

Projects expected specific results

Categories and subcategory per S.O.

In the framework of the 2 Seas Programme evaluation, external evaluators and the Programme authorities and partners have worked on the unpacking of the Programme's theory of change.

This allowed to further define the expected projects' specific results starting from the Programme expected results defined for each Specific Objective. The work carried out resulted in a **specific results matrix** that has been **embedded in the Project's Annual Progress Report** template. Projects are free to report outside the predefined categories (by choosing "other") but it is expected that most of the reported specific results will fall in one or more categories as defined in the matrix below.

To understand the reasoning that led the Programme to define the matrix, it is reported an extract from the Programme evaluation report developed in the framework of the Programme evaluation.

If you want to see how the Programme came to the matrix reported at page 2, you can read page 3 to 22 of this document.

Category	Result / benefit	Specific Objectives						
		1.1	1.2	1.3	2.1	3.1	4.1	4.2
Networking	Involvement of new types of partners	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Development of clusters	X				X		X
	New forms of cooperation and partnerships	X	X	X	X		X	X
Knowledge	Exchange and use of practices	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Created/increased skills and capacities	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Increased awareness		X		X	X	X	X
	Technological transfer	X	X					
	Behavioural change in stakeholders			X	X	X	X	X
Governance and policy	Influence on policy making	X		X	X		X	X
	Improved governance quality and capacity	X				X	X	X
	Removal of barriers to cooperation	X		X	X	X		X
Socio-economic	Triggered investments		X	X	X		X	
	Increased jobs		X	X	X		X	X
	Increased employability		X	X	X		X	X
	Improved health and general living conditions		X	X		X		
	Increased business activity / capacity (new products, processes, services, techniques)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Cost savings		X	X	X	X	X	X
	Improved services	X	X	X				X
	Patent applications		X					
Environmental	Eco-efficiency (energy efficiency, waste reduction, sustainable management of natural resources)	X	X		X		X	X
	Reduction of pressure on marine and land ecosystems and water consumption		X		X		X	
	Climate change adaptation					X	X	
	Climate change mitigation				X		X	
	Other environmental benefits					X	X	

1 Theory of change of each specific objective (sources: Programme external evaluators)

This section sets out the theory of change of the Programme seven specific objectives focusing on the following blocks: needs, Programme operations, outputs, Programme contribution, external factors, Programme expected results. The content of each building block is detailed below. The main sources are: the Programme document, the ex-ante evaluation and the benefit mapping conducted in sub-task 1.1.c of Task 1 of the ongoing evaluation which has been considered to enrich what is reported in the section of the Programme 'The results, which the Member States seek to achieve with EU support'. Further explanatory elements on the building blocks of the theory of change are provided in Annex I, illustrating the key concepts defined in the DG Regio Guidance document on monitoring and evaluation (see Annex I).

Figure 1 Blocks of theory of change of each specific objective



Needs, i.e. territorial challenges representing the main justification for ensuring a cross-border intervention in the Two Seas Programme area;

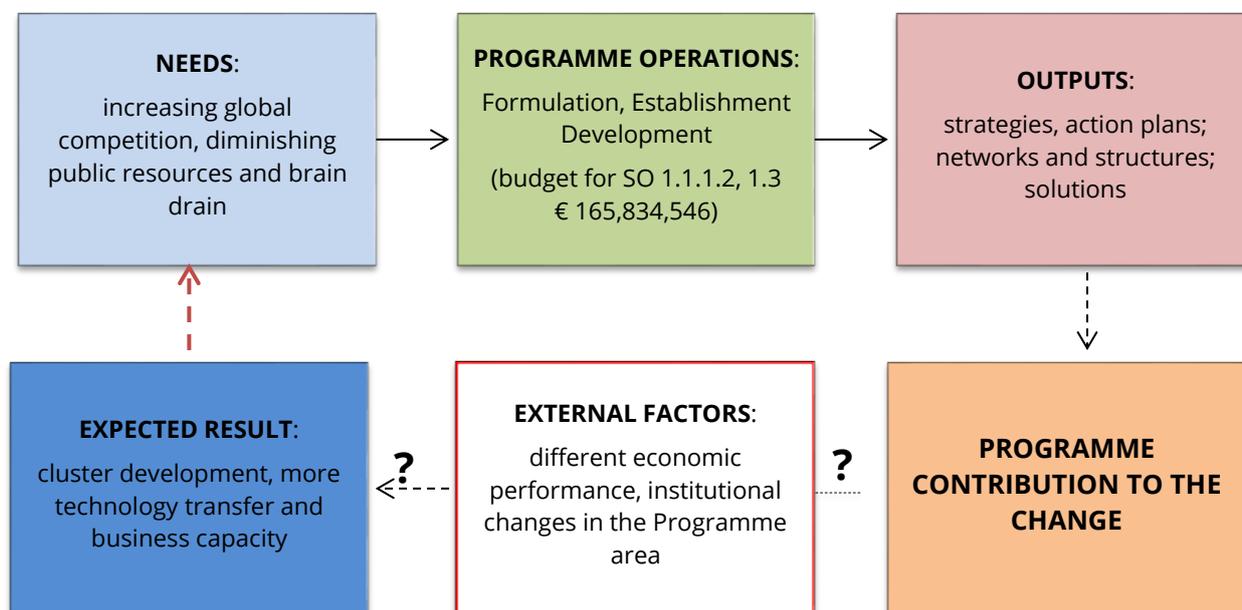
- **Programme operations**, referring to the actions financed by the Programme, budget allocation, delivery mechanisms (grant), type of beneficiaries and type of Programme operations as reported in the Programme document. Programme operations are useful to reach the Programme results and thus address the needs justifying Programme intervention;
- **Outputs**, referring to the products of Programme operations and thus to first direct contribution of the Programme to the desired change. Programme outputs are measured by Programme output indicators;
- **Programme contribution to the change**, regarding the types of change foreseen in the Programme and the expected project results / benefits;
- **External factors**, encompassing other factors not under the Programme control which can affect the Programme effectiveness and impact;
- **Programme expected results**, consisting in the change sought in the Programme area after the Programme implementation.

