regard the exchange and use of practices, created/increased skills and capacities, increased awareness, behavioural change in stakeholders.
- **Governance and policy** benefits encompass improved governance quality and capacity.
- **Socio-economic** benefits are related to increased jobs and triggered investments, increased business activity/capacity (new products, processes, services, techniques) and cost savings.

- **Environmental** benefits are related to eco-efficiency (energy efficiency, waste reduction, sustainable management of natural resources), reduction of pressure on marine and land ecosystems and water consumption and climate change adaptation.

SO 4.2 invests to reinforce the adoption of new circular economy business models and approaches (re-use of resources). This SO focuses on the adoption of new solutions technology through projects falling between TRL 6 and 7 in all sectors. The SO encompasses three types of operations: ‘Formulation of common strategies/ protocols’, ‘Establishment of common platforms and services’, ‘Adoption of new solutions’.

The outputs of SO 4.2 are new strategies/action plans, solutions, tests/pilots/demonstration actions and small-scale equipment and infrastructures.

By the end of 2018, under this SO, 1 project has been approved during call 1 (BIOBOOST) while three projects during call 3 (NEREUS, Grassification, Horti-blueC) and other two projects in call 6 (PlastiCity, CBCI).

The ongoing Programme evaluation is analysing the state of play of each output indicators at the time of writing this AIR.

Approved projects and their outputs are expected to create the following results:

Approved projects and their outputs are expected to create the following results:

- **Networking** benefits. They originate from the development of new forms of cooperation and partnerships and new type of partners;
- **Knowledge** benefits. They refer to increased skills and capacities of stakeholders, created/increased skills and capacities, increased awareness and behavioural change of stakeholders which are crucial for increasing the adoption of circular economy solutions;
- **Governance and policy** benefits. Projects have the potential to influence policy making and remove barriers to cooperation;
- **Socio-economic** benefits. They relate to increase the business sector activity and the development of innovations, the increase of jobs and cost savings;
- **Environmental** benefits. They constitute the core benefits of the SO and essentially regard eco-efficiency, namely waste reduction and sustainable management of natural resources and the reduction of pressure on marine and land ecosystems and water consumption.

Priority axis

5 - TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Programme evaluation carried out in 2017 contained an evaluation on the Programme efficiency. The main evaluation question contained in the evaluation plan was the following: "*Are the measures proposed (implemented) by the Programme effective in making things easy for beneficiaries?*"

Below are reported the conclusions and recommendations from the Programme evaluators:

Applicants' workload:

- Conclusion – Applicants' workload in project application is estimated to be in line with other Interreg programmes
- Recommendation – Consider the possibility to further simplify the concept note for the future programming period

Quality of programme support:

- Conclusion – Quality is satisfactory, notably the programme manual and the support of TFs
- Recommendation – reinforce the support to the formulation of project ideas

Project assessment:

- Conclusion – Overall, smooth and effective process
- Recommendation – Consider project unproductive costs in the assessment phase (management and communication costs)

Project implementation and simplification measures:

- Conclusion – Support in project implementation is very appreciated. Appreciated efforts to promote further simplification. Paperless submission + AF only in EN very appreciated
- Recommendation – Programme authorities and MS to take concrete initiatives in order to further harmonise in the future programming period

The recommendations have been discussed in the Monitoring Committee meeting held in February 2018. Where applicable, the TA is already implementing some follow up actions.

Further to the Programme evaluation, below are reported more in details the actions carried out against the SO and indicators.

As for the previous year, most of the activities of the Technical Assistance concentrated on:

1. Getting a good amount of high quality projects proposals (in line with TA SO 5.1)
2. Setting up the Programme management and control system in order to answer to the new requirements

of the 2014-2020 period (corresponding to SO 5.2).

With reference to SO 5.1, the progress in indicator 5.1.1 is strong and the programme target has been achieved already by the end of 2017 (number of animation measures to stimulate the generation of projects). Indeed, with reference to output indicator 5.1.1, 45 programme animation actions were carried out already by the end of 2017 (initial target: 31). By the end of 2018, 62 animation actions were carried out. This again reflects the strong effort carried out to stimulate the projects generation and is fully in line with the Programme needs.

