

# Implementation Report for IPA II Cross-Border

## PART A

### IDENTIFICATION OF THE FINAL 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.**

The Managing Authority (MA), with support from the Joint Secretariat (JS) and cooperation with Programme authorities (NAs, CA, FLCs, AA, and JMC), implemented the Programme in line with sound financial management principles, in accordance with Article 125(1) of the CPR. By the end of the Programme, a total of EUR 66,387,214.21 in eligible expenditure was CA certified (including TA). Payments to projects amounted to EUR 56,412,052.70 (EU share, including TA). The total certified public expenditure to the EC was EUR 66,356,799.21 (IPA II paid to the beneficiary by CA and national public funds).

### **Calls for Proposals (CfP)**

The MA, with the JS's support, launched and closed two Calls for Proposals with a total of 59 projects.

**1st CfP (1/6/2017 - 14/7/2020):** By 2020, 23 out of 24 contracted projects completed implementation, except project PALL NET, terminated in 2018. EUR 22,338,349.06 was certified by CA for the 1st CfP projects.

**2nd CfP (15/2/2020 - 30/11/2023):** All 35 contracted projects completed by 2023. EUR 37,629,752.21 was certified for the 2nd CfP projects.

All contracted projects met their objectives, except for PALL.NET that was terminated due to withdrawal of the project partner.

### **Information and Communication Activities**

During implementation, the MA/JS organized 4 conferences and over 20 workshops. Nine EC Days were celebrated with strong stakeholder involvement. The Programme gained recognition in the Interreg community, securing 4th place in the 2022 Interreg Project Slam Social Media Award with the CODE, 2CODE, and CROWN projects. The Programme was also promoted at the EU level through REGIOSTARS 2021 and the Interreg Annual Event 2021, with SMART SCHOOLS and SafEarth selected as finalists. The Programme's activities were widely promoted on social media and the Programme website. Detailed communication and outreach activities are covered in Chapter 10.2 of the report.

### **Programme Bodies Activities**

The Programme held the following meetings:

- 8 Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) meetings
- 4 FLC Networking Meetings
- 8 Programming Task Force meetings (for the 2021-2027 Programme)
- 13 Technical meetings (MA/JS/NAs)
- 2 Programme Bodies Meetings (2018 and 2022)

Additionally, the MA launched 27 JMC written procedures. Most meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic were held online.

### **Programme Evaluation**

The Programme underwent an ex-ante evaluation in 2015, with expert recommendations incorporated into Programme design. Two independent evaluations followed: an efficiency and effectiveness evaluation in 2019 and an impact evaluation in 2021. These evaluations confirmed the Programme's success in strengthening cross-border development. Further details are available in Chapters 4 and 10.1.

### **CP Modifications**

The CP was amended four times during implementation. More details on these amendments can be found in Chapter 5.

### **Programming 2021–2027**

Preparation for the 2021-2027 Programme began in 2019 with the first Programming Task Force (PTF) meeting. A total of 8 PTF meetings were held, with external experts contracted in 2020 for Territorial and socio-economic analysis. Stakeholder input was gathered via surveys, interviews, and focus groups in 2021. In 2021, the Programme's Objectives and Specific Objectives were set, and the Strategic Framework/Intervention Logic developed. The SEA procedure ran from Nov 2021 to Jul 2022, and the final version of the new IP was approved by the EC on 3 Nov 2022.

### **Audits**

The MA submitted the first designation package to the Audit Authority (AA) in Dec 2016, and the MCS was designated in Jun 2017. During implementation, the Programme underwent:

- System audits and follow-ups for MA, JS, CA, FLCs and NAs
- Audits of operations (1 or 2 phases per accounting year)
- Annual audits of accounts

Findings from system audits were addressed, with the Programme achieving Category 1 status (systems work well, minor improvements needed) by 2021. An error rate above 2% occurred once, leading to a financial correction of EUR 318,670,00 for the 9th accounting year. Annual audits of accounts had no findings.

### **N+3**

The Programme met all N+3 targets throughout its implementation and avoided the risk of automatic decommitment.

## **Indicator Performance**

By the end of the Programme, all Output Indicators were achieved or surpassed, except for PA3a (number of joint tourism offers/products developed and promoted) and PA4c (number of laboratories/competence centres developed or improved), where the Programme achieved over 80% of the targets. Further details on the achievement of output and result indicators are provided in Chapter 3.2 of the Final Implementation Report.

## **Technical Assistance (TA)**

TA activities were implemented by MA, JS, NAs, FLCs, CA, and AA. The MA/JS closely monitored TA activities, output indicators, and budget absorption. In the final year, steps were taken to maximize the use of TA funds, achieving a final absorption rate of 95%.

## **Human Resources**

The Programme financed 100% of salaries of JS staff (Head of JS, 3 Project Managers and 1 Finance Managers) while salaries of MA staff were co-financed as follows: Head of Sector (45%), Head of Service for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Cooperation Programmes (50%), Head of Department for coordination of implementation of cooperation programmes (50%), Programme Manager (100%), TA Manager (50%), Head of Department for horizontal affairs (50%), Monitoring, evaluation and reporting Officer (50%), eMS Manager (50%), Communication Officer (50%) and Legal Officer (50%). Staff turnover impacted full-time equivalents, as reported in the AIRs (PA5 indicator 5.16). The final value is reported in Chapter 3.2.

### 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
PA 1	Improving the quality of public health and social services in the programme area	<p>Under the 1st CfP (2017), 6 projects were contracted, totaling EUR 4.058 million (EU share EUR 3.447 million). Four projects (Q-Access-HC, SLEEP MEDICINE, We CARE, MELAdetect) concluded in 2019, and NeurNet in 2020. Due to project management issues and breaches of the Subsidy Contract HR-BA-ME234 PALL NET, MA terminated the project in Jul 2018 (see Chapter 5(a) of AIR2019 and FIR for details). NeurNet extended its implementation due to changes in partnership and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>In the 2nd CfP (2020), 8 projects were contracted (RACE, TELE.DOC, LAB-OP, ON TIME, IMPHACT, ASIQ, MADE, HEPSC), totaling EUR 9.644 million (EU share EUR 8.197 million). A Programme amendment in December 2020 reallocated savings from PA2, PA3, and PA4 to PA1, enabling 3 additional projects (ERI-Health, ER2=S2, INCLUSIVE PLAY) in 2021.</p> <p>Due to COVID-19, 7 projects extended their timelines. In March 2023, the JMC approved reallocating savings from 2nd CfP projects to ongoing ones (Inclusive Play, ERI-Health, ER2=S2) to improve fund absorption by the end of the 2014-2020 financial period.</p> <p>ASIQ ended in 2021, RACE, TELE.DOC, ON TIME, IMPHACT, LAB-OP, and MADE finished in 2022, and Inclusive Play, HEPSC, ERI-Health, and ER2=S2 concluded in 2023.</p> <p>In total, there were 17 projects selected for support within PA1. By 31 Dec 2023, total eligible cost of these projects was EUR 13,702,156.93. Commitment rate of PA1: 112,51%. Total CA certified expenditure on PA1: EUR 12,648,111.31, which is 103,85% of the PA1 allocation.</p>
PA 2	Protecting the environment and biodiversity, improving risk prevention and promoting sustainable energy and energy efficiency	<p>Under PA2, 7 projects were contracted in the 1st CfP (2017) with a total value of EUR 7.14 million (EU share EUR 6.07 million). Due to delays in procurement and the COVID-19 pandemic, only the RMPPI project extended its implementation period. By 2020, 1 project (RENEW HEAT) ended, while 5 projects concluded in 2019 and RMPPI in 2020.</p> <p>In the 2nd CfP (2020), all 7 projects (totaling EUR 9.75 million, EU share EUR 8.29 million) were contracted. A programme amendment in December 2020 reallocated savings from PA2, PA4, and part of PA3 to PA1.</p> <p>COVID-19 caused project extensions for all 2nd CfP projects, except RESPONSA. In March 2023, the JMC approved reallocating savings from completed projects to those still active (RESPONSA and SMART SCHOOLS II) to ensure optimal fund absorption by the end of the 2014-2020 financial period.</p> <p>3 projects from the 2nd CfP (Wood Key, I.N.G.R.I.D., Flood &amp; Fire) ended in 2022, and 4 projects (Safe Together, INER, RESPONSA, SMART SCHOOLS II) in 2023.</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>In total, there were 14 projects selected for support within PA2. By 31 Dec 2023, total eligible cost of these projects was EUR 16,893,174.99. Commitment rate of PA2: 106,48%. Total CA certified expenditure on PA2: EUR 15,579,403.54, which is 98,20% of the PA2 allocation.</p>
PA 3	Contributing to the development of tourism and preserving cultural and natural heritage	<p>Under PA3, 5 projects were contracted in the 1st CfP (2017) with a total value of EUR 7.04 million (EU share EUR 5.99 million).  Due to delays in procurement and deliverables, only the Fortress ReInvented project extended its implementation period. All 5 projects (Heritage Route, Becharac&amp;Ganga, ADRIATIC CANYONING, Fortress Reinvented, and RiTour) concluded in 2019.  In the 2nd CfP (2020), 8 projects were contracted (totaling EUR 12.81 million, EU share EUR 10.87 million), and savings from PA2, PA4, and part of PA3 were reallocated to PA1. One project, NAUTICA CBC, was added from the PA3 reserve list in 2021.  Due to COVID-19, all 9 projects extended their implementation period. In 2022, 5 projects (FORTITUDE, WRECKS4ALL, CUHaCHA, Exchange, ĆIRO II) ended, and 4 projects (PA.CON, HeritageREVIVED, ePATH, NAUTICA CBC) ended in 2023.</p> <p>In total, there were 14 projects selected for support within PA3. By 31 Dec 2023, total eligible cost of these projects was EUR 19,851,244.64. Commitment rate of PA3: 101,38%. Total CA certified expenditure on PA3: EUR 18,932,161.22, which is 96,69% of the PA3 allocation.</p>
PA 4	Enhancing competitiveness and developing business environment in the programme area	<p>Under PA4, 6 projects were contracted in the 1st CfP (2017) with a total value of EUR 5.89 million (EU share EUR 5.00 million).  Due to delays in procurement, only BACAR and COMPETE PLAMET extended their implementation periods. Four projects (CODE, CompetenceNET, Invest in LOG, and BACAR) completed their implementation, while COMPETE PLAMET and STRONGER ended in 2020.  In the 2nd CfP (2020), 8 projects were contracted (totaling EUR 7.39 million, EU share EUR 6.28 million). A programme amendment in December 2020 reallocated savings from PA2, PA4, and part of PA3 to PA1.  Due to COVID-19, 3 projects (GreenCBC, iNnovaNet, and COOPeR) extended their implementation periods. In March 2023, the JMC approved redistributing savings from completed projects to COOPeR to optimize fund absorption by the end of the 2014-2020 period.  Seven projects (2CODE, CREATIVE@CBC, CROWN, Development through DIHs, centrikomNET, GreenCBC, iNnovaNet) ended in 2022, and COOPeR completed in 2023.</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
		In total, there were 14 projects selected for support within PA4. By 31 Dec 2023, total eligible cost of these projects was EUR 13,280,714.17. Commitment rate of PA4: 102,95%. Total CA certified expenditure on PA4: EUR 12,808,425.20, which is 99,29% of the PA4 allocation.
PA 5	Technical Assistance	<p>The total available funds dedicated to Technical Assistance (TA) were EUR 6.724.945,00 (EU share: EUR 5.715.531,00). Ten projects were contracted within the Call for Proposals for TA in 2017. In 2018, TA projects of MA and JS merged into a single TA project, therefore there were nine TA projects contracted by the end of Programme implementation. The TA beneficiaries: 1.) Managing Authority and Joint Secretariat, 2.) National Authority in Croatia, 3.) National Authority in Bosnia and Herzegovina (including Control Body), 4.) Control body in Croatia 5.) Audit Authority, 6.) Certifying authority, 7.) Control body in Montenegro 8.) National Authority in Montenegro 9.) Control body in Montenegro</p> <p>By 31 Dec 2023, total eligible cost of TA projects was EUR 6,724,156.58. Commitment rate of PA5: 100%. Total CA certified expenditure on PA5: EUR 6,419,112.94, which is 95,45% of the PA5 allocation.</p>

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

### Priority axes other than technical assistance

<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>PA 1 - Improving the quality of public health and social services in the programme area</b>
<b>Thematic Priority</b>	a - Promoting employment, labour mobility and social and cultural inclusion across borders through, inter alia: integrating cross-border labour markets, including cross-border mobility; joint local employment initiatives; information and advisory services and joint training; gender equality; equal opportunities; integration of immigrants' communities and vulnerable groups; investment in public employment services; and supporting investment in public health and social services.

**Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 1.a**

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2023	Observations
F	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	Persons	130,000.00	198,162.00	By the end of 2023, projects managed to cover more population with improved health services than initially planned due to high interest: 19,999 palliative patients, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups received improved health and social services, 573 persons received skin screenings for early detection of melanoma, 17,720 persons received new services in relation to sleep disorders, 3,111 patients received services on breast and colon cancer early detection and treatment, 2,193 trauma patients covered with improved health care, improved health services received in relation to: pharmacoresistant epilepsy and late-stage Parkinson's disease for 241 persons, healthy nutrition for 2,056 persons, emergency medical services for 41,093 persons, laboratory services for 109,282 persons, dental services for 1,894 patients.
S	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	Persons	130,000.00	163,983.00	6 projects contracted within the 1st CIP envisaged to cover 26,820 persons with improved health services by the end of their implementation, whereas 11 projects within the 2nd CIP envisaged to cover additional 137,163 persons. Project PALL NET was terminated in July 2018, but few projects managed to provide improved health services to more persons than they had initially envisaged. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, 2 projects decreased their target values, therefore the forecast value in 2021 and 2022 is lower than in 2020, but in 2023, due to redistribution of savings, 1 project increased its target values. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a new target value through CP modification was more strict and conservative, however some of contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
F	PA1a	Number of jointly developed and/or implemented tools and services that enable better quality of health and/or social care services	Number	13.00	21.00	By end of the of 2023, projects managed to provide more health and/or social care tools and services than initially planned: 10 improved health diagnostic services and access to patients, 2 age-friendly centres opened, Quality assessment tool and Handbook on high-quality home care created, e-health tool for preventing and improving medical treatment of melanoma created, joint database on sleep monitoring and sleep medicine created, ICT care management network for pharmacoresistant epilepsy and late-stage Parkinson's disease patients developed, resuscitation training program for non-medical population developed, joint e-platform with Virtual doctor in palliative care, tool for informing about proper samples preparation for laboratory testing, manual for occupational and working therapies.
S	PA1a	Number of jointly developed and/or implemented tools and services that enable better quality of health and/or social care services	Number	13.00	23.00	6 projects contracted within the 1st CIP planned to jointly develop 12 tools and/or services in health and/or social care. 8 projects contracted within the 2nd CIP envisaged to develop additional 11 tools and/or services in health and/or social care by the end of their implementation. Projects PALL NET and MELAdetect each failed to deliver one foreseen output – PALL NET was terminated in 07/18, and MELAdetect envisaged an output that was not in line with the definition of programme output indicator and therefore could not be taken into account as its contribution. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
F	PA1b	Number of participants in joint education and training schemes on health and/or social care	Number	935.00	2,099.00	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in educating/training more persons than initially planned due to high interest: 213 persons on palliative and elderly care, 454 persons on melanoma, 27 persons on health quality management systems, 31 persons on sleep medicine, 53 persons on use of new specialised medical equipment, 81 persons on oral disease prevention, 401 epidemiologists on anthrozooses/vector-borne diseases, 20 professionals on proper nutrition in preschools, 11 laboratory staff on health safety for human consumption, 129 professionals on proper laboratory services, 250 experts on prehospital care for traumatized patients, 181 experts on breast and colon cancer early detection and treatment, 30 neurology specialists educated, 189 experts for children with disabilities trained, 29 experts finished European Trauma Course.
S	PA1b	Number of participants in joint education and training schemes on health and/or social care	Number	935.00	1,175.00	6 projects contracted within the 1st CIP envisaged to provide education on health and/or social care to 235 participants. Project PALL NET was terminated in July 2018. Nonetheless, since there was a high interest in the chosen topics, most projects managed to provide education and training to a higher number of persons than it was planned at the beginning of implementation. 10 more projects, contracted within the 2nd CIP, envisaged to provide education and training in health and social care to 940 more persons by the end of their implementation. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.