An illustrative fiche is provided for each specific objective.

1.1 Specific objective 1.1

SO 1.1 'Improve the framework conditions for the delivery of innovation, in relation to smart specialisation'

Figure 2 Theory of change of SO 1.1



Needs - 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, like 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 - For the entire priority axis 1 (SO 1.1, 1.2, 1.3) the total funding reaches € 165,834,546 which are spent through non repayable grants. Three types of actions can be supported: 'Formulation of common strategies', 'Establishment of joint tools, networks, platforms, services, pilot actions' and 'Development of support actions to SMEs'. Beneficiaries encompass public or public equivalent stakeholders (at local and regional scales) in charge of developing and delivering innovation policies. Improved framework conditions are envisaged to benefit all the key stakeholders of the innovation chain across the Two Seas area.

Outputs - 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:

- Number of joint strategies and action plans developed to improve the framework conditions for innovation (OI 1.1.1);
- Number of networks and structures established or enlarged to improve the framework conditions for innovation (OI 1.1.2);
- Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the framework conditions for innovation (OI 1.1.3).

Expected Programme contribution (benefits) to the results The Programme is expected to contribute to reinforcing the framework conditions for innovation by: stimulating the cooperation of public and private stakeholders, civil society and research entities according to the ‘quadruple helix’ paradigm; introducing and adopting common approaches, collaboration arrangements, joint structures and policy tools supporting capacity for delivering innovation in relation to smart specialisation. The benefit mapping carried out in Task 1 of the ongoing evaluation has identified the following expected SO 1.1 project results / benefits:

- Networking related benefits, originating 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-related benefits as increased skills and capacities for stakeholders in the innovation chain, technological transfer and the exchange of good practice across borders;
- Governance and policy benefits, encompassing influence on policy making, improved governance quality and capacity as well as a direct contribution to reducing (removing) barriers to cooperation in the field of innovation;
- Socio-economic benefits encompass improved services for international firms, new business opportunities;
- Environmental benefits refer to gains in energy efficiency.

Table 1 Expected project and Programme results – SO 1.1

Expected project results / benefits		Programme expected result and Programme contribution
Category	Result / benefit	Programme expected result
Networking	Involvement of new types of partners	<p>The improved framework conditions for innovation will lead to: increased capacities for technology transfer, development of clusters and increased capacities of innovative companies to engage in international activities.</p> <p>Programme contribution to the Programme result</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ stimulating the cooperation of public and private stakeholders, civil society and research entities according to the “quadruple helix” paradigm ➢ introducing and adopting common approaches, collaboration arrangements, joint structures and policy tools supporting capacity for delivering innovation, in relation to smart specialisation.
	Development of clusters	
	New forms of cooperation and partnerships	
Knowledge	Exchange and use of practices	
	Created/increased skills and capacities	
	Technological transfer	
Governance and policy	Influence on policy making	
	Improved governance quality and capacity	
	Removal of barriers to cooperation	
Socio-economic	Increased business activity / capacity (new products, processes, services, techniques)	
	Improved services	
Environmental	Eco-efficiency (energy efficiency, waste reduction, sustainable management of natural resources)	

Source: Own elaborations based on Programme document and sub-task 1.1.c

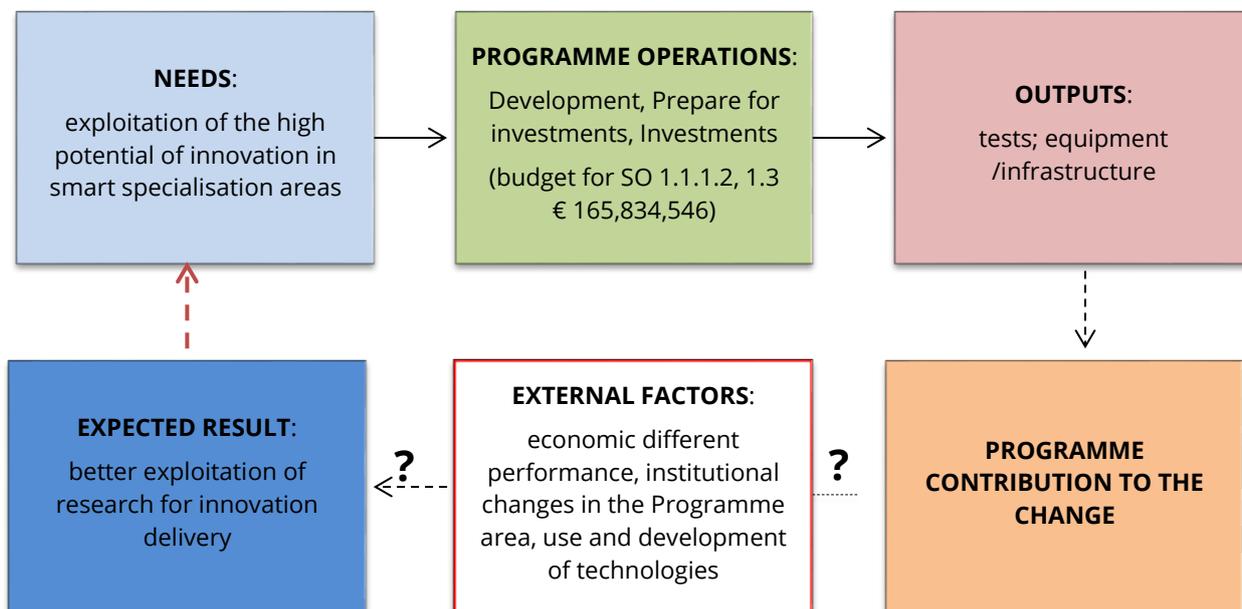
External factors - The ex-ante evaluation has identified key external factors that could affect the impact of the SO. First of all, despite better economic conditions than the EU average, different national and regional economic performance could affect the supply and demand patterns of innovation. Furthermore, the changing institutional context, e.g. the Brexit referendum, regional institutional reorganisation in some countries, other EU or national policies may create/remove new barriers to cooperation at cross-border level.