However, despite all efforts, not enough Application Forms have been submitted. Indeed, with reference to OI 5.1.2 (Application Forms submitted), 145 out of the 307 Application Forms were submitted. This represents around 47% of the Programme target. When it comes to OI 5.1.3 (operations selected), 2018 has consolidated the good step forward done in 2016 and 2017. Indeed, by the end of 2017 the Programme selected 55 projects. This is a clear sign that despite the fact that the projects' generation does not fully take off, the average quality of the submitted application forms is constantly increasing. This leads to an increasing success rate in the projects' selection. This is reflected in the good step forward compared to the Programme targets: by the end of 2018, the Programme reached a 41% achievement (compared to 19% of 2016 and 31% of 2017).

Beside these trends, the factor highlighted in the previous year still remain, notably: the average budget of the 2 Seas 2014-2020 selected operation is much higher compared to the 2007-2013 period. The trend is confirmed so far. This means that the targets of these two indicators might be overestimated since they were based on the average budget per operation experienced in the previous programming period. The Programme evaluation carried out in 2017 has confirmed this analysis.

It is to be noticed that if we include the selected operation under the framework of call 6 (Monitoring Committee held in January 2019) the amount of approved projects has increased further (68 by end of January 2019, 69 by March if we consider also the project BHC21 approved via a fast track procedure decided in the Monitoring Committee in January) and the committed Programme budget has risen up to 88% (about 90% if we consider also BHC21). It is therefore now likely that by the beginning of 2020 the Programme will have committed 100% of its budget.

9.2. Specific actions taken to promote equality between men and women and to promote non-discrimination, in particular accessibility for persons with disabilities, and the arrangements implemented to ensure the integration of the gender perspective in the cooperation programme and operations (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 14(4), subparagraph 2, (d) of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013)

An assessment of the implementation of specific actions to take into account the principles set out in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 on promotion of equality between men and women and non-discrimination, including, where relevant, depending on the content and objectives of the cooperation programme, an overview of specific actions taken to promote equality between men and women and to promote non-discrimination, including accessibility for persons with disabilities, and the arrangements implemented to ensure the integration of the gender perspective in the cooperation programme and operations

The measures taken to promote equality between men and women and non-discrimination have not varied compared to the previous reporting period.

Projects level

1. In terms of projects' selection:

- Projects' Application Forms contain a section on the so called horizontal principles, namely: sustainable development, equal opportunities and non-discrimination, equality between men and women. Projects need to explain if they contribute positively or neutrally and explain how.
- The checklist used by the Programme to assess projects does explicitly contain a question on that ("The project makes a positive contribution to the promotion of equality and to sustainable development").
- When coming to the projects' selection, the only criterion applied is the quality of the proposal in relation to the Programme intervention logic. No discrimination is applied when it comes to gender, age, nationality, location or any similar factors of the applicants.

2. In terms of project monitoring:

- In the framework of the check carried out by the First Level Controller, the respect of these key principles is assessed each time a project partner reports costs;
- Each project will be required to report in the framework of the final report how concretely these key principles have been implemented during the project's implementation.

Programme level

1. Programme intervention logic:

- Besides recalling the importance of these principles as being a pillar of any actions, the 2 Seas Cooperation Programme contains a specific objective on Social Innovation. This SO 1.3 wishes to *Increase the development of social innovation applications in order to make more efficient and*

effective local services to address the key societal challenges. By its very nature, most of the approved projects under this SO may have as a key focus the promotion of equality and non-discrimination, as shown by some examples of the approved projects as below:

- DWELL (which develops an empowerment programme enabling patients with type 2 diabetes to access tailored support giving them mechanisms to control their condition & improve their wellbeing),
- PACE (supporting families to access quality early childhood education&care), SAIL (stimulating active ageing and longer independent living),
- CASCADE (sustainable care of dementia patients),
- TICC (integrated care in communities),
- SIREE (social integration of refugees),
- SBS (men's health and wellbeing).

2. Programme governance, through an equal distribution between men and women.

Below is the gender distribution regarding the key programme bodies:

- The Monitoring Committee of the programme is composed of representatives of both sexes (at the moment, 10 men and 21 women).
- The Joint Secretariat is composed of 8 women and 9 men;
- The Managing Authority is composed of 2 women and 2 men;
- The Territorial Facilitation network is composed of 6 women and 2 men.