(1)	ID	Indicator	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	147,538.00	69,264.00	28,745.00	10,555.00	10,946.00	105.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	163,862.00	163,862.00	166,908.00	26,820.00	26,820.00	26,820.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA1a	Number of jointly developed and/or implemented tools and services that enable better quality of health and/or social care services	15.00	11.00	10.00	7.00	5.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA1a	Number of jointly developed and/or implemented tools and services that enable better quality of health and/or social care services	23.00	23.00	23.00	12.00	12.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA1b	Number of participants in joint education and training schemes on health and/or social care	1,515.00	950.00	642.00	618.00	288.00	36.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA1b	Number of participants in joint education and training schemes on health and/or social care	1,175.00	1,175.00	1,175.00	235.00	235.00	235.00	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]

<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>PA 1 - Improving the quality of public health and social services in the programme area</b>
<b>Thematic Priority</b>	a - Promoting employment, labour mobility and social and cultural inclusion across borders through, inter alia: integrating cross-border labour markets, including cross-border mobility; joint local employment initiatives; information and advisory services and joint training; gender equality; equal opportunities; integration of immigrants' communities and vulnerable groups; investment in public employment services; and supporting investment in public health and social services.
<b>Specific objective</b>	1.1 - To improve the quality of the services in public health and social care sector across the borders

**Table 1: Result indicators - PA 1.a.1.1**

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2023 Total	2023 Qualitative	Observations
PA1	The level of accessibility and availability of the services within public health care sector	Percentage	44.00	2015	75.00	60.00		<p>The indicator for the level of accessibility and availability of services within the public health care sector has not been fully achieved for two main reasons. Firstly, the data for Montenegro is based on historical data from 2020, while the most recent data for Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina were collected for 2023, making direct comparisons challenging. Secondly, although there has been a continuous improvement since 2015, the progress was slower than anticipated due to administrative and financial challenges, exacerbated by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which disrupted healthcare systems and delayed planned improvements</p> <p>Value for 2014 is 0 because the Programme was approved in 2015 and did not have baseline values for 2014.</p>

ID	Indicator	2022 Total	2022 Qualitative	2021 Total	2021 Qualitative	2020 Total	2020 Qualitative	2019 Total	2019 Qualitative
PA1	The level of accessibility and availability of the services within public health care sector	61.33		61.33		61.33		57.11	

ID	Indicator	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative
PA1	The level of accessibility and availability of the services within public health care sector	57.11		44.00		44.00		44.00	

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
PA1	The level of accessibility and availability of the services within public health care sector	0.00	

<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>PA 2 - Protecting the environment and biodiversity, improving risk prevention and promoting sustainable energy and energy efficiency</b>
<b>Thematic Priority</b>	b - Protecting the environment and promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management through, inter alia: joint actions for environmental protection; promoting sustainable use of natural resources, resource efficiency, renewable energy sources and the shift towards a safe and sustainable low-carbon economy; promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems and emergency preparedness.

**Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 2.b**

(I)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2023	Observations
F	PA2a	Surface area of habitats supported in order to attain a better conservation status (ha) (CI)	ha	11,400.00	11,401.78	Only project Chestnut from the 1st Call for Proposals, has chosen this indicator and managed to support slightly larger surface area of habitats that it had initially foreseen. As a result of project implementation: 11.401,78 ha of chestnut forests was analysed, which resulted in proposed measures and action plans for conservation and formal protection of chestnut population in cross-border area.
S	PA2a	Surface area of habitats supported in order to attain a better conservation status (ha) (CI)	ha	11,400.00	43,399.10	Only project Chestnut, contracted within the 1st Call for Proposals, has chosen this indicator and provided its forecast of 43.399,1 ha of surface area of habitats to be affected by the project. However, a part of foreseen target value (31.997,32 ha) could not be taken into account as a contribution to the programme output indicator since it was not in line with its definition. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted project envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
F	PA2b	Area covered by improved emergency preparedness and risk prevention systems (km2)	km2	26,300.00	36,495.63	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in: 11.141,60 km2 are covered with landslide susceptibility maps made on a regional scale that can be included in laws related to spatial planning (land use management) and civil protection, 4.993,28 km2 covered with a network of meteorological and visual stations for pests, creating a fully functional and effective pest and disease warning system, 249 km2 covered by LIDAR scanning in order to create a correlation between landslide and flash flood occurrence and their triggers (e.g. heavy rain), 1.547,75 km2 covered by establishing the Communication Center for Disaster Management, and 18.564 km2 by establishing the Educational and Training Centers.
S	PA2b	Area covered by improved emergency preparedness and risk prevention systems (km2)	km2	26,300.00	36,493.93	2 projects contracted within the 1st CIP envisaged the cover of 16.139,18 km2 by improved emergency preparedness and risk prevention systems.3 more projects, contracted within the 2nd CIP, planned to cover additional 20.354,75 km2 with improved emergency preparedness and risk prevention systems by the end of their implementation. The foreseen value in 2017 was reduced because the area covered is larger than the one covering eligible area of this programme, however in 2020 the Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds. Additionally, in 2023, due to redistribution of savings, 1 project increased its target values.
F	PA2c	Population benefiting from flood protection measures (CI)	Number	150,000.00	272,906.00	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in: 4.791 habitants of local community Željezno polje (BA) benefited from the carried out reconstruction of several parts of the only road that connects Željezno Polje with the main road, that was completely destroyed due to the activation of primarily flash floods and afterward landslides, increased level of flood safety for 31.690 habitants who live in the Sava river basin and in the flood prone areas, and created early warning system in pilot areas covering 236.425 habitants.
S	PA2c	Population benefiting from flood protection measures (CI)	Number	150,000.00	332,454.00	Only one project contracted within the 1st Call for Proposals selected this indicator and provided forecast of 5.000 persons benefiting from flood protection measures implemented in the Programme area. Three more projects contracted within the 2nd CIP envisaged the implementation of flood protection measures in the Programme area, covering population of additional 327.454 persons. Projects Flood & Fire failed to deliver the foreseen output because the market research proved that installing flood detection sensors in 3 countries was beyond the project budget and regular maintenance of such early warning system couldn't be sustainable. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
F	PA2d	Additional capacity of renewable energy production (MW)	MW	3.50	10.17	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in: 8.62 MW of additional energy capacity by installing new highly-efficient biomass-using heating boilers, 0.6 MW of additional capacity by installing hybrid solar-wind micro power plants, 0.95 MW of additional capacity by installing demo solar power generating system. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was stricter, but contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
S	PA2d	Additional capacity of renewable energy production (MW)	MW	3.50	9.74	Four projects contracted within the 1st Call for Proposals envisaged the production of 1,56 MW of additional capacity of renewable energy. Four more projects contracted within the 2nd CIP expected to produce additional 8,18 MW of additional capacity of renewable energy by the end of their implementation. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.

(I)	ID	Indicator	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	PA2a	Surface area of habitats supported in order to attain a better conservation status (ha) (CI)	11,401.78	11,401.78	11,401.78	11,401.78	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA2a	Surface area of habitats supported in order to attain a better conservation status (ha) (CI)	43,399.10	43,399.10	43,399.10	43,399.10	43,399.10	43,399.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA2b	Area covered by improved emergency preparedness and risk prevention systems (km2)	16,357.88	16,336.88	16,134.88	16,134.88	16,138.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA2b	Area covered by improved emergency preparedness and risk prevention systems (km2)	36,400.93	36,400.93	36,400.93	16,139.18	16,139.18	126,596.28	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA2c	Population benefiting from flood protection measures (CI)	4,791.00	4,791.00	4,791.00	4,791.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA2c	Population benefiting from flood protection measures (CI)	332,454.00	332,454.00	332,454.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA2d	Additional capacity of renewable energy production (MW)	4.98	2.53	1.90	1.82	1.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA2d	Additional capacity of renewable energy production (MW)	9.65	9.35	9.32	1.56	1.56	1.56	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]

<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>PA 2 - Protecting the environment and biodiversity, improving risk prevention and promoting sustainable energy and energy efficiency</b>
<b>Thematic Priority</b>	b - Protecting the environment and promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management through, inter alia: joint actions for environmental protection; promoting sustainable use of natural resources, resource efficiency, renewable energy sources and the shift towards a safe and sustainable low-carbon economy; promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems and emergency preparedness.
<b>Specific objective</b>	2.1 - To promote and improve environment and nature protection and management systems for risk prevention

**Table 1: Result indicators - PA 2.b.2.1**

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2023 Total	2023 Qualitative	Observations
PA2.1	Disaster response capability in the programme area	Percentage	55.00	2015	89.00	75.00		The percentage describing the level of disaster response capability in the Programme area has continuously increased since 2015, reflecting significant improvements in this sector. However, despite these advancements, the target value has not been fully achieved due to several factors. The increase in the disaster response capability has been gradual, with ongoing challenges related to regional coordination and varying levels of preparedness across participating countries. While improvements have been evident, a combination of factors has prevented the Programme area from fully reaching the target value within the designated timeframe.

ID	Indicator	2022 Total	2022 Qualitative	2021 Total	2021 Qualitative	2020 Total	2020 Qualitative	2019 Total	2019 Qualitative
PA2.1	Disaster response capability in the programme area	68.50		68.50		68.50		63.21	

ID	Indicator	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative
PA2.1	Disaster response capability in the programme area	63.21						55.00	

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
PA2.1	Disaster response capability in the programme area		

<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>PA 2 - Protecting the environment and biodiversity, improving risk prevention and promoting sustainable energy and energy efficiency</b>
<b>Thematic Priority</b>	b - Protecting the environment and promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management through, inter alia: joint actions for environmental protection; promoting sustainable use of natural resources, resource efficiency, renewable energy sources and the shift towards a safe and sustainable low-carbon economy; promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems and emergency preparedness.
<b>Specific objective</b>	2.2 - To promote utilization of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency

**Table 1: Result indicators - PA 2.b.2.2**

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2023 Total	2023 Qualitative	Observations
PA2.2	Energy consumption by public buildings in the programme area	kWh	2,697,101,345.25	2014	2,508,304,251.08	8,286,513,338.32		The 2023 database in Croatia includes significantly more public buildings than in 2014, causing the reported value to increase instead of decrease as initially intended. This is due to constant updates to the register, making the 2023 data non-comparable to baseline and target values. In Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina, the decentralization of data collection since 2018 has hindered reliable aggregation. Although some projects improved energy consumption, the overall target was not achieved. The 2014 value is 0 because the Programme was approved in 2015.

ID	Indicator	2022 Total	2022 Qualitative	2021 Total	2021 Qualitative	2020 Total	2020 Qualitative	2019 Total	2019 Qualitative
PA2.2	Energy consumption by public buildings in the programme area	922,091,375.24		922,091,375.24		922,091,375.24			

ID	Indicator	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative
PA2.2	Energy consumption by public buildings in the programme area								

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
PA2.2	Energy consumption by public buildings in the programme area	0.00	

<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>PA 3 - Contributing to the development of tourism and preserving cultural and natural heritage</b>
<b>Thematic Priority</b>	<b>d - Encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage.</b>

**Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 3.d**

(I)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2023	Observations
F	PA3a	Number of joint tourism offers/products developed and/or implemented and promoted	Number	23.00	20.00	By the end of 2023, the implementation of projects resulted in: 2 cross-border thematic tourism content of the cross-border area, 4 tourist packages, 4 cross-border products for urban destinations on the Adriatic basin rivers, 4 joint tourism products related to enhancing touristic potential of fortresses in the programme area, joint agro-tourism and cultural tourism offer of cities Pleternica (HR) and Tomislavgrad (BA), joint cross-border cultural tourism annual manifestation at the fortification sites, 1 innovative mobile application for nautical and car-less mobile tourists, 2 innovative heritage maps, and 1 underwater cultural heritage product.
S	PA3a	Number of joint tourism offers/products developed and/or implemented and promoted	Number	23.00	20.00	Four projects contracted within the 1st Call for Proposals envisaged to develop, implement and promote 12 joint tourism offers/products by the end of their implementation. Seven more projects contracted within the 2nd CIP envisaged to develop and implement additional 8 joint tourism products and/or offers by the end of their implementation.
F	PA3b	Number of tourism providers with (international) certifications and standards	Number	33.00	33.00	By the end of 2023, the implementation of projects resulted in: 9 persons certified in accordance with the European standard UNI EN 15567-2 (technical instructions for rope courses), 20 tourism providers certified in rural tourism management, in accordance with EU certifications and standards, 4 tourist guides and water routes guides certified in accordance with EU certifications and standards.
S	PA3b	Number of tourism providers with (international) certifications and standards	Number	33.00	34.00	Two projects contracted within the 1st CIP envisaged to support 34 tourism providers with (international) certifications and standards. None of the projects contracted within the 2nd CIP selected this indicator. The forecast value has decreased in relation to number reported in AIR 2017 and AIR 2018 (46) since project Heritage route shifted 12 people to another programme output indicator – PA3e. However, Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was stricter in 2019, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
F	PA3c	Number of tourism supporting facilities and/or tourism infrastructure developed and/or improved	Number	13.00	27.00	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in: 2 walkways (Bečarac (HR) and Hajdučka družina (BA)) equipped with tourism infrastructure, 5 tourism sites in Programme area equipped with outdoor tourism infrastructure, 2 tourism points/kiosks set up in urban destinations, 3 aquariums upgraded and improved by reconstruction and expansion, 7 heritag visitor/interpretation centers built/improved and equipped, 1 modernisation of the permanent exhibiton, 6 heritage showrooms opened and equipped, and 1 educational pathway through an old botanical garden Kotišina constructed.
S	PA3c	Number of tourism supporting facilities and/or tourism infrastructure developed and/or improved	Number	13.00	30.00	3 projects contracted within 1st CIP envisaged to develop or improve in total 12 tourism supporting facilities/tourism infrastructure. 2 projects failed to deliver in total 3 planned outputs, i.e. delivered outputs were not in line with the definition of programme output indicator and therefore could not be taken into account as its contribution. 6 more projects contracted within 2nd CIP envisaged to develop additional 18 tourism supporting facilities and/or infrastructure by end of their implementation. Due to change of the project partnership, one project decreased its target value, therefore the forecast value in 2022 is lower than in 2021. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
F	PA3d	Number of sustainable management plans for cultural and natural heritage sites developed and/or implemented	Number	7.00	9.00	By the end of 2023, the implementation of projects resulted in development of: a joint model for better management and sustainable use of natural resources in the Programme area, 3 sustainable management plans for destination and heritage development, 3 interpretation/sustainable management plans for cultural and natural heritage sites, 2 sustainable tourism development strategies for cities in HR and ME. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
S	PA3d	Number of sustainable management plans for cultural and natural heritage sites developed and/or implemented	Number	7.00	10.00	Four projects contracted within the 1st CIP envisaged to develop and implement in total 10 sustainable management plans for cultural and natural heritage sites. One project failed to deliver one planned output, i.e. delivered output was not in line with the definition of programme output indicator and therefore could not be taken into account as its contribution. None of the projects contracted within the 2nd CIP had selected this indicator. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
F	PA3e	Number of participants trained in quality assurance, standardisation on cultural and natural heritage and destination management	Number	427.00	936.00	By the end of 2023, the implementation of projects resulted in: 356 participants trained in destination management, 42 persons trained in quality assurance in adventure tourism, 144 persons educated in management of cultural heritage sites with innovative digital perspective, 197 persons trained as tourist guides, 17 participants educated on entrepreneurship in tourism, 69 persons educated in cultural heritage and local tourism, 8 persons trained vocation specific training - language course, 70 persons trained on quality assurance in nautical tourism, 43 persons trained in underwater archaeology, scuba diving training and underwater photogrammetry scanning, and 17 persons trained in quality of culinary heritage.
S	PA3e	Number of participants trained in quality assurance, standardisation on cultural and natural heritage and destination management	Number	427.00	774.00	Five projects contracted within the 1st Call for Proposals envisaged to provide trainees in quality assurance, standardisation on cultural and natural heritage and destination management to 289 participants. Eight more projects, contracted within the 2nd CIP, envisaged to provide training and education to additional 485 persons by the end of their implementation. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
F	PA3f	Number of cultural and natural assets developed and/or improved	Number	28.00	32.00	By the end of 2023, the implementation of projects resulted in: 19 cultural, sacral, and natural assets preserved and improved by implementing small-scale infrastructure interventions, 4 improved cultural and natural assets on the rivers of Adriatic basin, 2 developed cultural assets with roh bau model museums of Bečarac and Ganga, and Hajdučka družina, 4 natural asset improved and made accessible to the visitors, and 3 cultural assets restored and improved.
S	PA3f	Number of cultural and natural assets developed and/or improved	Number	28.00	34.00	Four projects contracted within the 1st Call for Proposals envisaged to develop or improve 26 cultural and natural assets in the Programme area. One project failed to deliver one planned output, i.e. delivered output was not in line with the definition of programme output indicator and therefore could not be taken into account as its contribution. Four more projects, contracted within the 2nd CIP, planned to develop or improve additional 8 cultural and natural assets by the end of their implementation. One project failed to deliver one planned output due to the lack of interest from potential contractors, even though the public tender was published 3 times during the project implementation. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved more.

(I)	ID	Indicator	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	PA3a	Number of joint tourism offers/products developed and/or implemented and promoted	13.00	12.00	12.00	4.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA3a	Number of joint tourism offers/products developed and/or implemented and promoted	20.00	20.00	20.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA3b	Number of tourism providers with (international) certifications and standards	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	29.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA3b	Number of tourism providers with (international) certifications and standards	34.00	34.00	34.00	34.00	46.00	46.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA3c	Number of tourism supporting facilities and/or tourism infrastructure developed and/or improved	11.00	10.00	9.00	6.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA3c	Number of tourism supporting facilities and/or tourism infrastructure developed and/or improved	30.00	31.00	31.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA3d	Number of sustainable management plans for cultural and natural heritage sites developed and/or implemented	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA3d	Number of sustainable management plans for cultural and natural heritage sites developed and/or implemented	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA3e	Number of participants trained in quality assurance, standardisation on cultural and natural heritage and destination management	533.00	367.00	343.00	277.00	104.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA3e	Number of participants trained in quality assurance, standardisation on cultural and natural heritage and destination management	774.00	774.00	639.00	289.00	277.00	277.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA3f	Number of cultural and natural assets developed and/or improved	25.00	25.00	25.00	21.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA3f	Number of cultural and natural assets developed and/or improved	34.00	34.00	34.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	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]

<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>PA 3 - Contributing to the development of tourism and preserving cultural and natural heritage</b>
Thematic Priority	d - Encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage.
Specific objective	3.1 - To strengthen and diversify the tourism offer through cross border approaches and to enable better management and sustainable use of cultural and natural heritage

**Table 1: Result indicators - PA 3.d.3.1**

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2023 Total	2023 Qualitative	Observations
PA3	Increase in arrivals of non-residents staying in hotels and similar establishments	Number	73,522,546.00	2014	73,591,990.00	66,500,216.00		<p>Despite the recovery of the tourism sector, the target for the indicator has not been fully achieved due to several factors. The ongoing global challenges, including the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and changing travel patterns, have continued to impact the tourism market in the Programme area. While there has been a notable increase in arrivals, the full recovery to pre-pandemic levels has been slower than expected, particularly due to shifts in global travel behavior and regional competition. These factors have contributed to the indicator falling short of the target value for 2023.</p> <p>Value for 2014 is 0 because Programme was approved in 2015.</p>

ID	Indicator	2022 Total	2022 Qualitative	2021 Total	2021 Qualitative	2020 Total	2020 Qualitative	2019 Total	2019 Qualitative
PA3	Increase in arrivals of non-residents staying in hotels and similar establishments	23,196,700.00		23,196,700.00		23,196,700.00		59,114,676.00	

ID	Indicator	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative
PA3	Increase in arrivals of non-residents staying in hotels and similar establishments	59,114,676.00		73,522,546.00		73,522,546.00		73,522,546.00	

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
PA3	Increase in arrivals of non-residents staying in hotels and similar establishments	0.00	

<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>PA 4 - Enhancing competitiveness and developing business environment in the programme area</b>
<b>Thematic Priority</b>	g - Enhancing competitiveness, the business environment and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, trade and investment through, inter alia, promotion and support to entrepreneurship, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, and development of local cross-border markets and internationalisation.

**Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 4.g**

(I)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2023	Observations
F	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	Enterprises	23.00	32.00	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in development for 2023: 8 SMEs cooperating with a research institution in production and analysis of aromatic and medicinal plant products, 16 enterprises cooperating with research institutions within the SMART COOPERATION programme, focusing on in-house mentoring and enhancing favourable business environment, 8 enterprises/business support institution/cooperatives cooperating with established cross-border olive centre in Mostar. Projects managed to achieve more enterprises cooperating with research institutions than initially planned.
S	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	Enterprises	23.00	52.00	Two projects contracted within the 1st CIP envisaged to set up cooperation between 36 enterprises / business support institutions and research institutions through their implementation. However, the projects failed to deliver all planned outputs (22 out of 36), i.e. planned outputs were not in line with the definition of programme output indicator and therefore could not be taken into account as its contribution. Two more projects, contracted within the 2nd CIP, planned to set up cooperation between additional 16 enterprises and research institutions by the end of their implementation. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
F	PA4a	Number of cross-border business clusters and/or networks developed and/or implemented	Number	11.00	15.00	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in development of: 6 clusters, in the following sectors/areas: IT, creative industry, tourism, local food, wood sector and rural development, and medicinal herbs, joint platform for the internationalisation of SMEs from the cross-border area, providing and effective institutional support to export-oriented entrepreneurs, virtual incubator, supporting the development of SMEs and providing various business services to entrepreneurs in the cross-border area, 7 cross-border networks in the following sectors/areas: creative industry, entrepreneurship, cooperation of institutions to support business, education, olive growing, metal and plastic sector, and bioeconomy. Projects managed to achieve more cross-border business clusters and networks than initially planned.
S	PA4a	Number of cross-border business clusters and/or networks developed and/or implemented	Number	11.00	17.00	Six projects contracted within the 1st CIP envisaged to develop 9 cross-border business clusters and/or networks by the end of their implementation. Two projects each failed to deliver one planned output, i.e. delivered outputs were not in line with the definition of programme output indicator and therefore could not be taken into account as its contribution. Seven more projects, contracted within the 2nd CIP, planned to develop additional 8 cross-border business clusters and networks by the end of their implementation. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
F	PA4b	Number of business support institutions supported	Number	20.00	28.00	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in: 4 co-working spaces adapted, equipped and opened in all three participating countries, 3 business support institutions renovated and equipped, 5 cluster support centres adapted and equipped, 2 technology parks supported by improving institutional infrastructure and human resources, 2 cluster support centres supported with IT equipment, 10 business support institutions supported by strengthening human resources capacities through specialised training programmes, and 2 creative centre established. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
S	PA4b	Number of business support institutions supported	Number	20.00	33.00	Five projects contracted within the 1st CIP envisaged to support 26 business support institutions through their implementation. However, one project failed to deliver all planned outputs (7 out of 12), i.e. planned outputs were not in line with the definition of programme output indicator and therefore could not be taken into account as its contribution. Four more projects, contracted within the 2nd CIP, planned to support additional 7 business support institution by the end of their implementation. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
F	PA4c	Number of laboratories and/or competence centres jointly used by the entrepreneurs developed or improved	Number	16.00	13.00	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in: 3 business competence centres established (one in each of the participating countries), 3 competence centres in sectors of agriculture and textile, green product design, and tourism and hospitality renovated and equipped, 2 laboratories improved with new laboratory equipment for research, product testing and standardisation practices, 1 UX laboratory established and developed, 1 cross-border olive center with a laboratory established and equipped, and 3 innovative training and educational centers in developed and newly equipped.
S	PA4c	Number of laboratories and/or competence centres jointly used by the entrepreneurs developed or improved	Number	16.00	14.00	Three projects contracted within the 1st CIP envisaged to develop or improve 8 laboratories and/or competence centres jointly used by the entrepreneurs in cross-border area. However, one project failed to deliver one planned output for this output indicator, i.e. delivered output were not in line with the definition of programme output indicator and therefore could not be taken into account as its contribution. Four more projects, contracted within the 2nd CIP, managed to develop or improve additional 6 planned laboratories or competence centres by the end of their implementation.

(I)	ID	Indicator	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	14.00	14.00	14.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	52.00	52.00	52.00	36.00	36.00	36.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA4a	Number of cross-border business clusters and/or networks developed and/or implemented	12.00	7.00	7.00	6.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA4a	Number of cross-border business clusters and/or networks developed and/or implemented	17.00	17.00	17.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA4b	Number of business support institutions supported	23.00	22.00	21.00	17.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA4b	Number of business support institutions supported	33.00	33.00	33.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	PA4c	Number of laboratories and/or competence centres jointly used by the entrepreneurs developed or improved	9.00	7.00	7.00	5.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	PA4c	Number of laboratories and/or competence centres jointly used by the entrepreneurs developed or improved	14.00	14.00	14.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	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]

<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>PA 4 - Enhancing competitiveness and developing business environment in the programme area</b>
Thematic Priority	g - Enhancing competitiveness, the business environment and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, trade and investment through, inter alia, promotion and support to entrepreneurship, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, and development of local cross-border markets and internationalisation.
Specific objective	4.1 - To enhance institutional infrastructure and services in order to accelerate the competitiveness and development of business environment in the programme area

**Table 1: Result indicators - PA 4.g.4.1**

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2023 Total	2023 Qualitative	Observations
PA4	Range of cluster activities enhancing innovation, new technologies and ICT solutions	Number	33.00	2015	49.00	9.00		The reported value for 2023 is lower than the baseline value of 2015, but significantly higher than 2020. During this time, several clusters ceased to exist and perform their activities, partially due to low interest of members, and partially due to decreased funding possibilities. Nevertheless, based on the positive trend and on the information acquired from the relevant authorities, it is expected that the cluster activities enhancing innovation, new technologies and ICT solutions will increase in the following years, considering recent developments in the ICT industry in the area

ID	Indicator	2022 Total	2022 Qualitative	2021 Total	2021 Qualitative	2020 Total	2020 Qualitative	2019 Total	2019 Qualitative
PA4	Range of cluster activities enhancing innovation, new technologies and ICT solutions	5.00		5.00		5.00			

ID	Indicator	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative
PA4	Range of cluster activities enhancing innovation, new technologies and ICT solutions							33.00	

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
PA4	Range of cluster activities enhancing innovation, new technologies and ICT solutions		

## Priority axes for technical assistance

Priority axis	PA 5 - Technical Assistance
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**Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 5. Technical Assistance**

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2023	Observations
F	5.1	Joint secretariat established	Number	1.00	1.00	The Joint Secretariat was established in May 2015.
S	5.1	Joint secretariat established	Number	1.00	1.00	The Joint Secretariat was established in May 2015.
F	5.10	Network of controllers established	Number	1.00	1.00	Network of controllers was established in 2016.
S	5.10	Network of controllers established	Number	1.00	1.00	Network of controllers was established in 2016.
F	5.16	Number of employees (Full Time Equivalents) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	Number	21.00	39.79	In 2023, a total of 39,79 full-time equivalent staff's salaries were co-financed by the Technical Assistance (in different percentages of working time). Per Programme bodies, during 2023, full-time equivalents were as follows: MA/JS – 10,45, AA: 4,80, Croatian NA: 1,3, Bosnian Herzegovinian NA 5, Montenegrin NA 3, Croatian CB: 5,08 (on average during the year), Bosnian Herzegovinian CB 1,55, Montenegrin CB 1 and CA 7,61. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
S	5.16	Number of employees (Full Time Equivalents) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	Number	21.00	39.21	In order to ensure the best absorption of the available TA funds that was not spend due to COVID-19 pandemics and due to increased workload, in 2021 and 2022 some TA beneficiaries reallocated funds to co-finance salaries for more persons from the technical assistance. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
F	5.5	Joint Monitoring Committee meetings held	Number	9.00	9.00	In accordance with Article 38 (8) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 447/2014 and JMC Rules of Procedures, JMC shall meet at least once a year. During the financial perspective 2014-2020, JMC held 9 meetings in total.
S	5.5	Joint Monitoring Committee meetings held	Number	9.00	9.00	In accordance with Article 38 (8) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 447/2014 and JMC Rules of Procedures, JMC shall meet at least once a year. Therefore, total planned target value is 9 meetings.
F	5.7	Programme communication strategy developed and implemented	Number	1.00	1.00	Programme Communication Strategy adopted and implemented in 2016.
S	5.7	Programme communication strategy developed and implemented	Number	1.00	1.00	Programme Communication Strategy adopted and implemented in 2016.
F	5.8	Independent programme evaluations implemented (ex-ante and during programme implementation)	Number	2.00	2.00	One evaluation during Programme implementation (operational evaluation) was finalised in October 2019, whereas Programme impact evaluation was finalized in October 2021.
S	5.8	Independent programme evaluations implemented (ex-ante and during programme implementation)	Number	2.00	2.00	Two programme evaluations were planned to be implemented: operational evaluation and impact evaluation. Operational evaluation was finalised in October 2019, while impact evaluation was finalized in October 2021.
F	5.9	Programme e-Monitoring System developed, implemented and used	Number	1.00	1.00	e-Monitoring System for the Programme was developed, implemented, set-up and ready for use in 2016.
S	5.9	Programme e-Monitoring System developed, implemented and used	Number	1.00	1.00	e-Monitoring System for the Programme was developed, implemented, set-up and ready for use in 2016.