Expected results - The expected results of the SO are cluster development, increased technology transfer and increased capacity of businesses to engage in international activities.

1.2 Specific objective 1.2

SO 1.2 'Increase the delivery of innovation in smart specialisation sectors'

Figure 3 Theory of change of SO 1.2



Needs – 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 specific objective 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.

Programme operations – For the entire priority axis 1 (SO 1.1, 1.2, 1.3) the total funding is € 165,834,546 which are spent through non repayable grants. SO 1.2 invests in three types of actions: 'Development of applied research, product validation actions and pilots', 'Preparation for investments' and 'Investments'. Beneficiaries include technology parks, clusters, incubators, business sector stakeholders, regional authorities, chambers of commerce, research centres, civil society.

Outputs - The aforementioned types of operations are expected to produce tests / pilots and small-scale equipment and infrastructure outputs, which are measured by the following Programme specific output indicators:

- Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the delivery of technological innovation (OI 1.2.1);
- Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the delivery of technological innovation partly or entirely supported by the operations (OI 1.2.2).

Furthermore, the Programme has included two common output indicators from the annex of EU Reg. 1299/2013:

- Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, or interregional research projects (OI 1.2.3);

- Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, trans-national or interregional research projects (OI 1.2.4).

Expected Programme contribution (benefits) to the results - The Programme is expected to contribute to increasing the delivery of innovation in smart specialisation sectors by: enhancing technology transfer, testing and developing pilot actions; promoting a tighter, more effective and operational cooperation among the key stakeholders of innovation. The benefit mapping carried out in Task 1 of the evaluation has identified the following expected SO 1.2 project results / benefits:

- Networking, originating from the activation and stimulation of cooperation among quadruple helix stakeholders, new forms and types of partners and partnerships;
- Knowledge, e.g. increased skills and capacities of stakeholders in the innovation chain, increased awareness, technological transfer and exchange and use of practices (uptake) by SMEs;
- Socio-economic benefits, such as improved services, new products, cost savings, patent applications, increased jobs and employability, triggered investments and improved health and living conditions;
- Environmental benefits such as eco-efficiency (e.g. energy efficiency) and reduced pressure on natural resources.

Table 2 Expected project and Programme results – SO 1.2

Expected project results / benefits		Programme expected result and Programme contribution
Category	Result / benefit	
Networking	Involvement of new types of partners	<p>Programme expected result</p> <p>The Programme supports a better exploitation of research outcomes for the development of new technologies / products / services generating an impact on key sectors of shared interest identified in smart specialisation strategies.</p> <p>Programme contribution to the Programme result</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ enhancing technology transfer; ➢ testing and developing pilot actions; ➢ promoting a tighter, more effective and operational cooperation among the key stakeholders of innovation.
	New forms of cooperation and partnerships	
Knowledge	Exchange and use of practices	
	Created/increased skills and capacities	
	Increased awareness	
	Technological transfer	
Socio-economic	Triggered investments	
	Increased jobs	
	Increased employability	
	Improved health and general living conditions	
	Increased business activity / capacity (new products, processes, services, techniques)	
	Cost savings	
	Improved services	
Patent applicants		
Environmental	Eco-efficiency (energy efficiency, waste reduction, sustainable management of natural resources)	
	Reduction of pressure on marine and land ecosystems and water consumption	

Source: Own elaborations based on Programme document and sub-task 1.1.c

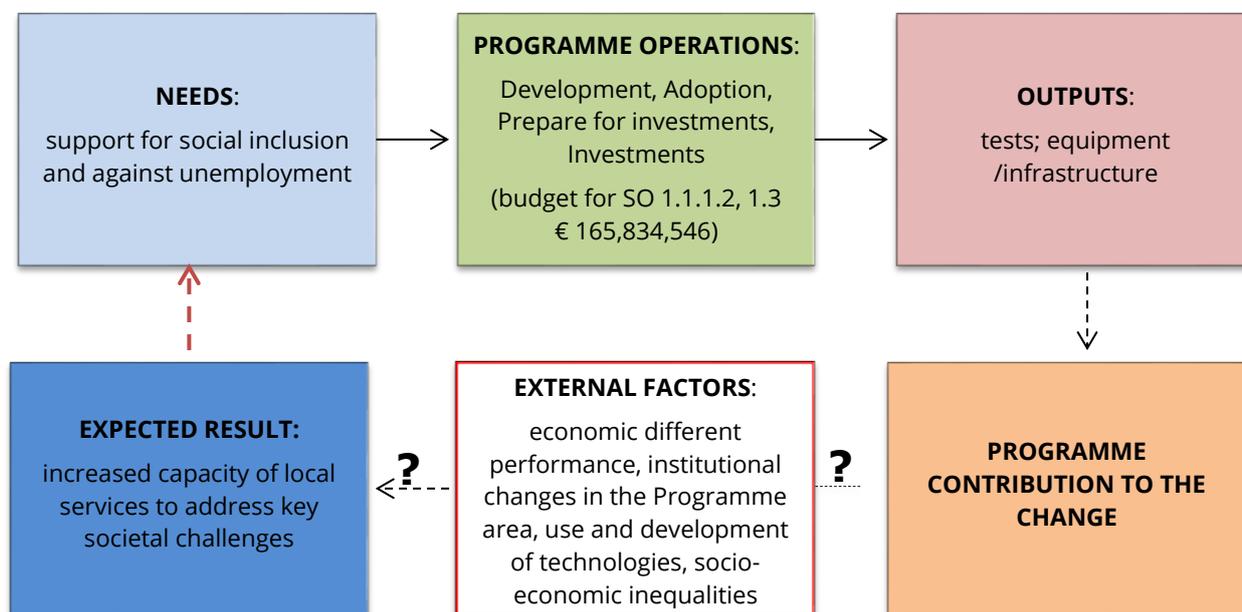
External factors - The ex-ante evaluation identified some key external factors. First of all, all factors identified for SO 1.1 are relevant for SO 1.2. Moreover, since SO 1.2 focuses on technology transfer, a factor affecting the delivery of innovation is the use and development of technology (e.g. ICT, maritime technology), in particular related to smart specialisation domains.