9.3.Sustainable development (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 14(4), subparagraph 2, (e) of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013)

An assessment of the implementation of actions to take into account the principles set out in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 on sustainable development, including, where relevant, depending on the content and objectives of the cooperation programme, an overview of the actions taken to promote sustainable development in accordance with that Article

Sustainable development is promoted throughout the entire Cooperation Programme. In particular, 4 out of 7 Specific Objectives are targeting various aspects of the sustainable development, namely:

- S.O. 2.1 Increase the adoption of low-carbon technologies and applications in sectors that have the potential for a high reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
- S.O. 3.1. Improve the ecosystem-based capacity of 2 Seas stakeholders to climate change and its associated water-related effects
- S.O. 4.1. Increase the adoption of new solutions for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials
- S.O. 4.2 Increase the adoption of new circular economy solutions in the 2 Seas area

Furthermore, regardless of the chosen SO, all projects submitted have to answer to the following question: "Please indicate which type of contribution to the sustainable development applies to the project, and justify the choice". This is fully part of the project assessment when it comes to the selection (a specific question is included in the grid used by the Programme for the assessment of the projects, as follows: "The project makes a positive contribution to the promotion of equality and to sustainable development").

In 2018 the Programme kept approving projects under the so called "environmental axes" of the Cooperation Programme. Most of those projects have a direct or indirect effect with regards to the sustainable development principle.

In SO 2.1, these are among the key themes tackled by approved projects so far: reducing CO2 emission and increase the air quality in cities; reducing CO2 emission in the steel sector; adopting low carbon technologies at business clusters level; adopting of smart lighting to reduce CO2 emissions; implementing energy efficiency measures in ports. All can have a very positive impact on sustainable development.

The Programme has also selected a series of projects that are directly related to the climate change adaptation capacity under SO 3.1 touching the following topics: adaptation capacity of cities and densely built areas; adaptive capacity of cities to heavy rainfall, cost-effective, innovative actions to reduce flooding, coastal erosion fighting through dune management, drought resilience.

Finally, the projects approved under the axis 4 can have positive impacts on sustainable resource management, touching the following topics: accelerating the transition to a bio-economy in the horticultural sector; Introducing technologies, methods and tools for the use of dredging sediments as a resource into the practice of water managers; using bio stimulants and innovative sensors in horticulture to reduce the use of resources, re-using sanitation waste water; improving the management of the fish stock in order to decrease the use of marine resources, plastic recycling in cities.

As it can be seen from the examples provided above, the 2 Seas Programme is fully committed to the sustainable development principles and is concretely contributing to the achievement of the related objectives.

9.4. Reporting on support used for climate change objectives (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

Calculated amount of support to be used for climate change objectives based on the cumulative financial data by category of intervention in Table 7

| Priority axis | Amount of support to be used for climate change objectives (EUR) | Proportion of total allocation to the operational programme (%) |
|---------------|--|---|
| 1 | 1,125,840.26 | 1.04% |
| 2 | 33,367,322.63 | 65.01% |
| 3 | 34,064,822.19 | 88.49% |
| 4 | 9,611,273.83 | 22.03% |
| Total | 78,169,258.90 | 30.46% |

The Programme Specific Objective 3.1 is explicitly focussing on climate change. The specific objective reads as follows: "Improve the ecosystem-based capacity of 2 Seas stakeholders to climate change and its associated water-related effects. The main expected effects of climate change for which this Specific Objective aims to develop the area's adaptation capacity are:

- Sea level rise,
- Flooding (in both coastal and hinterland areas),
- Accelerated coastal erosion,
- Acidification of the marine waters
- Increasing water temperatures
- Increased occurrence of heavy rainfall and severe droughts

Concrete examples on the programme contribution are reported under section 9.3.

9.5 Role of partners in the implementation of the cooperation programme (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 14(4), subparagraph 1, (c) of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013)

Assessment of the implementation of actions to take into account the role of partners referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, including involvement of the partners in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the cooperation programme

The role of the partners did not change compared to the previous reporting period.

During the implementation of the Programme, active participation from all types of relevant partners is sought.