(1)	ID	Indicator	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	5.1	Joint secretariat established	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
S	5.1	Joint secretariat established	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
F	5.10	Network of controllers established	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
S	5.10	Network of controllers established	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
F	5.16	Number of employees (Full Time Equivalents) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	32.31	22.65	22.65	20.60	22.40	14.33	8.33	5.33	5.33
S	5.16	Number of employees (Full Time Equivalents) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	33.75	28.80	25.80	15.00	15.00	15.00	8.33	5.33	5.33
F	5.5	Joint Monitoring Committee meetings held	7.00	6.00	5.00	4.00	3.00	2.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
S	5.5	Joint Monitoring Committee meetings held	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
F	5.7	Programme communication strategy developed and implemented	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
S	5.7	Programme communication strategy developed and implemented	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
F	5.8	Independent programme evaluations implemented (ex-ante and during programme implementation)	2.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	5.8	Independent programme evaluations implemented (ex-ante and during programme implementation)	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	5.9	Programme e-Monitoring System developed, implemented and used	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
S	5.9	Programme e-Monitoring System developed, implemented and used	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00

### 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	2023	Observations
PA 1	O	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	Persons	0	130,000.00	198,162.00	By the end of 2023, projects managed to cover more population with improved health services than initially planned due to high interest: 19,999 palliative patients, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups received improved health and social services, 573 persons received skin screenings for early detection of melanoma, 17,720 persons received new services in relation to sleep disorders, 3,111 patients received services on breast and colon cancer early detection and treatment, 2,193 trauma patients covered with improved health care, improved health services received in relation to: pharmacoresistant epilepsy and late-stage Parkinson's disease for 241 persons, healthy nutrition for 2,056 persons, emergency medical services for 41,093 persons, laboratory services for 109,282 persons, dental services for 1,894 patients.
PA 1	F	PA1	Improving the quality of the services in public health and social care sector	EUR	625,000	10,350,654.00	10,747,627.53	In financial perspective 2014-2020, CA certified total amount of EUR 10,747,627,53 for projects contracted under PA1. Details of PA1 project outputs are present in Section 3.2. Common and programme specific indicators, Table 2, Cell Observations. Due to clerical error, the total amount certified by CA in 2021 was entered as total amount that consists of EU share and national contribution, whereas the total certified amount in 2022 is shown as EU share.
PA 1	I	PA1	Projects contracted	Number	5	17.00	17.00	During financial perspective 2014-2020, there were 17 projects contracted under PA1 in total.
PA 1	O	PA1a	Number of jointly developed and/or implemented tools and services that enable better quality of health and/or social care services	Number	3	13.00	21.00	By end the of 2023, projects managed to provide more health and/or social care tools and services than initially planned: 10 improved health diagnostic services and access to patients, 2 age-friendly centres opened, Quality assessment tool and Handbook on high-quality home care created, e-health tool for preventing and improving medical treatment of melanoma created, joint database on sleep monitoring and sleep medicine created, ICT care management network for pharmacoresistant epilepsy and late-stage Parkinson's disease patients developed, resuscitation training program for non-medical population developed, joint e-platform with Virtual doctor in palliative care, tool for informing about proper samples preparation for laboratory testing, manual for occupational and working therapies.
PA 1	O	PA1b	Number of participants in joint education and training schemes on health and/or social care	Number	70	935.00	2,099.00	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in educating/trainig more persons than initially planned due to high interest: 213 persons on palliative and elderly care, 454 persons on melanoma, 27 persons on health quality management systems, 31 persons on sleep medicine, 53 persons on use of new specialised medical equipment, 81 persons on oral disease prevention, 401 epidemiologists on anthrozooses/vector-borne diseases, 20 professionals on proper nutrition in preschools, 11 laboratory staff on health safety for human consumption, 129 professionals on proper laboratory services, 250 experts on prehospital care for traumatized patients, 181 experts on breast and colon cancer early detection and treatment, 30 neurology specialists educated, 189 experts for children with disabilities trained, 29 experts finished European Trauma Course.
PA 2	F	PA2	Protecting the environment and nature, improving risk prevention and promoting sustainable energy and energy efficiency.	EUR	1,050,000	13,483,899.00	13,240,920.53	In financial perspective 2014-2020, CA certified total amount of EUR 13,240,920,53 for projects contracted under PA2. Details of PA2 project outputs are present in Section 3.2. Common and programme specific indicators, Table 2, Cell Observations. Due to clerical error, the total amount certified by CA in 2021 was entered as total amount that consists of EU share and national contribution, whereas the total certified amount in 2022 is shown as EU share.
PA 2	I	PA2	Projects contracted	Number	6	14.00	14.00	During financial perspective 2014-2020, there were 14 projects contracted under PA2 in total.
PA 2	O	PA2c	Population benefiting from flood protection measures (CI)	Number	0	150,000.00	272,906.00	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in: 4,791 habitants of local community Željezno polje (BA) benefited from the carried out reconstruction of several parts of the only road that connects Željezno Polje with the main road, that was completely destroyed due to the activation of primarily flash floods and afterward landslides, increased level of flood safety for 31,690 habitants who live in the Sava river basin and in the flood prone areas, and created early warning system in pilot areas covering 236,425 habitants.
PA 2	O	PA2d	Additional capacity of renewable	MW	0	3.50	10.17	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in: 8,62 MW of additional energy capacity

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone for 2018 total	Final target (2023) total	2023	Observations
			energy production (MW)					by installing new highly-efficient biomass-using heating boilers, 0,6 MW of additional capacity by installing hybrid solar-wind micro power plants, 0,95 MW of additional capacity by installing demo solar power generating system. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was stricter, but contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
PA 3	F	PA3	Contributing to the development of tourism and preserving cultural and natural heritage	EUR	1,250,000	16,641,545.00	16,081,035.93	In financial perspective 2014-2020, CA certified total amount of EUR 16.081.035.93 for projects contracted under PA3. Details of PA3 project outputs are present in Section 3.2. Common and programme specific indicators, Table 2, Cell Observations. Due to clerical error, the total amount certified by CA in 2021 was entered as total amount that consists of EU share and national contribution, whereas the total certified amount in 2022 is shown as EU share.
PA 3	O	PA3a	Number of joint tourism offers/products developed and/or implemented and promoted	Number	1	23.00	20.00	By the end of 2023, the implementation of projects resulted in: 2 cross-border thematic tourism content of the cross-border area, 4 tourist packages, 4 cross-border products for urban destinations on the Adriatic basin rivers, 4 joint tourism products related to enhancing touristic potential of fortresses in the programme area, joint agro-tourism and cultural tourism offer of cities Pleternica (HR) and Tomislavgrad (BA), joint cross-border cultural tourism annual manifestation at the fortification sites, 1 innovative mobile application for nautical and car-less mobile tourists, 2 innovative heritage maps, and 1 underwater cultural heritage product.
PA 3	O	PA3b	Number of tourism providers with (international) certifications and standards	Number	2	33.00	33.00	By the end of 2023, the implementation of projects resulted in: 9 persons certified in accordance with the European standard UNI EN 15567-2 (technical instructions for rope courses), 20 tourism providers certified in rural tourism management, in accordance with EU certifications and standards, 4 tourist guides and water routes guides certified in accordance with EU certifications and standards.
PA 3	O	PA3e	Number of participants trained in quality assurance, standardisation on cultural and natural heritage and destination management	Number	40	427.00	936.00	By the end of 2023, the implementation of projects resulted in: 356 participants trained in destination management, 42 persons trained in quality assurance in adventure tourism, 144 persons educated in management of cultural heritage sites with innovative digital perspective, 197 persons trained as tourist guides, 17 participants educated on entrepreneurship in tourism, 69 persons educated in cultural heritage and local tourism, 8 persons trained vocation specific training - language course, 70 persons trained on quality assurance in nautical tourism, 43 persons trained in underwater archaeology, scuba diving training and underwater photogrammetry scanning, and 17 persons trained in quality of culinary heritage.
PA 3	O	PA3f	Number of cultural and natural assets developed and/or improved	Number	3	28.00	32.00	By the end of 2023, the implementation of projects resulted in: 19 cultural, sacral, and natural assets preserved and improved by implementing small-scale infrastructure interventions, 4 improved cultural and natural assets on the rivers of Adriatic basin, 2 developed cultural assets with roh bau model museums of Becharac and Ganga, and Hajdučka družina, 4 natural assest improved and made accessible to the visitors, and 3 cultural assests restored and improved.
PA 4	F	PA4	Enhancing competitiveness and developing business environment in the programme area	EUR	1,000,000	10,963,687.00	10,886,223.21	In financial perspective 2014-2020, CA certified total amount of EUR 10.886.223.21 for projects contracted under PA4. Details of PA4 project outputs are present in Section 3.2. Common and programme specific indicators, Table 2, Cell Observations. Due to clerical error, the total amount certified by CA in 2021 was entered as total amount that consists of EU share and national contribution, whereas the total certified amount in 2022 is shown as EU share.
PA 4	O	PA4b	Number of business support institutions supported	Number	5	20.00	28.00	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in: 4 co-working spaces adapted, equipped and opened in all three participating countries, 3 business support institutions renovated and equipped, 5 cluster support centres adapted and equipped, 2 technology parks supported by improving institutional infrastructure and human resources, 2 cluster support centres supported with IT equipment, 10 business support institutions supported by strengthening human resources capacities through specialised training programmes, and 2 creative centre established. Programme estimation of funds needed for achieving this indicator while setting a target value was more strict, whereas contracted projects envisaged and achieved a higher value for the same amount of funds.
PA 4	O	PA4c	Number of laboratories and/or competence centres jointly used	Number	1	16.00	13.00	By the end of 2023, implementation of projects resulted in: 3 business competence centres established (one in each of the participating countries), 3 competence centres in sectors of

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone for 2018 total	Final target (2023) total	2023	Observations
			by the entrepreneurs developed or improved					agriculture and textile, green product design, and tourism and hospitality renovated and equipped, 2 laboratories improved with new laboratory equipment for research, product testing and standardisation practices, 1 UX laboratory established and developed, 1 cross-border olive center with a laboratory established and equipped, and 3 innovative training and educational centers in developed and newly equipped.

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
PA 1	O	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	Persons	147,538.00	69,264.00	10,555.00	10,555.00	10,946.00
PA 1	F	PA1	Improving the quality of the services in public health and social care sector	EUR	7,321,472.27	5,383,742.01	2,309,210.58	2,309,210.58	1,304,600.06
PA 1	I	PA1	Projects contracted	Number	17.00	17.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
PA 1	O	PA1a	Number of jointly developed and/or implemented tools and services that enable better quality of health and/or social care services	Number	15.00	11.00	7.00	7.00	5.00
PA 1	O	PA1b	Number of participants in joint education and training schemes on health and/or social care	Number	1,515.00	950.00	618.00	618.00	288.00
PA 2	F	PA2	Protecting the environment and nature, improving risk prevention and promoting sustainable energy and energy efficiency.	EUR	8,244,256.53	7,718,003.26	4,684,267.85	4,684,267.85	1,959,991.75
PA 2	I	PA2	Projects contracted	Number	14.00	14.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
PA 2	O	PA2c	Population benefiting from flood protection measures (CI)	Number	4,791.00	4,791.00	4,791.00	4,791.00	0.00
PA 2	O	PA2d	Additional capacity of renewable energy production (MW)	MW	4.98	2.53	1.82	1.82	1.12
PA 3	F	PA3	Contributing to the development of tourism and preserving cultural and natural heritage	EUR	9,421,357.04	7,376,965.80	3,724,042.88	3,724,042.88	1,889,395.63
PA 3	O	PA3a	Number of joint tourism offers/products developed and/or implemented and promoted	Number	13.00	12.00	4.00	4.00	2.00
PA 3	O	PA3b	Number of tourism providers with (international) certifications and standards	Number	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	29.00
PA 3	O	PA3e	Number of participants trained in quality assurance, standardisation on cultural and natural heritage and destination management	Number	533.00	367.00	277.00	277.00	104.00
PA 3	O	PA3f	Number of cultural and natural assets developed and/or improved	Number	25.00	25.00	21.00	21.00	10.00
PA 4	F	PA4	Enhancing competitiveness and developing business environment in the programme area	EUR	8,485,826.15	6,728,751.26	3,470,984.42	3,470,984.42	1,635,506.48
PA 4	O	PA4b	Number of business support institutions supported	Number	23.00	22.00	17.00	17.00	10.00
PA 4	O	PA4c	Number of laboratories and/or competence centres jointly used by the entrepreneurs developed or improved	Number	9.00	7.00	5.00	5.00	4.00

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	2017	2016	2015	2014
PA 1	O	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	Persons	105.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 1	F	PA1	Improving the quality of the services in public health and social care sector	EUR	6,205.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 1	I	PA1	Projects contracted	Number	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 1	O	PA1a	Number of jointly developed and/or implemented tools and services that enable better quality of health and/or social care services	Number	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 1	O	PA1b	Number of participants in joint education and training schemes on health and/or social care	Number	36.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 2	F	PA2	Protecting the environment and nature, improving risk prevention and promoting sustainable energy and energy efficiency.	EUR	11,900.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 2	I	PA2	Projects contracted	Number	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 2	O	PA2c	Population benefiting from flood protection measures (CI)	Number	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 2	O	PA2d	Additional capacity of renewable energy production (MW)	MW	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 3	F	PA3	Contributing to the development of tourism and preserving cultural and natural heritage	EUR	20,910.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 3	O	PA3a	Number of joint tourism offers/products developed and/or implemented and promoted	Number	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 3	O	PA3b	Number of tourism providers with (international) certifications and standards	Number	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 3	O	PA3e	Number of participants trained in quality assurance, standardisation on cultural and natural heritage and destination management	Number	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 3	O	PA3f	Number of cultural and natural assets developed and/or improved	Number	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 4	F	PA4	Enhancing competitiveness and developing business environment in the programme area	EUR	22,482.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 4	O	PA4b	Number of business support institutions supported	Number	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PA 4	O	PA4c	Number of laboratories and/or competence centres jointly used by the entrepreneurs developed or improved	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 17 of model for cooperation programmes under IPA.**