Expected results - The expected result of this SO is better exploitation of research outcomes for the development of new technologies / products / services in smart specialisation fields.

1.3 Specific objective 1.3

SO 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'

Figure 4 Theory of change of SO 1.3



Needs – 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).

Programme operations– For the entire priority axis 1 (SO 1.1, 1.2, 1.3) the total funding is €165,834,546 which are spent through non repayable grants. The SO encompasses four types of actions: ‘Development of pilot actions and tests’, ‘Adoption of new joint solutions’, ‘Preparation for investments, and ‘Investments’. Beneficiaries encompass: public stakeholders (local and regional) which are in charge of developing and delivering social innovation and welfare policies, as well as social enterprises and more generally the third sector. The change will benefit all the stakeholders of social and local services as, for example, social enterprises, business sector organisations, public bodies, chambers of commerce, research centres, civil society.

Outputs - 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, the Programme proposes two Programme specific output indicators:

- Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the delivery of technological innovation (OI 1.3.1);
- Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the delivery of technological innovation partly or entirely supported by the operations (OI 1.3.2);

and two common output indicators from the annex of EU Reg. 1299/2013:

- Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, or interregional research projects (OI 1.3.3);
- Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, trans-national or interregional research projects (OI 1.3.4).

Expected Programme contribution (benefits) to the results - The Programme is expected to contribute to developing social innovation applications by: exploiting and adopting the results of research; the involvement of the third sector and social enterprises, private and public sector. The benefit mapping carried out in Task 1 of the evaluation has identified the following expected project results / benefits for SO 1.3:

- Networking, originating from the activation and stimulation of cooperation among quadruple helix stakeholders, new forms and types of partners and partnerships;
- Knowledge, e.g. increased skills and capacities of stakeholders in the innovation chain, technological transfer and behavioural change of stakeholders in the field of social innovation investments;
- Governance and policy, since projects have the potential to influence policy making and remove barriers to cooperation in the field of social innovation;
- Socio-economic benefits regarding service provision and economic opportunities. For service provision, benefits encompass new/improved services and increased efficiency (cost savings), while economic opportunities refer to triggered investments, increased jobs and increased employability and improved health and living conditions.

Table 3 Expected project and Programme results – SO 1.3

Expected project results / benefits		Programme expected result and Programme contribution
Category	Result / benefit	
Networking	Involvement of new types of partners	<p>Programme expected result</p> <p>The Programme supports the increased capacity in terms of efficiency and effectiveness of local services to address the key societal challenges in the 2 Seas area.</p> <p>Programme contribution to the Programme result</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ exploiting and adopting the results of research; ➤ involving the third sector and social enterprises, private and public sector.
	New forms of cooperation and partnerships	
Knowledge	Exchange and use of practices	
	Created/increased skills and capacities	
	Behavioural change in stakeholders	
Governance and policy	Influence on policy making	
	Removal of barriers to cooperation	
Socio-economic	Triggered investments	
	Increased jobs	
	Increased employability	
	Improved health and general living conditions	
	Increased business activity / capacity (new products, processes, services, techniques)	
	Cost savings	
Improved services		

Source: Own elaborations based on Programme document and sub-task 1.1.c

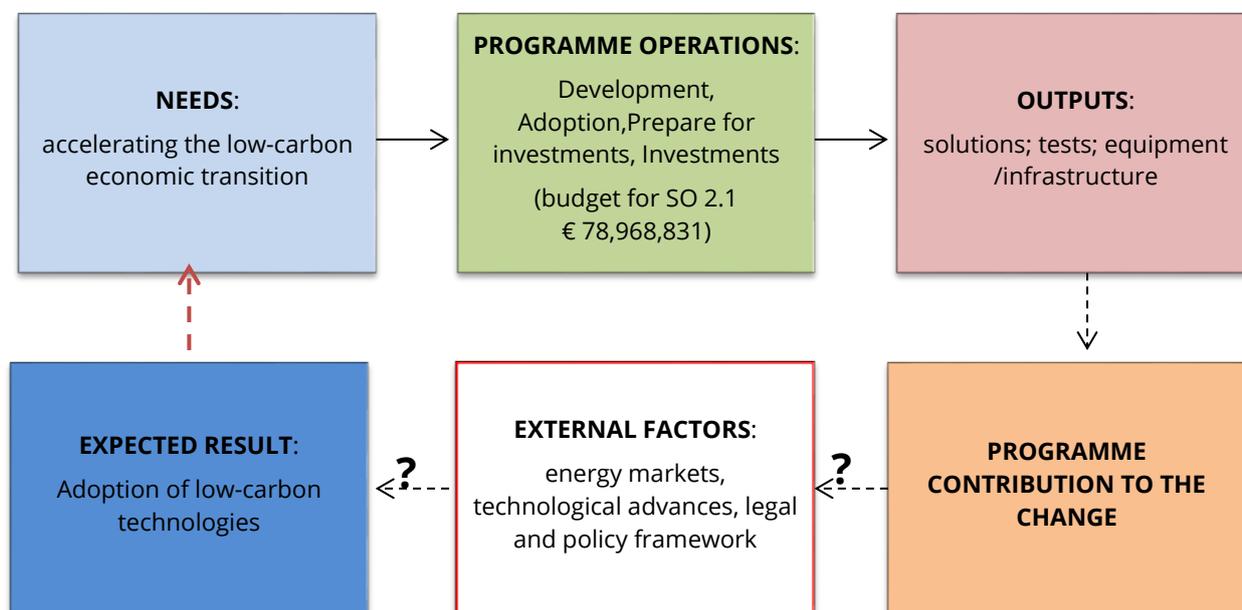
External factors - In addition to external factors already mentioned under SO 1.1 and 1.2, there is the risk of continued public budget reduction for social services and high socio-economic inequalities which might represent two challenges respectively on the supply and demand side.