Firstly, it is carried out through the governance of the Programme. Indeed, the MC of the 2 Seas Programme is set to bring together representatives from both national and regional/local levels from the participating countries. In addition, an even broader involvement of the regional and local level, as well as economic, research and social partners and non-governmental organisations, represented where relevant by umbrella organisations, is ensured through a national group established in all participating countries according to their own procedures. This national group may cover issues going beyond 2 Seas issues and may even deal at a higher level with cohesion policy at large. Currently, the MS have established national sub committees as follows:

- United Kingdom: has established a Cross Border subcommittee with representatives from public authorities, universities and the environment agency as well as MHCLG representatives. The subcommittee meets approximately 2 weeks before a 2 Seas MC/STF or other relevant taskforces meeting. The partners' role is to provide advice and recommendations to the MC members attending the meeting.
- The Netherlands: the local and the regional governments are part of the “national advisory group” that consists of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, the provinces and representatives of the local governments in the provinces and are consulted prior to the meetings of the Monitoring Committee and the Strategic Task Force. The 4 provinces and the local governments secure the participation of different stakeholders (economic, research and social partners) as the provinces and cities have a good network with these types of organisations. The national advisory group structurally reflects with these stakeholders upon relevant developments concerning the 2 Seas programme and other relevant trends.
- Belgium/Flanders: The committee for 2 Seas takes the form of a working group/sub-committee that comprises the Flemish Region and the 3 Provincial governments that are covered by the programme area. The members, activities and work of the sub-committee are supported by a network of (thematic) experts and stakeholders from both public (local and provincial authorities, Flemish government, academia...) and private sector (NGO's, business support organisations, sector organisations...)
- France: a partnership of local, regional and national public authorities covering the French Programme area is actively participating to the design, implementation and monitoring of the programme. Those public authorities compose the French Institutional Committee, called “CIFI” (Comité Institutionnel Franco-Français) that consists of the representatives of the Hauts-de-France Regional council (acting as National Authority), 3 County Councils (Nord, Pas-de-Calais and Aisne), the Hauts-de-France Préfecture (regional representative of the French State), the PMCO (Pôle Métropolitain de la Côte d’Opale). The “CIFI” involves other stakeholders through the different networks of its members (network of thematic experts; ECGT). Thirdly, involvement of

partners will be ensured through the programme evaluation. This may take various forms and can be repeated several times during the programme implementation.

10. OBLIGATORY INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT ACCORDING TO ARTICLE 14(4), SUBPARAGRAPH 1 (A) AND (B), OF REGULATION (EU) No 1299/2013

10.1 Progress in implementation of the evaluation plan and the follow-up given to the findings of evaluations

Contrary to section 9 which includes preliminary outcome of the evaluation ongoing in 2019, this section contains only the results of the evaluation carried out in 2018.

As part of the last report foreseen under Programme evaluation subsequent contract n.2, evaluators have analysed the quality and reliability of data contained in a sample of projects Annual Progress Reports (APR), in particular when it comes to the outputs and specific results reported. Below the key conclusions and recommendations:

A) General overview

Conclusions: The analysis has been possible only for seven projects due to the actual implementation progress. The analysis shows that the project specific results of the seven projects contribute to achieving the main results of each specific objective. At present, since the projects reporting specific results are a limited number, it is not possible to provide a complete analysis. However, the projects specific results of the seven analysed projects contribute to the expected Programme benefits and at least partially comply with SMART criteria. This is an important finding on the usefulness of project data collection for impact evaluation.

Recommendations

- Future evaluation activities: Repeat the same analysis at least for other projects in SO 2.1, 4.1, 4.2.
- Project reporting and future evaluation activities: Make sure that the direct addressees reached by the projects (e.g. SMEs) cover all the relevant countries to ensure an adequate cross-border dimension.

Follow up given to the recommendations: both have been followed.

B) Smart assessment and focus on measurability

Conclusions: All the measured project specific results are ‘specific’ because they are in line with the expected benefits of the corresponding SO and relevant because they contribute to the Programme result indicators. For the criteria ‘achievable’ and ‘time-bound’, it is probably too early to formulate a general assessment, while for the measurability a few projects are performing in the right directions while others provide very broad definitions and methodologies. Specific suggestions and recommendations are provided for each project

Moreover, in two cases, APRs report project specific results while project outputs have not been achieved. This situation might be justified only for networking and knowledge benefits which are enabling socio-economic, environmental and governance ones.