Priority axis	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 31/12/2023 and certified to the Commission
PA 1	Public	12,178,673.00	84.99	13,702,156.93	112.51%	11,643,295.69	12,648,111.31	103.85%	17	10,747,627.53
PA 2	Public	15,865,277.00	84.99	16,893,174.99	106.48%	14,357,554.43	15,579,403.54	98.20%	14	13,240,920.53
PA 3	Public	19,580,592.00	84.99	19,851,244.64	101.38%	16,862,149.04	18,932,161.22	96.69%	14	16,081,035.93
PA 4	Public	12,899,973.00	84.99	13,280,714.17	102.95%	11,287,627.57	12,808,425.20	99.29%	14	10,886,223.21
PA 5	Public	6,724,945.00	84.99	6,724,156.58	99.99%	5,715,533.07	6,419,112.94	95.45%	10	
<b>Total</b>		<b>67,249,460.00</b>	<b>84.99</b>	<b>70,451,447.31</b>	<b>104.76%</b>	<b>59,866,159.80</b>	<b>66,387,214.21</b>	<b>98.72%</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>50,955,807.20</b>

**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	Intervention field	Form of finance	Territorial dimension	Territorial delivery mechanism	«r.ir.etc.table5.thempridim»	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
PA 1	080	01	07	07	a	20	HR03	756,248.32	642,523.49	722,031.27	2
PA 1	080	01	07	07	a	20	HR04	547,424.69	465,310.98	533,494.58	1
PA 1	081	01	07	07	a	20	HR03	1,648,565.57	1,401,280.71	1,612,168.68	4
PA 1	081	01	07	07	a	20	HR04	1,248,415.30	1,061,152.98	1,163,091.84	3
PA 1	107	01	07	07	a	20	HR04	345,311.75	293,514.98	302,223.97	1
PA 1	111	01	07	07	a	20	HR03	468,687.27	398,384.17	461,348.91	1
PA 1	112	01	07	07	a	20	HR03	5,510,277.79	4,680,486.12	5,333,163.22	11
PA 1	112	01	07	07	a	20	HR04	2,537,882.05	2,157,199.71	1,913,912.22	5
PA 1	118	01	07	07	a	20	HR03	328,961.64	279,617.39	312,230.04	1
PA 1	118	01	07	07	a	20	HR04	310,382.55	263,825.16	294,446.58	1
PA 2	009	01	07	07	b	22	HR03	359,489.00	305,565.65	335,623.36	1
PA 2	010	01	07	07	b	22	HR03	957,910.00	814,223.50	887,547.08	1
PA 2	010	01	07	07	b	22	HR04	2,218,012.41	1,884,488.45	2,065,019.25	5
PA 2	011	01	07	07	b	22	HR04	2,547,022.66	2,164,147.16	2,380,099.70	5
PA 2	012	01	07	07	b	22	HR03	359,489.00	305,565.65	335,623.36	1
PA 2	013	01	07	07	b	22	HR03	957,910.00	814,223.50	887,547.07	1
PA 2	013	01	07	07	b	22	HR04	1,990,435.87	1,691,870.45	1,894,191.01	4
PA 2	014	01	07	07	b	22	HR04	311,956.72	265,163.21	239,203.19	1
PA 2	083	01	07	07	b	22	HR04	506,557.98	430,574.28	501,470.78	1
PA 2	085	01	07	07	b	22	HR03	300,819.63	255,696.67	265,245.99	1
PA 2	085	01	07	07	b	22	HR04	782,126.94	664,807.90	709,741.76	2
PA 2	086	01	07	07	b	22	HR03	300,819.63	255,696.68	265,246.00	1
PA 2	087	01	07	07	b	22	HR03	924,754.00	786,040.90	769,079.84	1
PA 2	087	01	07	07	b	22	HR04	1,183,785.87	1,006,217.97	1,126,761.94	2
PA 2	088	01	07	07	b	22	HR03	924,754.01	786,040.91	769,079.84	1
PA 2	088	01	07	07	b	22	HR04	2,267,331.27	1,927,231.55	2,147,923.37	3
PA 3	090	01	07	07	d	15	HR03	2,594,994.55	2,205,745.33	2,467,431.38	3
PA 3	091	01	07	07	d	15	HR03	1,709,813.24	1,453,341.22	1,607,370.22	2
PA 3	091	01	07	07	d	15	HR04	623,422.53	526,106.27	617,474.37	1
PA 3	092	01	07	07	d	15	HR03	1,471,735.82	1,250,975.42	1,396,598.66	2
PA 3	092	01	07	07	d	15	HR04	976,681.06	826,376.01	935,032.36	2
PA 3	093	01	07	07	d	15	HR03	1,728,204.86	1,468,974.11	1,687,066.19	2
PA 3	093	01	07	07	d	15	HR04	1,332,154.49	1,128,528.41	1,281,115.39	3
PA 3	094	01	07	07	d	15	HR03	4,185,014.55	3,557,262.31	3,964,300.60	5
PA 3	094	01	07	07	d	15	HR04	1,509,060.50	1,282,701.41	1,470,934.44	2
PA 3	095	01	07	07	d	15	HR03	2,566,575.96	2,181,589.54	2,379,986.20	4
PA 3	095	01	07	07	d	15	HR04	1,153,587.08	980,549.01	1,124,851.41	1
PA 4	063	01	07	07	g	18	HR03	3,254,766.85	2,766,225.35	3,180,554.58	6
PA 4	063	01	07	07	g	18	HR04	2,123,978.18	1,805,381.43	2,011,815.53	5
PA 4	066	01	07	01	g	18	HR03	2,764,042.56	2,349,109.71	2,661,198.99	6
PA 4	066	01	07	07	g	18	HR04	2,396,697.24	2,037,192.61	2,318,631.74	6
PA 4	073	01	07	07	g	18	HR04	335,309.62	285,013.17	316,488.68	1
PA 4	075	01	07	07	g	18	HR03	203,968.77	173,373.46	197,860.45	1
PA 4	077	01	07	07	g	18	HR03	203,968.77	173,373.46	197,860.45	1
PA 4	082	01	07	07	g	18	HR03	203,968.79	173,373.46	197,860.47	1
PA 4	082	01	07	07	g	18	HR04	1,794,013.39	1,524,584.92	1,726,154.31	5
PA 5	121		07			18		6,318,289.33	5,370,545.91	6,109,816.81	10
PA 5	122		07			18		135,289.15	114,995.78	135,289.15	1
PA 5	123		07			18		270,578.10	229,991.38	174,006.98	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 IPA 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 IPA at programme level * 100)	4. Eligible expenditure of IPA 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 IPA at programme level *100)
Invest in LOG, TA JS, PALL NET, Q-Access-HC, STRONGER	688,223.63	1.20%	57,689.08	0.10%

(1) IPA 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

Programme evaluations are carried out in order to assess the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro 2014-2020 (the Programme). The Programme has been subject to an ex-ante evaluation of independent evaluators with the aim to improve programme quality and to optimise the allocation of available funding. The recommendations of this evaluation have been taken into account during the drafting of the Programme as described in ex-ante report. In accordance with Article 56 of the Regulation No 1303/2013, the Managing Authority (MA) prepared the Evaluation plan, approved by the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) on 7 Sep 2016. All evaluations, recommendations and follow-up actions have been approved by the JMC. In line with the Evaluation plan, Programme specific needs and the available financial resources, during the Programme implementation two evaluations were carried out:

##### *Evaluation of the Programme efficiency and effectiveness*

The Evaluation of Programme's efficiency and effectiveness was carried out during 2019. The evaluation methodology combined desk reviews of Programme documents, a web-survey answered by beneficiaries and applicants, a set of interviews with Programme representatives and a case study analysis. The evaluation focused on Programme management, Programme implementation and the Programme Communication Strategy. The evaluation was carried out halfway through the implementation of the Programme, in order to showcase mid-term achievements and results in the cross-border area. The Final Evaluation Report was issued on 7 Oct 2019 and was approved by the JMC on 29 and 30 Oct 2019. The report revealed that the Programme was performing well in meeting the overall Programme goal. Detailed information on the results of the performed Evaluation of Programme's efficiency and effectiveness, together with synthesis of the findings from 2019, were presented in Annual Implementation Report (AIR) for 2019. The Final Evaluation Report is available on the Programme website ([https://interreg-hr-ba-me.eu/2014/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Final-Evaluation-Report-\\_HR-BA-ME.pdf](https://interreg-hr-ba-me.eu/2014/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Final-Evaluation-Report-_HR-BA-ME.pdf)).

##### *Impact evaluation*

In April 2021, the Programme contracted experts to carry out the Impact evaluation of the Programme's achievements during the implementation. The objective of this evaluation was to illustrate the impact and sustainability of the achieved results and effects, to assess the impact of projects on cross-border population, project partners and target groups, as well as the effects of communication in relation to the planned objectives. The evaluation methodology combined desk reviews of Programme documents, a web-survey disseminated among beneficiaries and applicants, and a case study analysis, which consisted of interviews with project partners and the analysis of project documents. The evaluation findings also show what improvements are needed to be pursued during programming for the new financial perspective (2021-2027), as well as the tools for improving the quality of the future Programme's implementation. The report was approved by the JMC on 11 October 2021. Detailed information on the results of the performed Impact evaluation, together with synthesis of the findings, were presented in AIR for 2021. The final evaluation report is available on the Programme website (<https://bit.ly/3pbEzRQ>).

Findings of both evaluations carried out as well as follow-up actions are described in the chapter 10.1.

Name	Fund	From month	From year	To month	To year	Type of evaluation	Thematic priority	Topic	Findings
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## 5. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND MEASURES TAKEN

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

By the end of implementation period, the Programme managed to achieve and even surpass set targets for the Programme Output Indicators, except for the PA3a (*Number of joint tourism offers/products developed and/or implemented and promoted*) and PA4c (*Number of laboratories and/or competence centres jointly used by the entrepreneurs developed or improved*) where Programme achieved to reach well over 80% of the set targets.

During the implementation, the Programme experienced various issues affecting the performance, which impacted and postponed some of the targeted achievements. Thanks to close monitoring of the MA and swift coordinated mitigation actions of all Programme bodies, the Programme has successfully reached the targeted performance.

Some of the main issues affecting the performance of the Programme and the measures taken were as follows:

#### **Institutional change**

As of January 2019, the Programme roles and responsibilities of MA, JS and FLC in Croatia have been transferred from Croatian Agency for Regional Development to the Ministry of Regional Development and EU funds, due to the merging of the two institutions. The merger was challenging in terms of availability of human resources, therefore the MA had to monitor the certification process closely and take measures to ensure its continuity.

#### **Main activities impacted by COVID-19 pandemic and measures taken**

The worldwide emergency linked to the COVID-19 brought the need for the implementation of urgent measures on the Programme level as of March 2020. Main mitigation measures undertaken to reduce the negative effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on project activities, and to facilitate and harmonize reporting on achievement of project outputs in time of the pandemic were as follows:

- In accordance with preventive measures regarding the spreading of COVID-19, the MA and JS were first working remotely from home since March 2020, and later in shifts on a weekly basis (one team from home, the other from the office) depending on the evolving public health situation
- In March 2020, the MA has published Programme measures related to the eligibility of expenditures. The measures allow an exception regarding the eligibility of costs which were already incurred for the organization of meetings and events, which were ultimately cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions (in case it was not possible to acquire a refund).
- In March 2020, MA also issued instructions regarding on-the-spot (OTS) checks/Programme bodies meetings, to replace it with other appropriate tools during the pandemic (virtual OTS checks/online meetings etc.).
- Due to health authorities' advice on preventing the COVID-19 spreading, several Programme events and trainings for beneficiaries were cancelled/postponed or replaced with online content made available at the Programme website.
- In order to facilitate and harmonize reporting on achievement of project outputs in time of COVID-19 outbreak, the Annex 5 of PIM was revised. Changes for reporting on project outputs related to educational and training activities, which project partners may decide to carry out remotely, have been introduced in the document.

## **Programme amendments**

The Cooperation Programme was approved by Commission Implementing Decision C(2015) 8447 on 24 November 2015.

The first amendment introduced a performance framework, as requested by the EC, and was approved in version 2.1 by Commission Implementing Decision C(2017) 6267 on 14 September 2017.

The second amendment reallocated funds between priority axes, in line with Commission Implementing Regulation 2020/891, moving savings from PA2 (EUR 804,931), PA4 (EUR 467,376), and part of PA3 (EUR 505,050) to PA1 (EUR 1,777,357) to contract reserve list projects, improving the "Population covered with improved health/social care services" indicator. The remaining savings from PA3 (EUR 534,447) supported an additional project to meet the "Number of joint tourism offers/products" target. This reallocation followed COVID-19 Regulation provisions, without an official programme modification.

On 4 December 2020, the MA withdrew programme version v3.0, submitted on 17 November 2020, due to technical issues, and on 7 December 2020, a revised version (4.0) was submitted, accepted by the EC on 8 December 2020.

In February 2021, the final amendment (version 5.0) updated information about programme bodies, result indicators, programme area regions in Montenegro, output indicator target values, harmonized the Programme with the SFC template, and as well as to include other minor updates and adjustments. This version was approved by Commission Implementing Decision C(2021) 2575 on 12 April 2021.

## **Implementation of projects**

During the Programme implementation, only one Subsidy contract was terminated—HR-BA-ME234 PALL NET, from the 1st Call for Proposals. In June 2018, Project Partner Canton Hospital Dr. Irfan Ljubijankić (Bosnia and Herzegovina) withdrew due to an inability to meet financial obligations. No other institution in Bosnia and Herzegovina could take over planned activities and budget of the withdrawn partner, so the partnership was dissolved, and the Subsidy Contract was terminated in July 2018.

## **Programme's error rate**

Audit Authority (AA) determined that for the 9th accounting year (July 2022 to 30 June 2023) Programme's residual total error rate was 3,839%, which was above materiality level of 2%.

The AA established that the extrapolated financial correction in the amount of EUR 318.670,00 had to be applied to reduce residual risk to materiality level. In line with Article 143 (2) of Regulation No 1303/2013, in February 2024, the MA issued Decision on the application of extrapolated financial correction, considering the distribution of funds for Priority Axis 5 as defined by Cooperation Programme. The correction was recorded in the annual accounts for the 9th accounting year. After the application of the financial correction Residual Total Error Rate (RTER) was 2%.

**(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.**

#### **Redistribution of Funds Between TA Beneficiaries**

In order to maximize fund absorption by the end of the 2014-2020 financial period, MA invited all TA beneficiaries to assess their needs, resulting in a proposal for fund reallocation. In December 2021, the JMC approved the following:

- EUR 295,750 reduction in the MA/JS budget (HR-BA-ME297 MA/JS TA) due to lower spending during the pandemic, with redistribution to other programme bodies based on their needs.
- EUR 185,000 increase in the CA budget (HR-BA-ME300 CA TA) to cover staff costs.
- EUR 110,750 increase in the AA budget (HR-BA-ME301 AA TA) for additional staff costs.
- Termination of the ME Control body TA project (HR-BA-ME304 MNE FLC TA) due to underspending, with the budget reallocated to the ME National Authority TA project (HR-BA-ME303 NA ME TA).

The total Programme TA allocation remained unchanged.

#### **Operations listed in ANNEX III**

We identified two operations listed in ANNEX III of FIR, estimating the expenditure potentially affected by irregularities. Once national investigations and judicial proceedings are concluded, we will inform the EC of the outcomes. The affected expenditure remains included in the final accounting year's accounts.