Expected results - The expected result is increased efficiency and effectiveness of local services to address key societal challenges in the Two Seas area.

1.4 Specific objective 2.1

SO 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'

Figure 5 Theory of change of SO 2.1



Needs – 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 operations – For the entire priority axis 2 (including only SO 2.1) the total funding reaches €78,968,831 which are spent through non repayable grants. The SO encompasses four types of actions: 'Development of pilot actions and tests', 'Adoption of new joint solutions', 'Preparation for investments, and 'Investments'. Beneficiaries refer to all the relevant entities and stakeholders that could directly benefit from the services, improved conditions, economic opportunities such as: businesses, research institutes, knowledge institutes and public sector.

Outputs - Programme outputs encompass new tests/pilots, solutions and small-scale equipment and infrastructure measured through the following Programme specific output indicators:

- Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to increase the adoption of low carbon technologies (OI 2.1.1);
- Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented related to the adoption of low-carbon technologies (OI 2.1.2);
- Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to the adoption of low carbon technologies partly or entirely supported by the operations (OI 2.1.3).

Expected Programme contribution (benefits) to the results -- The Programme is expected to contribute to the spread of innovative low-carbon technologies by enhancing the uptake of state-of-the art solutions; testing and demonstration of these technologies and applications to pave the way for their wider uptake; promoting a closer, more effective and operational cooperation of businesses, knowledge institutes and public sector. The benefit mapping carried out in Task 1 of the evaluation has identified the following expected SO 2.1 project results / benefits:

- Networking, originating from the activation and stimulation of cooperation among quadruple helix stakeholders, new forms and types of partners and partnerships;
- Knowledge, e.g. increased skills and capacities of stakeholders, created/increased skills and capacities, increased awareness and behavioural change of stakeholders in the field of the adoption of low-carbon technologies;
- Governance and policy, since projects can potentially 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 low-carbon emission technologies.

Table 4 Expected project and Programme results – SO 2.1

Expected project results / benefits		Programme expected result and Programme contribution
Category	Result / benefit	
Networking	Involvement of new types of partners	Programme expected result An increased adoption of low-carbon technologies and application is expected to reduce carbon dependency and GHG emissions of the 2 Seas area. Programme contribution to the Programme result ➤ enhancing the uptake of state-of-the art solutions; ➤ testing and demonstration of these technologies and applications to pave the way for their wider uptake; ➤ promoting a closer, more effective and operational cooperation of businesses, knowledge institutes and public sector
	New forms of cooperation and partnerships	
Knowledge	Exchange and use of practices	
	Created/increased skills and capacities	
	Increased awareness	
	Behavioural change in stakeholders	
Governance and policy	Influence on policy making	
	Removal of barriers to cooperation	
Socio-economic	Triggered investments	
	Increased jobs	
	Increased employability	
	Increased business activity / capacity (new products, processes, services, techniques)	
	Cost savings	
Environmental	Eco-efficiency (energy efficiency, waste reduction, sustainable management of natural resources)	
	Reduction of pressure on marine and land ecosystems and water consumption	
	Climate change mitigation	