Recommendations

- Project reporting: avoid reporting on specific results when output has not been achieved. The only piece

of information which could be provided is the description of the methodology of measurement of project specific results in the dedicate field of the APR “Modality of measurement”.

Follow up given to the recommendation: the recommendation has been followed. Projects are asked to report on the foreseen modality of measurement when a specific result is not achieved yet.

C) Contribution to the expected benefits for each SO

Conclusions: In SO 1.1,

- PROFIT contributes to knowledge benefits by promoting exchange of use and practices, governance benefits with specific results on policy making, and to socio-economic sphere increasing the business activity and capacity.
- ISE contributes to knowledge benefits by increasing capacity and skills and to economic benefits by increasing the business activity and capacity.

In SO 1.2,

- EDUCAT contributes to networking benefits, especially involving new type of partners and knowledge benefits, through the exchange and use of practices.
- 3D&FPP contributes to knowledge benefits, by the exchange and use of practices and by technological transfer, and socio-economic benefits, by increasing business activity/capacity (new products, processes, services, techniques).

In SO 1.3,

- PACE contributes to socio-economic benefits by increasing business activity/capacity (new products, processes, services, techniques).
- DWELL contributes to knowledge benefits, by creating/increasing skills and capacities.

In SO 3.1,

- TRIPLE-C contributes to governance and policy benefits, by influencing policy making, and environmental benefits, by climate change adaptation.

For SO 2.1, 4.1, 4.2, no projects have been analysed.

Recommendation

- Future evaluation activities: verify that the expected benefits are reflected in project specific results.

Follow up given to the recommendation: the recommendation is being followed. The SC 3 of the

programme evaluation foreseen a task on the quality and reliability of data from all APRs.

D) Role of the external factors

Conclusions: The analysis confirms the list of the external factors and includes Brexit, administrative changes and migration flows as potential aspects that can contribute to the changes in the programme area.

Recommendations

- Future evaluation activities: consider the possibility of verifying and ranking the list of external factors at project level (through case studies analysis) during impact evaluation.
- Programme monitoring: consider the possibility of using the questionnaire on result indicators to rank the relevance of external factors, in particular on the contribution to the change of other policy tools (e.g. other programmes).

Follow up given to the recommendations: both recommendations are being followed.

| Status | Name | Fund | Year of finalizing evaluation | Type of evaluation | Thematic objective | Topic | Findings (in case of execution) | Follow up (in case of execution) |
|--------|------|------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|--------|------|------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|

10.2 The results of the information and publicity measures of the Funds carried out under the communication strategy

The 2018 information and publicity measures were again mainly aimed at the generation of new projects and the guidance of the organisations involved in the approved projects.

Many information events, training, crossborder seminars were directly carried out by the Programme. The main purpose of these events was to inform potential applicants and to train them in order to ensure good quality of project proposals. Besides the numerous applicants' seminars, the Programme kept promoting webinars on specific topics. A new live webinar was launched and targeted to Lead Partners of approved projects; the webinar was focus on how to draft quality Annual Progress Report. The results of the webinar were also collected in a question&answer document which was then shared with approved projects.

The Programme staff also participated to a series of the external events to raise the awareness on the Programme opportunities for potential beneficiaries. The exact amount is reported under the priority axis 5 indicators section.

The bulk of the activity carried out under communication corresponds to the first Programme Communication objective as described in the Interreg 2 Seas Communication strategy: “To ensure the generation and quality of cross-border cooperation projects aiming to achieve the Programme's objectives.”

11. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE ADDED DEPENDING ON THE CONTENT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 14(4), SUBPARAGRAPH 2 (A), (B), (C) AND (F), OF REGULATION (EU) No 1299/2013)

11.1. Progress in the implementation of the integrated approach to territorial development, including integrated territorial investments, sustainable urban development, and community led local development under the cooperation programme

The use of specific instruments related to integrated approaches, in particular community-led local development instruments, did not appear appropriate for the achievement of the specific objectives within this cross-border cooperation area for the following reasons:

- the size of projects partnerships and their geographical representativeness within the eligible area calls into question the relevance of local development groups and the establishment of dedicated strategies
- the local territorial dimension of most of the selected thematic objectives is relatively low.