#### **Operations Affected by Ongoing National Investigations**

On 2 Aug 2023, EC DG REGIO informed MA of an ongoing OLAF investigation on the project HR-BA-ME419 Exchange, advising that any payments to project partners be postponed until the EC updates MA on the final findings. In line with this, MA postponed the final payment for the last reporting period's eligible expenditures.

On 6 May 2024, EC informed MA that the OLAF investigation had been discontinued, but the matter was referred to the EPP Office in Croatia. The inquiry into the project remains active. MA was advised to include all eligible expenditure for this project in the accounts and list the operation in the Annex III of Closure Guidelines template (C/2024/6126) attached to the FIR. The expenditure possibly affected amounts to 457.483,17 EUR. It consists of total certified expenditure for procurements of the supplier under investigations and related flat rate expenditures.

#### **Operations Suspended by Legal Proceedings or Administrative Appeals**

During the audit of operations for the 9th accounting year, a review of the Project Progress Report 4.1 of the Leading Partner (Municipality of Nijemci, Croatia) for the HR-BA-ME377 PA.CON project revealed that the contractor was required to issue a bank guarantee for defects correction during the warranty period. The contractor filed a lawsuit for 132,504.45 EUR due to increased construction material and work prices and failed/refused to issue a guarantee. On 30 July 2024, the Commercial Court in Osijek rejected the lawsuit in its

entirety. However, the contractor filed an appeal and the case is now under appeal at the High Commercial Court of Croatia. The guarantee has still not been obtained due to this appeal and it has to be established whether the contractor will issue it after the court decision. The suspension bridge and pedestrian paths were built in accordance with national legislation and are fully functional and in use.

The expenditure possibly affected amounts to 119.002,49 EUR which consists of 25% of total expenditure certified under the contract for which the guarantee was not issued (in line with point 1.23 of Guidelines for determining financial corrections) and related flat rate expenditures.

## **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 / Thematic 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
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(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

n/a

**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
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**Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them**

n/a

**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	PA 1 - Improving the quality of public health and social services in the programme area
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SO 1.1 To improve the quality of the services in public health and social care sector across the borders

Taking into account that despite sufficient number of health care institutions, public health care services were not well adapted to users and required modernisation in terms of quality, scope and delivery mechanisms and that social care services also needed substantial improvement, especially for users in vulnerable positions, Programme's aim was to improve the quality of services, institutions and to strengthen human resources in both sectors, thus making them more accessible and effective. In addition, under this specific objective, the Programme planned to address the promotion of healthy lifestyle, active and healthy ageing, strengthening palliative care, implementing ICT solutions and dissemination of good practices in the programme area. Therefore, the following results were achieved within SO 1.1: To improve quality of the services in public health and social care sector across the borders:

Within the 1st and 2nd CfPs, 17 projects were approved under Priority axis 1, worth EUR 13.702.156,93 (total cost) which corresponds to 19% of the Programme budget allocated to this priority.

Content-wise, through contracted projects, the Programme supported actions that were focused on improving quality and access to health and social services in cross-border area, especially for vulnerable groups (elderly, infirm and palliative patients), through setting up mobile patient care teams for the palliative patients, infirm, elderly and persons with disabilities, establishing elderly day centres, developing platform and e-health tool for self-diagnosis and prevention of melanoma, improving diagnostic services and response to emergencies, establishing networks of health experts in the crossborder area (e.g. ICT care management network for pharmaco-resistant epilepsy and late stage Parkinson's patients), developing resuscitation training program for non-medical population, social therapy program, joint service for diagnostics of hearing and speech for children and youth, joint e-platform with Virtual doctor in palliative care, establishing laboratory services, dental services and counselling centers for healthy nutrition services, as well as through providing specialised education and trainings to health and social care workers.

As an example, project MELAdetect contributed to raising awareness about melanoma through information campaigns. Relevant stakeholders got knowledge of new methods of treatment by getting

specialised education and by participation in network of Health Experts established in cross border area.

Major needs of all partner countries reflected in the MELAdetect project include improvement of the health care system by increasing the safety and quality of health services by providing missing tools or skills to health specialists, as well as empowering health employees/workers and establishing prevention activities. The project contributed to the better understanding of the epidemiology of skin cancer and the targeting of preventative activities and measures. Consistent prevention efforts brought multiple benefits: lowering melanoma incidence rate, increasing early diagnosis possibilities that hugely improve patients' survival rate and consequently provide reduction of health department costs.

The supported actions under Priority axis 1 have contributed to enhancing public health and social care by improving accessibility and effectiveness of public health and social care services and institutions and by strengthening the human resources in the sectors in the cross-border area. Although the COVID-19 pandemic began when the 2nd CfP projects started their implementation, causing certain difficulties in their implementation, all projects contracted under Priority axis 1, except for the project PALL.NET, have been successfully implemented and the set goals have been achieved. In fact, some of the contracted projects envisaged and achieved higher target values for the same amount of funds of the Programme budget allocated to this priority.

Data from the Impact Evaluation of the Programme indicates that new services in the public health and social care sectors have been introduced in the Programme area, primarily due to the interventions of supported projects, such as the development, testing, or adoption of cross-border initiatives, tools, and services aimed at improving quality, enhancing accessibility, and increasing the effectiveness of public health and social care services, as well as strengthening the competencies and skills of key stakeholder institutions. This suggests that the availability of services in the public health and social care sectors in the cross-border area has improved to some extent as a result of activities financed by the Programme.

Priority axis	PA 2 - Protecting the environment and biodiversity, improving risk prevention and promoting sustainable energy and energy efficiency
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Within the 1st and 2nd CfP, 14 projects were approved under Priority axis 2, worth EUR 16.893.174,99 (total cost) which corresponds to 24% of the Programme budget allocated to this priority. 6 out of 14 approved projects were contracted under SO 2.1. while the remaining 8 projects were contracted under SO 2.2.

SO 2.1 To promote and improve environment and nature protection and management systems for risk prevention

The Programme area is rich in natural resources and has a vast protected area that needs to be further protected and valorised. Therefore, under this specific objective, the Programme planned to address these challenges and aimed to strengthen the environmental and nature management within the Programme area. Furthermore, the Programme area is at high risk as regards to mine suspected areas and natural disasters, especially floods, droughts and fires which are mainly due to the climate changes. Therefore, under this specific objective, the Programme aimed to establish new and improve the existing risk prevention systems to improve disaster response capability and to ensure the safety of the inhabitants of the Programme area. The following result were achieved within SO 2.1.: To promote and improve environment and nature protection and management systems for risk prevention:

Content-wise, through contracted projects, the Programme supported actions that were focusing on the protection of environment and biodiversity as well as on risk prevention in cross-border region by developing landslide susceptibility maps, detecting zones of geo-hazard area in order to prevent the risk of landslides, analysing, monitoring and protecting chestnut forests, implementing pest and disease warning system, establishing pest and disease forecast system in order to minimize use of pesticides in the cross-border area, increasing level of flood safety for habitants who live in the Sava river basin and in the flood prone areas, creating early warning system connected to the possible landslides, establishing a joint communication centre for disaster management in cross-border area, improving emergency preparedness and risk prevention systems by developing Risk Assessment Plans and equipping relevant stakeholders for protection and rescues in the Programme area.

As an example, project safEarth tackled common cross-border issue of landslide hazards in the region. Due to the fact that one of the consequences of climate change are weather extremes and flooding, which consequently leads to soil instabilities, SafEarh provided recommendations for public authorities for usage of risk management strategy for better land use in line with the S.O.2.1. Landslide zones located in densely populated Programme areas directly endanger people and property. Given this high - risk threat, the project identified those areas by designing and producing landslide susceptibility maps (LSM) which were the priority in risk management and prevention. Project tackled common problems regarding natural hazard occurrence through joint transfer of knowledge and recommendations for further development and use of the strategy in other parts of countries. The project operationalised the best practice methodologies for design of LSM for spatial planning and proper infrastructure construction by developing strategies for the implementation management concepts for risk prevention. After the successful implementation of the project safEarth, contracted within 1st CfP, the prevention of the risk of landslides was continued in the project RESPONSA project, contracted within the 2nd CfP. Project main objective was to improve landslide and flash flood risk prevention system by creation the Early warning system (EWS) that enabled individuals, communities and organizations threatened by a hazard to prepare and act appropriately and in sufficient time to reduce the possibility of harm or loss. Implementation of RESPONSA led to a higher level of cooperation between academic/scientific, civil protection organizations, municipalities and other relevant institutions. Project resulted in direct implementation of scientific methodologies in practise, obtainment of data of geological hazards from local communities, knowledge transfer between partner institutions, establishment of remote sensing laboratory with new equipment, application and development of new technologies and new job opportunities for young engineers, creation of mobile team with appropriate equipment for geological hazard prospection and consulting in case of emergency.

Data from the Impact Evaluation of the Programme indicates a positive effect of the implemented projects on strengthening risk management systems, primarily achieved through conducting studies and research in the fields of nature and biodiversity protection and risk prevention, financing small-scale infrastructure interventions, enhancing the competencies and skills of relevant stakeholders, as well as developing and implementing new cross-border tools and solutions. The evaluators also noted that the projects had a positive impact on raising awareness among the population in the Programme area about the importance of environmental and biodiversity protection.

#### SO 2.2 To promote utilization of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency

Programme area has not only the potential but is also in need for improving the share of renewable energy in total energy consumption in order to meet the EU levels in that sector. Therefore, under this specific objective, the Programme aimed to implement joint cross-border initiatives in order to strengthen the use of sustainable energy, to improve the related planning and legal framework, to strengthen awareness raising and to increase energy efficiency, especially in public buildings and housing sector. The following result were achieved within SO 2.2.: To promote utilization of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency:

Content-wise, through contracted projects, the Programme supported actions that were focusing on promoting and increasing the use of renewable energy sources in order to decrease energy consumption in cross-border area by installing energy-efficient lighting systems, solar power plants and biomass-using heating boilers, developing hybrid solar-wind power module for micro power plants, developing innovative energy-efficient solutions and prototypes, as well as increasing knowledge on energy efficiency and renewable energy sources, raising public awareness and changing user behaviour for reduction of energy consumption.

Due to the fact that the share of renewable energy sources (RES) to total energy production in Programme area is minimal although there is great potential to use solar, biomass, geothermal and wind energy, the SMART SCHOOLS project has contributed to sustainable growth in cross-border project area by increasing energy efficiency. In both countries participating in the project, Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, public buildings are the largest energy-consuming sector. Being extremely energy inefficient they use several times more energy than allowed by EU Directives. Moreover, the project tackles common cross-border problems of low renewable energy share, energy inefficient public buildings, coal dominance in energy sector of BA and low share of green jobs in both economies. The project contributed to sustainable growth in cross-border area by improving target groups' capacity for better energy management, increasing energy efficiency in school buildings and instalment of new RES capacity.

Through the SMART SCHOOLS project, 7 schools improved their energy efficiency parameters. After the successful implementation of the project SMART SCHOOLS, contracted within 1st CfP, the increase in energy efficiency continued in the project SMART SCHOOLS 2 project, contracted within the 2nd CfP, where biomass boiler and grid-connected solar photovoltaic (PV) power-plants for electricity generation were installed in additional primary and secondary schools in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The supported actions under Priority axis 2 have contributed to the environment and nature protection, risk prevention improvement and to strengthening the utilization of renewable energies and improving energy efficiency. Although the COVID-19 pandemic began when the 2nd CfP projects started their implementation, causing certain difficulties in their implementation, all projects contracted under Priority axis 2 have been successfully implemented and the set goals have been achieved. In fact, some of the contracted projects envisaged and achieved higher target values for the same amount of funds of the Programme budget allocated to this priority.

Data from the Impact Evaluation of the Programme indicates that the cross-border area has seen an increase in energy efficiency (EE) and the use of renewable energy sources (RES). Additionally, the activities carried out by the projects led to improved governance in energy planning, including the development of tools, regulatory frameworks, and standards. There was also a noticeable rise in awareness regarding the benefits of EE measures, along with an enhancement of the capacity of policymakers in sustainable energy planning. The evaluators also highlighted that the implementation of these projects contributed to the improvement of competencies and skills of key stakeholders and acted as a catalyst for positive changes in user behavior concerning the rational use of energy in the Programme area.

Priority axis	PA 3 - Contributing to the development of tourism and preserving cultural and natural heritage
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SO 3.1 To strengthen and diversify the tourism offer through cross border approaches and to enable better management and sustainable use of cultural and natural heritage

The Programme area is rich in natural and cultural resources reflecting a long and eventful history as well as ethnic, natural and cultural diversity. It has the potential to use the existing resources and assets to promote and develop the tourism of the programme area through cross border approaches. In addition, the aim of this specific objective was to address the challenges related to insufficient diversification of tourism services, lack of joint cross-border touristic offer, insufficient number of globally branded destinations, lack of trained personnel, lack of management skills and inadequate tourism infrastructure. Under this specific objective, the Programme aimed to support the development of new tourism niches and new tourism products jointly developed and promoted. Furthermore, it aimed to address challenges related to lack of tourism and management skills in order to ensure better quality of the public tourism services and sustainable use of cultural and natural heritage. Also, the Programme aimed to valorise and preserve cultural and natural heritage potentials of the Programme area and integrate them with culture, nature and leisure activities into tourism offer while taking care of their sustainability. The following

result were achieved within SO 3.1.: To strengthen and diversify tourism offer through cross border approaches and to enable better management and sustainable use of cultural and natural heritage:

Within the 1st and 2nd CfP, 13 projects were approved under Priority 3, worth EUR 19.851.244,64 (total cost) which corresponds to 28% of the Programme budget allocated to this priority.

Content-wise, through contracted projects, the Programme supported actions that were focused on promotion and development of tourism in cross-border area by establishing new touristic routes, destinations and facilities, developing specialised tourism products based on traditional and cultural heritage of the region (e.g. folk songs protected by the UNESCO as an intangible cultural heritage), integrating historical and cultural sites into outdoor tourism offer, improving, valorising and preserving historical and cultural assets, promoting sustainable use of natural heritage locations, developing and implementing sustainable management plans and strategies for cultural and heritage sites, developing innovative mobile applications, and innovative heritage maps, as well as providing specialised education and trainings to tourist service providers.

As an example, the project Becharac & Ganga reflected the cross-border problems of not sufficiently exploited tourist potentials of both areas that would benefit from preparing a joint tourist offer. The common challenge, which the project was trying to resolve, was to establish a permanent, high-quality tourism destination management based on the valorization of cultural heritage. The project developed cultural heritage based on "Becharac & Ganga" - the forms of folk songs protected by UNESCO as an intangible cultural heritage. Partners have protected the names "Becharac Museum" in Pleternica and "Ganga Museum" in Tomislavgrad as intellectual property (label) and as such are unique in HR and BA. This excellent foundation for the restoration and preservation of cultural and historical heritage is also an ideal opportunity to develop cross-border tourism and cultural events. The newly established touristic infrastructure and set-up of an integrated system of destination management has ensured the sustainability of the new touristic offer.

The supported actions under Priority axis 3 have contributed to the development and diversification of existing tourism potential as well as to the development of sustainable tourism by protecting and preserving cultural and natural heritage assets in the cross-border area. Although the COVID-19 pandemic began when the 2nd CfP projects started their implementation, causing certain difficulties in their implementation, all projects contracted under Priority axis 3 have been successfully implemented and the set goals have been achieved. In fact, some of the contracted projects envisaged and achieved higher target values for the same amount of funds of the Programme budget allocated to this priority.