Source: Own elaborations based on Programme document and sub-task 1.1.c

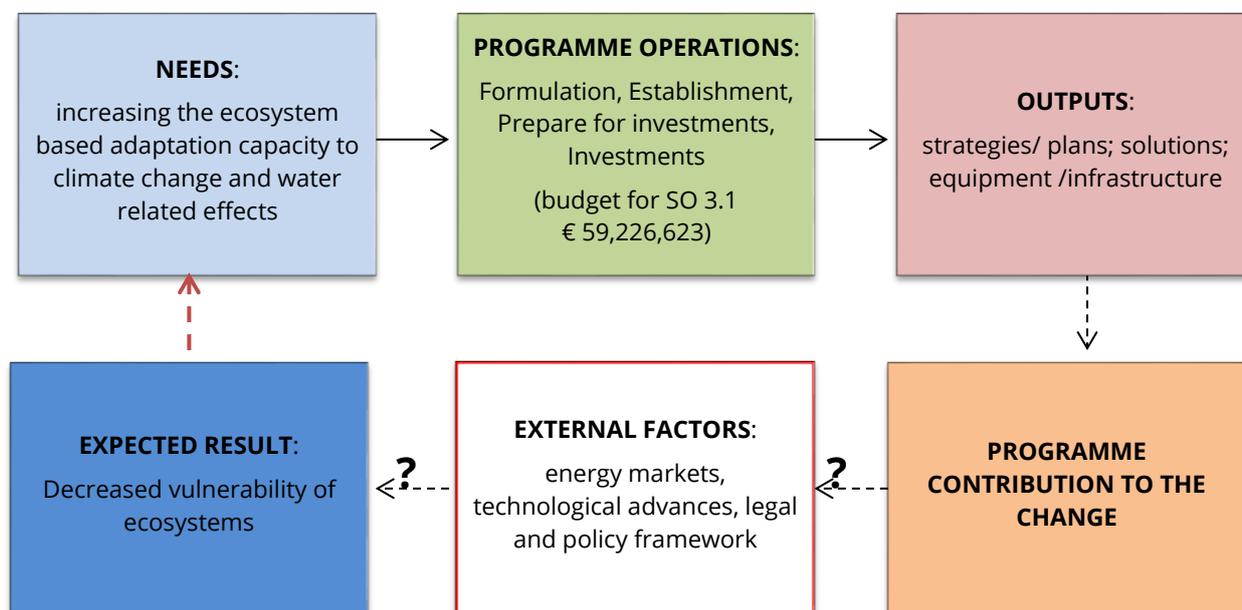
External factors - The main external factors potentially affecting implementation of SO 2.1 are: the uncertainty of energy markets (fluctuation of oil price can impact investments in renewable energy), the legal political framework (climate change agreements), technological advances, general economic development conditions, as well as the specific performance of sectors directly targeted by SO 2.1. For instance, low-carbon investments represent an opportunity of re-orientation and technological development for the building sector, which has suffered from the recent economic crisis.

Expected results - The expected result is the increased adoption of low-carbon technologies.

1.5 Specific objective 3.1

SO 3.1 'Improve the ecosystem-based capacity of 2 Seas stakeholders to climate change and its associated water-related effects'

Figure 6 Theory of change of SO 3.1



Needs – 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 – For the entire priority axis 3 (including only SO 3.1) the total funding reaches € 59,226,623 which are spent through non repayable grants. The SO encompasses four types of actions: 'Formulation of common strategies/ protocols', 'Establishment of common measures/campaigns', 'Preparation for investments', and 'Investments'. Beneficiaries of operations refer to all the stakeholders dealing with climate change issues (local and regional authorities, emergency services and coast guard centres, universities and research centres, communities, local population, businesses park and area potentially affected by the effect of climate change).

Outputs – Programme operations are expected to produce new strategies/action plans, solutions and small-scale equipment and infrastructure measured by the following Programme specific output indicators:

- Number of strategies and action plans developed to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects (OI 3.1.1);
- Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established to improve the adaptation capacity to climate change and its water-related effects (OI 3.1.2);
- 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 (OI 3.1.3).

Programme contribution to the change - The Programme is expected to contribute to the ecosystem based capacity by: increasing the awareness on the potential consequences of climate change; enabling stakeholders in the area to develop a collective approach which will be integrated into spatial planning (notably of coastal areas and including marine spatial planning) and (innovative) solutions for environmental and economic resilience and integrated management of coastal zones (ICZM); improving the coherence and coordination between adaptation strategies and actions, and the mechanisms for the crossborder exchange of information and data related to climate change expected effects. The benefit mapping carried out in Task 1 of the evaluation has identified the following expected SO 3.1 project results / benefits:

- Networking, originating from the involvement of new types of partners and the development of clusters;
- Knowledge, e.g. increased skills and capacities of stakeholders, created/increased skills and capacities, increased awareness and behavioural change of stakeholders which are crucial for improving the ecosystem-based capacity of 2 Seas stakeholders to climate change and its associated water-related effects;
- Governance and policy benefits, since projects can potentially reduce barriers to coordination at cross-border level and improve governance (in particular related to spatial planning and coastal zone management);
- Socio-economic benefits relate to costs savings and improved health and general living conditions of people benefit from fewer damage and floods and increased resilience of built environment and infrastructure. This can benefit business sector activity and the development of innovations;
- Environmental benefits constitute the core benefits of the SO and regard climate change adaptation (increased ecosystem resilience and ecosystem-based adaptation).

Table 5 Expected project and Programme results – SO 3.1

Expected project results / benefits		Programme expected result and Programme contribution
Category	Result / benefit	
Networking	Involvement of new types of partners	<p>Programme expected result</p> <p>The SO is expected to reduce damage to, and increase resilience of, the built environment and other infrastructures, decrease future pressure on water resources, result in better and more robust flood and coastal defences, protect biodiversity and decrease the vulnerability of ecosystems in order to increase ecosystem resilience and enable ecosystem-based adaptation.</p> <p>Programme contribution to the Programme result</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increasing the awareness on the potential consequences of climate change; ➤ Enabling stakeholders in the area to develop a collective approach ➤ Improving the coherence and coordination between adaptation strategies and actions
	Development of clusters	
Knowledge	Exchange and use of practices	
	Created/increased skills and capacities	
	Increased awareness	
	Behavioural change in stakeholders	
Governance and policy	Improved governance quality and capacity	
	Removal of barriers to cooperation	
Socio-economic	Improved health and general living conditions	
	Increased business activity / capacity (new products, processes, services, techniques)	
	Cost savings	
Environmental	Climate change adaptation	