11.2 Progress in implementation of actions to reinforce the capacity of authorities and beneficiaries to administer and to use the ERDF

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11.3 Contribution to macro-regional and sea basin strategies (where appropriate)

As stipulated by the Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013, recital 19, article 8(3)(d) on the "Content, adoption and amendment of cooperation programmes" and article 14(4) 2nd subparagraph (c) "Implementation reports", this programme contributes to MRS(s) and/or SBS:

- EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)
- EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)
- EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR)
- EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP)
- Atlantic Sea Basin Strategy (ATLSBS)

Priority(s) and objective(s) that the programme is relevant to:

| | Priority | Objective |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1 - Promote entrepreneurship and innovation | 1.1 - Sharing knowledge between higher education organisations, companies and research centers |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1 - Promote entrepreneurship and innovation | 1.2 - Enhancement of competitiveness and innovation capacities in the maritime economy of the Atlantic area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 - Promote entrepreneurship and innovation | 1.3 - Fostering adaptation and diversification of economic activities by promoting the potential of the Atlantic area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 - Protect, secure and develop the potential of the Atlantic marine and coastal environment | 2.1 - Improving maritime safety and security |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2 - Protect, secure and develop the potential of the Atlantic marine and coastal environment | 2.2 - Exploring and protecting marine waters and coastal zones |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2 - Protect, secure and develop the potential of the Atlantic marine and coastal environment | 2.3 - Sustainable management of marine resources |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2 - Protect, secure and develop the potential of the Atlantic marine and coastal environment | 2.4 - Exploitation of the renewable energy potential of the Atlantic area's marine and coastal environment |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 3 - Improve accessibility and connectivity | 3.1 - Promoting cooperation between ports |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 4 - Create a socially inclusive and sustainable model of regional development | 4.1 - Fostering better knowledge of social challenges in the Atlantic area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 - Create a socially inclusive and sustainable model of regional development | 4.2 - Preserving and promoting the Atlantic's cultural heritage |

Actions or mechanisms used to better link the programme with the Atlantic SBS

A. Are the Sea Basin Strategic coordinators (mainly National Coordinators, Priority Area Coordinators or members, and/or Objective coordinators or members) participating in the Monitoring Committee of the programme?

Yes No

B. In selection criteria, have extra points been attributed to specific measures supporting the ATLSBS?

Yes No

C. Has the programme invested EU funds in the ATLSBS?

Yes No

Does your programme plan to invest in the EUSAIR in the future? Please elaborate (1 specific sentence)

Considering its geography, the 2 Seas Programme does not plan to invest directly in the ATLSBS, it will always be an indirect contribution.

D. Obtained results in relation to the ATLSBS (n.a. for 2016)

The Programme is contributing to the ATLSBS PRIORITY 1, on sharing knowledge between higher education organisations, companies and research centres, through the projects approved under SO 1.1 and 1.2; ATLSBS PRIORITY 2 on exploring and protecting marine waters and coastal zones (global climate change issues, including mitigation and adaptation strategies)/ notably through the approved projects under SO 3.1. on sustainable management of marine resources, through projects approved under SO 4.1 and 4.2 to ATLSBS PRIORITY 4, on fostering better knowledge of social challenges in the Atlantic area, through projects approved under SO 1.3.

11.4 Progress in the implementation of actions in the field of social innovation

One of the Specific Objectives of the Programme is about the development of social efficient and effective local services to address the key societal challenges in the 2 Seas area.

By the end of 2018, the Programme has selected 9 projects under this Specific Objective. They all focus on different key societal challenges, namely active aging, chronic disease treatment, affordable childcare, refugees' integration, health and wellbeing. They tackle their respective challenges through a clear innovative and participative approach fully in line with the social innovation concept.

The projects are entering now in their implementation phase and are likely to deliver interesting results in the coming year.

13. SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Information and assessment of the programme contribution to achieving the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

The 2 Seas Cooperation Programme is fully in line with the smart, sustainable and inclusive growth objectives by its very nature. This was ensured during the Programme preparation and notably through the Cooperation Programme drafting that was scrutinised all along the process by a thorough ex ante evaluation.

The 3 pillars of the EU 2020 strategy are covered by the approved projects so far, with the contribution to the smart and the sustainable growth showing a stronger dynamic compared to the inclusive growth which is natural considering the Programme intervention logic (only 1 out of 7 Specific Objective of the Programme is clearly related to the inclusive growth objective).

The Programme evaluations carried out so far showed that the Programme theory of change is confirmed in the approved projects and their expected outputs and results (see first results of the Programme effectiveness evaluation reported in section 4 and 9).

Moreover, it is important to highlight that both project reporting and evaluations are adopting the programme benefit mapping, which foresees five categories: networking benefits, knowledge benefits, socio-economic benefits, governance and policy benefits, environmental benefits. This categorisation will be used by project to report on their results and as a starting point of the programme impact evaluation. Socio-economic benefits are mainly related to two key priorities of Europe 2020, 'smart growth' and 'inclusive growth', to which the programme is expected to contribute. Environmental benefits are related to sustainable growth priorities. All the other categories are cross-cutting the EU growth priorities.

14. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND MEASURES TAKEN — PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

Where the assessment of progress made with regard to the milestones and targets set out in the performance framework demonstrates that certain milestones and targets have not been achieved, Member States should outline the underlying reasons for failure to achieve these milestones in the report of 2019 (for milestones) and in the final implementation report (for targets).

The assessment of the 2018 milestone is positive for almost all key implementation steps and financial indicators, and this despite the elements reported under section 5.

When it comes to the underperforming key implementation step, this is the case only for OI 4.1.2. In this case, the programme has reached the total value of 8. Considering that the milestone was set at 11, this means this key implementation step is underperforming and reaching only 73% of the target. The reason of the underperformance is clearly linked to the difficulty in selecting projects under axis 4. However, the extent of the underperformance should be put in the perspective of the current situation of the programming. Indeed, when one considers the projects approved in January 2019, the underperformance of this key implementation step would already decrease, since it would reach 81% of the milestone target. It can be seen that data are in full evolution since we are talking about small amount in absolute terms and one or two extra output would make the difference in achieving the milestone.

This said, there is an objective difficulty in committing all the axis 4 budget and reaching all targets as set for this priority axis at this stage. The Programme evaluators are suggesting in their draft report, still under discussion, mainly three options, namely:

1. **Accelerate the application and selection of projects in Priority Axis 4**, in particular for SO 4.1. In this regard, SO 4.2 could, at least partially, compensate for the underperformance of SO 4.1.
2. **Revise the targets** for SO 4.1;
3. **Reallocate some resources** to better performing priorities.

These suggestions are contained in the draft reports on the Programme effectiveness and performance as part of the Programme evaluation SC n. 3. The draft reports will be discussed in the Evaluation Task Force scheduled for the 21 June 2019. The Monitoring Committee scheduled for November this year will take eventually any decisions on the matter. One of the option would be to reallocate part of the axis 4 budget. However, it should also be considered that calls 7 and 8 are still open and could change the global picture.

When it comes to the underperforming financial milestones, this concerns axis 3 and 4.

Axis 3 underperforms in as much as it reaches 97% of the target.

Axis 4 underperforms in as much as it reaches 88% of the target.

In terms of regulations, these are not considered as "serious failure". Furthermore, if one considers all the expenditures reported in the January 2019 claims (therefore including only costs incurred and paid in 2018) but not yet included in an Interim Payment Claim (therefore not certified by the European Commission), axis 3 and

4 would reach and overpass 100% of the financial milestone. The reason why some of those expenditures is not yet included in an IPC can be manifold, but it generally relates to pending documents from projects (e.g. projects having done major modifications need to send a revised signed partnership agreement before any further payment can be released) and do not concern the eligibility of those expenditure.

DOCUMENTS

| Document title | Document type | Document date | Local reference | Commission reference | Files | Sent date | Sent By |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| 2 Seas AIR 2018 | Citizens' summary | 17-Jun-2019 | 2 Seas AIR 2018 | | 2 Seas AIR_2018_citizens_summary | | |