Data from the Impact Evaluation of the Programme indicates that the Programme's interventions had a significant impact on enhancing and diversifying the tourism offer. This is evidenced by the results of several projects that successfully developed new tourist content, making it more accessible and attractive to visitors in the Programme area. Survey results conducted by experts during the Impact Evaluation show that the management of cultural and natural heritage was notably improved, primarily through training sessions and seminars for relevant stakeholders. Although overall tourism activity in the Programme area was somewhat affected by COVID-19 restrictions, signs of recovery are now emerging.

Priority axis	PA 4 - Enhancing competitiveness and developing business environment in the programme area
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SO 4.1 To enhance institutional infrastructure and services in order to accelerate the competitiveness and development of business environment in the Programme area

Taking into account that there has been existing intuitional infrastructure for business development as well as strategic orientation towards cluster development in the Programme area, this Programme aimed to focus on providing the opportunity to strengthen business support sector and clusters development in order to enhance common sectors/industries by supporting cooperation and further development, e.g. of new products/brands/services and applying innovativeness, new technologies and ICT in business processes. In that respect, under this specific objective the Programme planned to support business support institutions and clusters as well as their collaboration with R&D institutions, public sector organisations and business related sectorial networks in addressing the needs of the Programme area related to expanding the quality of services and products, meanwhile improving the skills and knowledge on applying innovative technologies and fostering the exchange of experience in application of new technologies, processes and products. Under this specific objective, the support to creation and networking of clusters, increase in the range of cluster activities as regards to the use of innovation, new technologies and ICT solutions was also planned to be supported. The following result were achieved within SO 4.1.: To enhance institutional infrastructure and services in order to accelerate the competitiveness and development of business environment in the Programme area:

Within the 1st and 2nd Cfp, 14 projects were approved under Priority 4, worth EUR 13.280.714,17 (total cost) which corresponds to 19% of the Programme budget allocated to this priority.

Content-wise, through contracted projects, the Programme supported actions that were focusing on enhancing institutional infrastructure and services thus encouraging development and competitiveness of the cross-border business environment by establishing jointly used e-platforms, networks and clusters (e.g. for metal and plastic sector, local food producers, herbs and plants processing, creative industries, tourism sector, etc.), setting up and promoting co-working spaces, HUBs, and innovative labs, reconstructing and equipping business competence centres and business support institutions, developing training programmes

and providing educations and trainings in business-related competencies.

Due to the fact that the programme area is lagging behind EU in terms of economic performance, the project CODE contributed to enhancement of business infrastructure and services to support innovations and cluster activities, and improved start-up environment in the cross-border area. Business support institutions were supported to increase their impact on business environment through increasing quality of their service and creating supportive ambient within co-working spaces for enhancing start-up ecosystem. Project intended to enable local business support institutions to build their collaboration and to create mentorship/coaching programme which helped start-ups to develop their projects. New service covered all stages of life cycle related to business incubation and could be replicable in wider area. Collaborations between private and public sector and relevant stakeholders were enabled through cluster activities. After the successful implementation of the project CODE, contracted within 1st CfP, the enhancement of business institutions infrastructure and upgrading services to support development of business environment in the cross-border area continued in the project CODE 2, contracted within the 2nd CfP, where a network of cooperation among four existing CODE Hubs was formally established with the aim of enhancing competitiveness of the target area. Also, a cross-border network of IT clusters as the first step in the further cooperation of IT actors in the programme area was established. Capacities of the existing CODE Hubs were upgraded and one UX Lab was established and equipped through purchasing of new equipment and developing new services.

The supported actions under Priority axis 4 have contributed to enhancing competitiveness and development of business environment in the programme area. Although the COVID-19 pandemic began when the 2nd CfP projects started their implementation, causing certain difficulties in their implementation, all projects contracted under Priority axis 4 have been successfully implemented and the set goals have been achieved. In fact, some of the contracted projects envisaged and achieved higher target values for the same amount of funds of the Programme budget allocated to this priority.

Data from the Impact Evaluation of the Programme indicates that institutional infrastructure and services in the business environment improved in several sectors, including the green economy, sustainable agriculture, and the automotive industry. The projects helped foster the exchange of best practices in applying ICT, new technologies, processes, products, and services directly used by businesses. Programme interventions had a positive impact on the development of innovations, new technologies, and ICT solutions within the Programme area.

Priority axis

PA 5 - Technical Assistance

A sound management of the cross-border cooperation programme is the pre-condition for its effective implementation. The result expected in this Programme within this Priority Axis was directly linked to the need of ensuring an adequate management and control environment of the Programme, safeguarding that all Programme implementation steps (including calls for project proposals, contracting, monitoring of

projects and Programme achievements, reimbursement of expenditure, etc.) were timely executed.

Besides a sound Programme management, the capacity of applicants and beneficiaries to participate in the Programme as well as the direct involvement of relevant partners (i.e. competent regional and local bodies representing public institutions at all relevant levels, socio-economic bodies and the civil society) were key factors for effective programme implementation. Therefore, the Programme also planned to address the need to further build capacity of applicants and beneficiaries to participate in projects and to take up results.

The following results were achieved within this Priority Axis through these actions:

#### **Actions to support managing and implementing the programme effectively and efficiently**

In line with Article 59 of the CPR, actions within this Priority Axis included the preparation, management, monitoring, evaluation, information and communication, networking, complaint resolution, and control and audit tasks of the Programme. Some of the supported actions through the Programme were:

- setting up and managing of Joint Secretariat supporting the Managing Authority and assisting the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) in the implementation and day-to-day management of the Programme,
- preparing and implementing 2 Calls for proposals, including the development of guidance documents setting out the conditions for the support of projects,
- setting-up and implementing procedures for the quality assessment, monitoring and control of projects implemented under the Programme, and contributing to the reduction of administrative burden for beneficiaries,
- collecting data concerning the progress of the Programme in achieving its objectives, as well as financial data and data relating to indicators and targets, and reporting to the JMC and the European Commission,
- developing and implementing the Programme Communication strategy, including the setting up and implementation of information and communication measures and tools in line with Article 115 of the CPR,
- preparing and implementing the Programme Evaluation plan and follow-up of findings of independent programme evaluations,

- setting up, running and maintaining eMS, a digital system to record and store data on each project necessary for the monitoring, evaluation, financial management, verification and audit, and contributing to the reduction of administrative burden for beneficiaries,
- setting up a Network of financial controllers, coordinated by the Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat, with the purpose of exchanging information and best practices at Programme level,
- setting up and executing audits on the Programme management and control system as well as on operations,
- ensuring trainings and capacity building to the Programme management structure in order to contribute to the successful implementation of the Programme,
- preparing 2021-2027 Programme and ensuring related ex-ante evaluation and SEA.

**Actions to support applicants and beneficiaries and to strengthen the involvement of relevant partners in programme implementation**

In line with Article 59 of the CPR, actions within this Priority Axis included the reinforcement of capacity of applicants and beneficiaries as well as strengthening of the involvement of relevant partners (including the exchange of good practices among partners). Some of the supported actions through the Programme were:

- preparing information documents for applicants and beneficiaries to guide them in the preparation of applications and the implementation, evaluation, control and communication of approved projects,
- organising consultation, information, training and exchange events to strengthen the capacity of applicants to develop applications directly contributing to the Programme specific objectives and expected results,
- organising trainings on specific implementation issues such as project and financial management, reporting, control, audit, communication and networking to strengthen the capacity of beneficiaries to implement approved operations,
- developing information and organising cross-border and national events to strengthen the involvement of relevant partners in the implementation of the Programme,
- setting-up and coordinating the Joint Secretariat in implementing tasks related to the implementation of the Programme at national level.
- executing studies, reports and surveys on strategic matters that can contribute to the sustainability and

take-up of Programme results and achievements into policies, strategies, investments.

The total value of the Technical Assistance is EUR 6.724.156,58 (total cost) which corresponds to 10 % of the programme budget allocated to this priority.

During the last year of Programme implementation, the MA performed several steps to ensure adequate TA absorption – the prolongation of TA projects until the final date of eligibility of expenditure (31 Dec 2023) and reallocations of TA funds between TA beneficiaries.

**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

In the Guidelines for Applicants for the 1st Call for Proposals (1st CfPs) and the 2nd Call for Proposals (2nd CfPs), the Programme's horizontal themes—equality between men and women and equal opportunities and non-discrimination—were emphasized as fundamental principles. Applicants were required to consider these principles in the development and implementation of their activities. This included activities aimed at promoting equality between men and women and ensuring the integration of the gender perspective at the operation level, as well as promoting equal opportunities and preventing discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age, or sexual orientation. Particular attention was given to ensuring accessibility for persons with disabilities, as well as to addressing the needs of vulnerable target groups during the preparation, design, and implementation of projects.

During the assessment and evaluation process, each project proposal was evaluated based on its contribution to horizontal principles. Furthermore, throughout the implementation phase, compliance with these principles was monitored via Project Progress Reports submitted to the Joint Technical Secretariat and Managing Authority. Compliance was also verified during on-the-spot checks conducted by the First Level Control and Managing Authority.

Projects contracted under the 1st CfPs and 2nd CfPs continued to deliver notable results in promoting equal opportunities and ensuring accessibility for persons with disabilities until the conclusion of their activities in 2023. For example, the “Q-ACCESS” and “INCLUSIVE PLAY” projects under Priority Axis 1 (PA1) was specifically focused on combating discrimination related to disability and promoting equal rights for all citizens. Its activities aimed to enhance the rights and improve the position of vulnerable groups, including palliative care patients and elderly people, particularly those living in rural areas. Similarly, the Fortress ReInvented project under Priority Axis 3 (PA3) included actions to ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities, allowing individuals with visual impairments to experience fortification monuments through audio guides.

In addition, several projects promoted gender equality. For instance, STRONGER and “iNnovaNET” projects under Priority Axis 4 (PA4) ensured equal opportunities for women and men by fostering balanced participation in all project activities. The project also partnered with two NGOs focused on

promoting women's entrepreneurship, directly contributing to gender equality and mainstreaming.

These efforts demonstrate that the Programme's horizontal principles were actively observed and integrated into the implementation of the cooperation programme and its operations. Although no additional calls for proposals were launched after the 2nd CfPs, the Programme's commitment to promoting equality, non-discrimination, and accessibility remained a cornerstone of its activities. The Programme successfully concluded its projects by the end of 2023, reinforcing its role in fostering inclusive and accessible cooperation aligned with EU regulations and principles.

### **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

The Programme's objectives align with sustainable development principles and the Union's goal of preserving, protecting, and improving environmental quality. Sustainable development is a key focus area within the Programme's strategy.

Given the programme area's rich ecosystems and natural heritage, sustainability is central to all Priority Axes. PA2 focuses on environmental sustainability, while PA1 improves the quality of public social and health services, incorporating "green business" principles where applicable. PA3 and PA4 tackle heritage preservation and competitiveness by equipping individuals and institutions with skills for sustainable development.

The largest portion of the budget (over 29%) is allocated to Priority Axis 3, which focuses on the sustainable management and use of cultural and natural heritage. PA2 receives the second-largest share (over 23%) and emphasizes sustainable, renewable energy solutions.

Under PA3, SO 3.1, the Programme strengthens and diversifies the tourism offer, integrating cultural, natural, and leisure activities into sustainable tourism. This includes protecting nature and cultural heritage sites, such as marine and coastal environments and historical landmarks.

The Programme promotes environmental protection, resource efficiency, climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity, disaster resilience, and risk management within projects under PA2. Specifically, PA2 focuses on biodiversity protection, risk prevention, and promoting sustainable energy and energy efficiency.

Under SO 2.1, the Programme supports environmental management, biodiversity protection, and cross-border coordination for managing protected areas, including NATURA 2000 sites. It also strengthens disaster response by supporting initiatives for risks like floods, droughts, and pollution. The programme area, rich in natural resources and protected areas, faces significant risks from mine-suspected zones and natural disasters, particularly floods, droughts, and fires driven by climate change. The Programme aims to enhance risk prevention systems and disaster response capabilities to protect local populations.

Under SO 2.2, the Programme focuses on increasing renewable energy use and improving energy efficiency in public buildings through smart solutions. It also supports joint planning and awareness campaigns to promote energy efficiency across the area.

Impact evaluation shows the Programme significantly improved and diversified the tourism offer, creating more sustainable, accessible, and attractive attractions. It also enhanced heritage management through training and seminars with relevant stakeholders.

As a core principle, the Programme is committed to sustainable development across all priorities.

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

The Programme area is increasingly impacted by extreme weather events linked to climate change, including more frequent and intense heatwaves, droughts, heavy precipitation, and storms. These consequences are already being felt across the cross-border region.

To address these challenges, the Programme supported projects focused on climate change adaptation (e.g., coastal areas), improving emergency preparedness for natural disasters, and reducing the reliance on fossil fuels and other environmentally harmful energy sources.

The coastal part of the programme area, in particular, is highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, including extreme temperatures and prolonged droughts, which heighten the risk of wildfires. In response, the Programme supported projects aimed at enhancing disaster response capabilities for floods, landslides, fires, and droughts.

The FLOOD&FIRE project, as part of climate change adaptation efforts, improved disaster response by establishing a communication centre for firefighters to better coordinate cross-border disaster risk management initiatives. It also provided capacity-building activities to enhance emergency responders' preparedness. The RESPONSA project focused on improving landslide and flash flood risk prevention through the creation of an Early Warning System (EWS), helping individuals and communities take timely action to reduce harm.

Meanwhile, the IRENE project promoted the sustainable use of natural resources by investing in energy-efficient innovations, including 11 lighting systems and one solar system across multiple locations, as well as setting up energy efficiency teams and a cross-border network. The SMART SCHOOL project contributed to climate change mitigation by improving energy efficiency in schools and introducing renewable energy solutions. It renovated seven schools with energy-efficient upgrades, installed biomass heating, created two Solar Labs, and developed 20 prototypes by student innovators.

By the end of 2023, projects under specific objective 2.1. allocated EUR 3,492,306.07 for climate change objectives (categories 085, 086, and 087). Additionally, several projects under specific objective 2.2. focused on promoting renewable energy sources, reducing the carbon footprint, and decreasing dependence on fossil fuels for energy production.

## **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

In compliance with section 5.7 of the adopted Cooperation Programme, measures concerning the involvement of partners during Programme implementation focused on participation of national, regional, and local stakeholders in the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) and engaging beneficiaries and target groups in targeted workshops and trainings. These efforts ensured active involvement of partners throughout the Programme's lifecycle, which concluded with the implementation of the 1st and 2nd Calls for Proposals by the end of 2023.

### Participation in Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) Meetings:

The JMC, composed of representatives from Croatia (ministries, regional development agencies, counties), Bosnia and Herzegovina (ministries and associations), and Montenegro (ministries and the Union of Municipalities), played a key role in Programme implementation. The JMC oversaw the adoption of key Programme documents, such as Guidelines for Applicants, Programme Rules on eligibility of expenditures, and Annual Communication Plans, and selected projects under both Calls.