Source: Own elaborations based on Programme document and sub-task 1.1.c

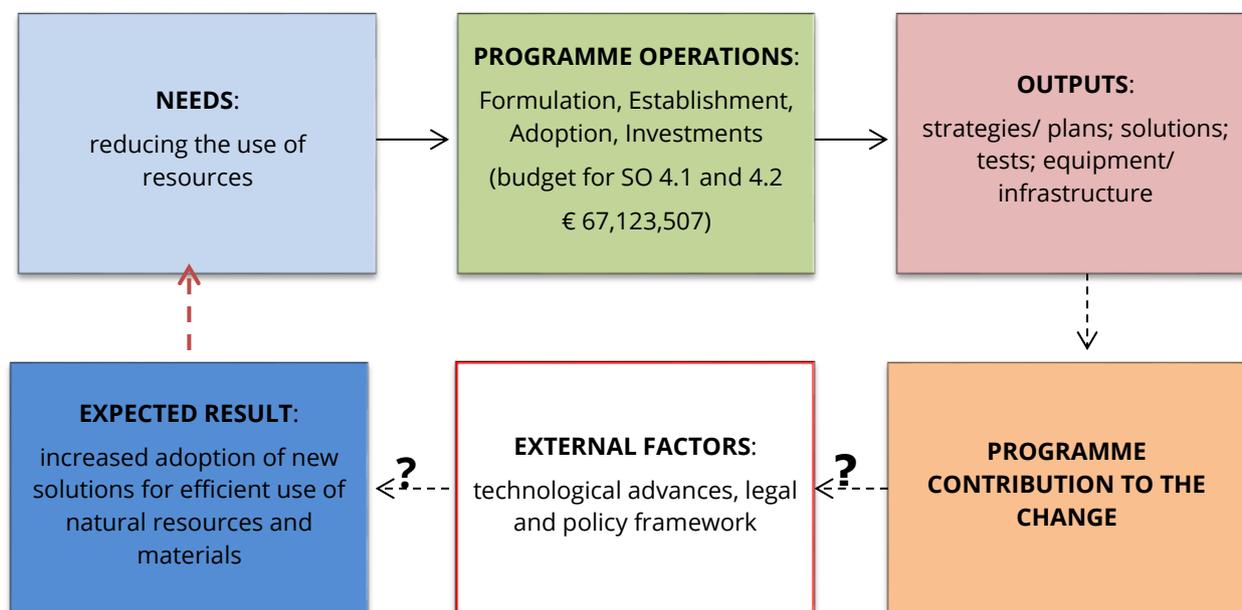
External factors - The main external factors are those reported in SO 2.1.

Expected results - The expected result of the SO is the improved ecosystem-based capacity of stakeholders to withstand climate change and water effects. The result is expected to reduce damage to, and increase the resilience of, built-up areas and other infrastructure, and decrease the vulnerability of ecosystems.

1.6 Specific objective 4.1

SO 4.1 'Increase the adoption of new solutions for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials'

Figure 7 Theory of change of SO 4.1



Needs – 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 – For the entire priority axis 4 (including both SO 4.1 and 4.2) the total funding reaches €67,123,507 which are spent through non repayable grants. The SO foresees three types of actions: 'Formulation of common strategies/ protocols', 'Establishment of common platforms and services', 'Adoption of new solutions'. Beneficiaries refer to stakeholders involved in the development and implementation of policies, strategies and business models that increase the efficient use of resources in the public sectors and in businesses. Stakeholders from maritime sectors are also specifically targeted. Also, stakeholders involved in the management and exploitation of natural resources of the Two Seas area are targeted.

Outputs – Programme operations are expected to create new strategies/action plans, solutions, tests/pilots/demonstration actions, small scale equipment and infrastructure, measured by the following Programme specific output indicators:

- Number of strategies and action plans developed for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials (OI 4.1.1);
- Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials (OI 4.1.2);

- Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials (OI 4.1.3);
- Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to a more efficient use of natural resources and materials (OI 4.1.4).

Programme contribution to the change - The Programme is expected to contribute by adopting and implementing collaborative approaches, structures and policy tools in order to facilitate the transition towards a greener and more circular economy and towards the development of the blue economy in coastal areas. The benefit mapping carried out in Task 1 of the evaluation has identified the following expected SO 4.1 project results / benefits:

- Networking, originating from the development of new forms of cooperation and partnerships and the involvement of new types of partners;
- Knowledge, e.g. 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 new solutions for a more efficient use of natural resources and materials;
- Governance and policy benefits, since projects can potentially influence policy making and improve governance (in particular by promoting the re-use of resources and materials);
- Socio-economic benefits relate to triggered investments, business sector activity and the development of innovations, increased jobs and employability, cost savings;
- Environmental benefits constitute the core benefits of the SO and this regard energy efficiency, climate change adaptation and mitigation and reduced pressure on natural resources.

Table 6 Expected project and Programme results – SO 4.1

Expected project results from approved projects		Programme expected result and Programme contribution
Category	Result / benefit	
Networking	Involvement of new types of partners	<p>Programme expected result</p> <p>The SO is expected to develop resource-efficiency policies and changing attitudes of economic stakeholders to more sustainable behaviour in order to decrease the use of the following natural resources and materials</p> <p>Programme contribution to the Programme result</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ adopting and implementing collaborative approaches, structures and policy tools in order to facilitate the transition towards a greener and more circular economy, and towards the development of the blue economy in coastal areas.
	New forms of cooperation and partnerships	
Knowledge	Exchange and use of practices	
	Created/increased skills and capacities	
	Increased awareness	
	Behavioural change in stakeholders	
Governance and policy	Influence on policy making	
	Improved governance quality and capacity	
Socio-economic	Triggered investments	
	Increased business activity / capacity (new products, processes, services, techniques)	
	Increased jobs	
	Increased employability	
	Cost savings	
Environmental	Eco-efficiency (energy efficiency, waste reduction, sustainable management of natural resources)	
	Reduction of pressure on marine and land ecosystems and water consumption	
	Climate change adaptation	
	Climate change mitigation	

Source: Own elaborations based on Programme document and sub-task 1.1.c

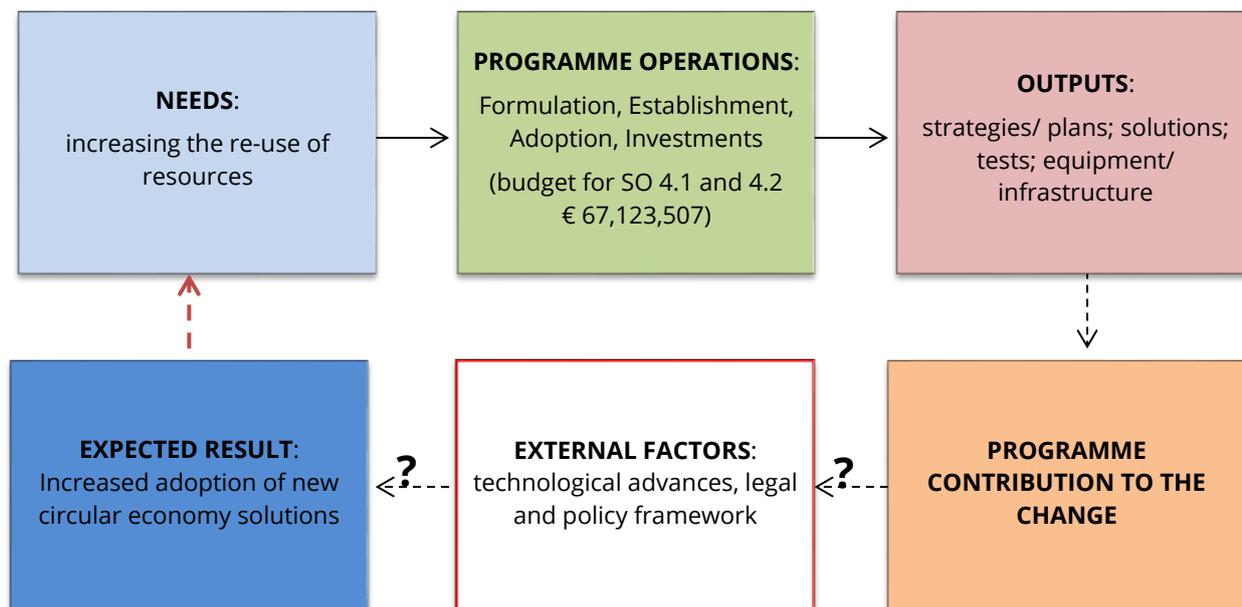
External factors - The main external factors are those affecting SO 2.1.

Expected results - The expected result is the increased adoption of new solutions for more efficient use of natural resources and materials.

1.7 Specific objective 4.2

SO 4.2 'Increase the adoption of new circular economy solutions in the 2 Seas area'

Figure 8 Theory of change of SO 4.2



Needs – 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.

Programme operations - For the entire priority axis 4 (including both SO 4.1 and 4.2) the total funding reaches € 67,123,507 which are spent through non repayable grants. The SO encompasses three types of operations: 'Formulation of common strategies/ protocols', 'Establishment of common platforms and services', 'Adoption of new solutions'.

Outputs – The outputs of SO 4.2 are new strategies/action plans, solutions, tests/pilots/demonstration actions and small-scale equipment and infrastructure measured by:

- Number of strategies and action plans developed for a more circular economy (OI 4.2.1);
- Number of solutions (methods/tools/services) established for a more circular economy (OI 4.2.2);
- Number of tests, pilots, demonstration actions and feasibility studies implemented for a more circular economy (OI 4.2.3)
- Number of small scale physical or e-infrastructures/equipments related to a more circular economy partly or entirely supported by the operations (OI 4.2.4).

Expected Programme contribution (benefits) to the results - The Programme is expected to contribute by adopting and implementing collaborative approaches, structures and policy tools in order to facilitate the transition towards a circular economy. The benefit mapping carried out in Task 1 of the evaluation identified the following expected SO 4.2 project results / benefits:

- Networking, originating from the development of new forms of cooperation and partnerships, involvement of new types of partners and development of clusters;

- Knowledge, e.g. exchange of practices, 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, since projects have the potential to influence policy making and improve governance (e.g. promoting the re-use of resources and materials);
- Socio-economic benefits relate to business sector activity (e.g. new products, processes, services), increased jobs and employability, cost savings and improved services;
- Environmental benefits constitute the core benefits of the SO and essentially regard eco-efficiency, namely waste reduction and sustainable management of natural resources.

Table 7 Expected project and Programme results – SO 4.2

Expected project results from approved projects		Programme expected result and Programme contribution
Category	Result / benefit	
Networking	Involvement of new types of partners	<p>Programme expected result</p> <p>The SO is expected to develop resource-efficiency policies and changing attitudes of economic stakeholders to more sustainable behaviour in order to decrease the use of the following natural resources and materials</p> <p>Programme contribution to the Programme result</p> <p>➤ adopting and implementing collaborative approaches, structures and policy tools in order to facilitate the transition towards a greener and more circular economy, and towards the development of the blue economy in coastal areas.</p>
	Development of clusters	
	New forms of cooperation and partnerships	
Knowledge	Exchange and use of practices	
	Created/increased skills and capacities	
	Increased awareness	
	Behavioural change in stakeholders	
Governance and policy	Influence on policy making	
	Improved governance quality and capacity	
	Removal of barriers to cooperation	
Socio-economic	Increased business activity / capacity	
	Increased jobs	
	Increased employability	
	Cost savings	
	Improved services	
Environmental	Eco-efficiency (energy efficiency, waste reduction, sustainable management of natural resources)	

Source: Own elaborations based on Programme document and sub-task 1.1.c

Other factors - The main external factors are those reported in SO 2.1.

Expected results - The expected result is the increased adoption of new solutions in the circular economy.