### Involvement of Beneficiaries and Target groups by Priority Axis:

PA 1: Beneficiaries included local/regional public authorities, NGOs, social and health service organisations, public elderly homes, and development agencies.

PA 2: Beneficiaries included sectoral agencies, higher education institutions, local/regional authorities, NGOs, utility companies, and institutions responsible for environment and nature.

PA 3: Beneficiaries included local/regional authorities, NGOs, tourist boards, development agencies, and

organisations focused on cultural and natural heritage.

PA 4: Beneficiaries included business support organisations, clusters, development agencies, local action groups, and business zones.

#### Capacity Building and Awareness Raising Activities:

A variety of capacity-building activities were conducted for beneficiaries and stakeholders, including information sessions, project clinics, thematic workshops, and the development of publications and manuals. These activities enhanced the awareness and capacity of applicants and beneficiaries to implement projects in line with Programme goals. Furthermore, awareness of competent partners regarding Programme opportunities and expected results was strengthened through events, bilateral meetings, and targeted mailings.

With the conclusion of the Programme implementation period, the participation of relevant stakeholders in the 1st and 2nd Calls for Proposals has significantly contributed to achieving the Programme's objectives. The active involvement of partners throughout the Programme's lifecycle has fostered a collaborative environment, ensuring successful implementation and the long-term impact of funded projects in the Programme area.

## **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**

In line with the Evaluation plan, approved by the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) on 30 November 2016, Programme specific needs and the available financial resources, two evaluations have been done during the implementation of the Programme:

1. Evaluation of the Programme efficiency and effectiveness, carried out in 2019, focusing on the evaluation of the quality and effectiveness of the Programme management and implementation (management structure, coordination between bodies, monitoring system, etc.) and evaluation of the quality and effectiveness of the Programme communication strategy. The evaluation methodology combined desk reviews of Programme documents, a web survey answered by the beneficiaries and applicants, a set of interviews with Programme representatives and a case study analysis.
2. Impact evaluation, carried out in 2021, focusing on the assessment of Programme results and their sustainability as regards to each specific objective, assessment of the impact of communication according to the planned goals and assessment of the impact of the Programme and projects financed within the Programme on the Programme area, cross-border population, project partners and other target groups. The evaluation also aimed at identifying which are the key challenges and which improvements are necessary for the programming period 2021-2027. The evaluation methodology combined desk reviews of Programme documents, a web survey for beneficiaries, and a case study analysis, which consisted of interviews with project partners and the analysis of project documents.

Overall budget for the evaluation of the Programme efficiency and effectiveness was ca 40.000 EUR, whereas the budget for the Programme impact evaluation was ca 31.500 EUR. The evaluations above were done jointly with the same evaluations carried out for Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia–Serbia.

Results of both evaluations have been presented to the JMC members and published on Programme website.

Both evaluations carried out during Programme implementation analysed the achievements and contribution to the set Programme output and result indicators.

Findings of the 'operational' evaluation, carried out in 2019, showed that the tangible outputs had been produced and that the targets set for 2023 for the majority of output indicators are reachable, while the underachieved indicators were closely monitored and supported, especially through the 2nd CfP. As regards the result indicators, in the first evaluation, it was found that there is a certain progress towards the achievement of the targeted values for some result indicators, whereas others should be carefully monitored since there were some difficulties in collecting relevant data from the institutions in all three countries. It was recommended to take profit of the impact evaluation to assess the direct contribution of the Programme to the result indicators, especially since the 'operational' evaluation was carried out early in the implementation of the Programme and the progress captured by the result indicators could be due to the external factors. Furthermore, the main focus of this evaluation was not on the achievements of the output and result indicators, but on the capacities of Programme bodies and procedures set for Programme management and implementation, as well as on the assessment of quality and effectiveness of the Programme communication strategy.

Impact evaluation, envisaged for the second part of Programme implementation period, i.e., when the

results of the completed projects from the 1st CFP could be clearly observed and evaluated, should have made a more in-depth analysis and assessment of achieved outputs and results. Having this in mind, the evaluation questions suggested for the impact evaluation process were formed in a way that they do not capture just the assessment of overall Programme achievement to the planned objectives and results, but also to focus separately on each priority axis and specific objective, and corresponding output and results indicators, as well as to provide recommendations for the future Programme.

Impact evaluation was carried out in 2021. Unfortunately, the results of the finalised evaluation were below expectations in terms of concrete findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Programme. Findings and conclusions were mainly based on Programme documents (Annual implementation reports) and a web-survey done by beneficiaries. In that respect, findings related to the achievement (or progress to the achievement) of set target values for output indicators have not offered any new information or perspective that could not be concluded from the continuous monitoring of the implementation of the projects and achievement of Programme output indicators. Programme contribution to the result indicators was assessed and evaluated positively in general terms, with no further findings.

Since MA was performing its function for the first time in the period 2014-2020, it based its expectations for the Impact evaluation on the good experience and positive feedback regarding the previously conducted 'operational' evaluation. However, after the evaluations were done, it was clear that for the Impact evaluation, certain technical aspects should have been approached differently, such as:

- timing of the evaluation – so that it corresponds even more with the project implementation, as well as with the availability of beneficiaries and target groups during the evaluation process,
- duration of the evaluation process – so that the evaluators have more time to allocate on a more thorough and in-depth analysis and assessment of Programme results and their impact,
- higher budget – in order to attract a larger number of quality evaluators.

Those aspects are main lessons learned from the evaluations done and they will surely be taken into account during the planning and conducting of the future evaluations.

Based on the exchange of experiences with other programmes, it can be concluded that the problem of attracting and contracting the good-quality evaluators is shared between many programmes and MAs but there is a limited impact of the measures that could be taken in that respect. However, other aspects such as timing and duration of the evaluation can be more flexible and adjustable to the implementation process of each programme.

Since this Impact evaluation was carried out after the projects from the 1st CFP ended, when the the 2nd CFP projects were at the initial stage of its implementation, their achievements and results have not been captured by the evaluation. Additionally, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, many of them were prolonged and ended during 2023. In that respect, they would not have been captured by another evaluation for the period 2014-2020, therefore it will be considered to include their achievements in the impact evaluation for the period 2021-2027, especially if there will be some capitalisation projects contracted and implemented.

Status	Name	Fund	Year of finalizing evaluation	Type of evaluation	Thematic priority	Topic	Findings (in case of execution)	Follow up (in case of execution)
Executed	Evaluation (Impact assessment) of Interreg IPA Crossborder cooperation Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro 2014-2020	IPA(e)	2021	Impact	a b d g	<p>Programme strategy's consistency with emerging results</p> <p>EQ 1: Do the programme effects and results cover the relevant project outcomes and achievements?</p> <p>EQ 5: What objectives of the programme have been undoubtedly achieved?</p> <p>EQ 9: Are there any changes in the programme area resulting from programme interventions that were not defined and foreseen by the Programme?</p> <p>EQ 10: Did the projects achieve the expected programme results?</p>	<p>The results of the web survey show that under all the specific objectives (SO) projects included have achieved expected programme results, except for one project under SO 2.2 (RMPPI) while some of them also produced results that had not been initially planned. All programme effects and results cover the relevant project outcomes and achievements. It can further be concluded that SOs 2.1 and 4.1. have been undoubtedly achieved since the projects covered within their scope yielded all the anticipated results, whereas only one result had not been foreseen at the very beginning. One of the projects under SO 4.1 (COMPETE PLAMET) that encompassed unplanned results had a notable impact on the programme area as it resulted in clearer connections between secondary education and the needs of the labour market.</p>	No follow up was needed.
Executed	Evaluation (Impact assessment) of Interreg IPA Crossborder cooperation	IPA(e)	2021	Impact	d	SO3.1: Strengthen and diversify the tourism offer through cross border approaches and to	Interventions of the programme had notable impact on the improvement and diversity of the tourist offer, which is	No follow up was needed.

	Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro 2014-2020					<p>enable better management and sustainable use of cultural and natural heritage</p> <p>EQ25:Did the interventions contribute to the improvement and diversity of the tourist offer in the programme area?</p> <p>EQ26:How much have interventions enabled better management of cultural and natural heritage?</p> <p>EQ27:How much did the projects contribute to increasing the number of visitors and/or the number of overnight stays in the area?</p>	<p>evidenced by the results of several projects that managed to create new touristic content and make it more accessible and attractive for visitors in the programme area. Results of project activities indicate that the management of cultural and natural heritage was significantly improved, mostly through training sessions and seminars with relevant stakeholders. Even though some of the projects recorded increased numbers of visitors and/or overnight stays in those project areas, the overall figures for the whole programme area are below the target value, whose fulfilment was further hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	
Executed	Evaluation (Impact assessment) of Interreg IPA Crossborder cooperation Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro 2014-2020	IPA(e)	2021	Impact	a b d g	<p>Conclusions for future interventions</p> <p>EQ 12: Is there a gap between the realized and remaining/new needs of the programme area? What are the conclusions and recommendations for the</p>	<p>The analysis shows that, during the 2014-2020 programming period, the funds provided by the Programme played a key role in responding to the needs of the territory (they were considered “essential” or “important” by more than 80% of respondents). Data also indicate that the capacity of beneficiaries to mobilise other funds is limited.</p>	<p>The programme in 2021-2027 period supports creation of new monitoring and evaluation systems at cross-border level, as well as development and implementation of policy instruments across borders.</p> <p>In order to financially support the projects since the initial stage of</p>

						post-2020 period?	All in all, the analysis suggests that the territory still has needs in terms of funding, for which the future programme is called to play a crucial role. The analysis of the cross-border added value and of the possible capitalisation activities suggests that the future programme shall pay particular attention to supporting actions aimed at improving the policy instruments of the area, creation of new policy instruments (plans, agreements) integrated across borders; introduction of new monitoring and evaluation systems on a local or regional scale; introduction of new monitoring and evaluation systems at cross-border level. Moreover, the future programme shall pay particular attention to the difficulties in ensuring the financial sustainability of the projects since the application phase, to guide future project partners in planning specific actions for ensuring synergies with other policy instruments and for consequently increasing the capacity of the projects to mobilise other funds.	implementation, in the new financial period, the Programme increased the lump sum envisaged for preparatory costs from the total amount of 3,000.00 EUR to the total amount of 8,000.00 EUR.
Executed	Evaluation (Impact assessment) of Interreg IPA Crossborder	IPA(e)	2021	Impact	a b d g	Conclusions for future interventions	This evaluation question aimed to investigate the efficiency and effectiveness of projects	No follow up was needed.

	cooperation Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro 2014-2020					EQ 13: Is there a more cost-effective and/or simple way to achieve the programme specific objectives?	according to their partnership size, i.e. to verify if the presence of a larger partnership represents an added value or a risk in terms of achievement of the intended objectives (at project and programme level). The analysis of the financial absorption (i.e., total amount of expenditures certified by MA and CA out of the total budget of the project) and of the delays with respect to the project deadline initially established (i.e., difference between the initial end date and the new end date agreed with the MA/JS) of the projects financed under the first call shows no evidence about possible correlations between the size of the partnership and delays in the implementation of projects.	
Executed	Evaluation (Impact assessment) of Interreg IPA Crossborder cooperation Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro 2014-2020	IPA(e)	2021	Impact	a b d g	<p>Conclusions for future interventions</p> <p>EQ11: What are the links between activities and/or programme achievements and the overall EU framework for the post-2020 period?</p>	<p>Looking to the key results achieved under 2014-2020 the most relevant SO for the future programming period are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PO1 SO(i) Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies</li> <li>- PO1 SO(iii) Enhancing sustainable growth and</li> </ul>	<p>Out of the eight SO-s highlighted as the most relevant for the future programming period, seven SO-s were selected by the programming task force for the Interreg programme 2021-2027, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PO1 SO(i) Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies</li> </ul>

						<p>competitiveness of SMEs (small and mid-size enterprises) and job creation in SMEs, including by productive investments</p> <p>- PO1 SO(iv) Developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship</p> <p>- PO2 SO(i) Promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions</p> <p>- PO2 SO(ii) Promoting renewable energy in accordance with Renewable Energy Directive</p> <p>- PO2 SO(iv) Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, resilience</p> <p>- PO4 SO(iv) Ensuring equal access to health care and fostering resilience of health systems, including primary care</p> <p>- PO4 SO(vi) Enhancing the role of culture and sustainable tourism in economic development, social</p>	<p>- PO1 SO(iii) Enhancing sustainable growth and competitiveness of SMEs (small and mid-size enterprises) and job creation in SMEs, including by productive investments</p> <p>- PO1 SO(iv) Developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship</p> <p>- PO2 SO(i) Promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions</p> <p>- PO2 SO(iv) Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, resilience</p> <p>- PO4 SO(iv) Ensuring equal access to health care and fostering resilience of health systems, including primary care</p> <p>- PO4 SO(vi) Enhancing the role of culture and sustainable tourism in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation.</p>
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							inclusion and social innovation	
Executed	Evaluation (Impact assessment) of Interreg IPA Crossborder cooperation Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro 2014-2020	IPA(e)	2021	Impact	a b d g	<p>Programme's achievement of planned objectives</p> <p>EQ 2: Is the programme structure (e.g. priority axes and specific objectives, examples of activities, etc.) in line with the requirements and needs of potential beneficiaries?</p> <p>EQ 3: Are the financial resources allocated for each priority axis in accordance with the requested funds of applicants for project proposals?</p> <p>EQ4: How successful and efficient is the implementation of the project?</p>	<p>EQ2: Based on survey feedback it can be summarised that programme structure, selected priorities and specific objectives, fully meet the needs of potential applicants in the targeted area.</p> <p>EQ3: The interest of project applicants for both CfPs was higher than the Programme financial allocation was able to cover. Only 20% of all project proposals submitted were selected for financing. Concerning each priority axis (PA), PA1 has the highest percentage of approved projects (31%) and budget (29%), while the lowest percentage has been recorded under PA3 (14% of projects and 15% of requested budget).</p> <p>EQ4: PA3 is the first Priority Axis most likely to reach all Programme targets for 2023, already having two fully achieved indicator targets in 2020 and four indicators with a level of achievement higher than 50%. Priority Axis 2 is the least likely to reach all Programme targets for 2023 due to low percentages</p>	No follow up was needed.

							of achievement for one indicator in 2020 – Population benefiting from flood protection measures (only 3%). Regarding financial progress, PA2 has the best results, reaching almost half of the target value in 2020, while PA1 seems to be the slowest in financial progress, reaching close to only one-third of the final target in 2020. As for the progress in absorbing the available financial resources at Programme level, the performance of the Programme (34%) is below the average performance of all CBC programmes in 2020 (44%).	
Executed	Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014 - 2020	IPA(e)	2019	Process	a b d g	Managing Interreg IPA programme and Programme procedures - Management structures including human resources	<p>The analysis of the Programme documents indicates clear and efficient definition and assignment of functions, responsibilities and tasks among the Programme bodies. This is confirmed by the opinion of the beneficiaries/applicants who took part in the web survey (79% of respondents declare that it is clear to which Programme body they should refer).</p> <p>The Programme utilises adequate human resources to ensure the efficient implementation of all Programme activities. Some interviewees raised attention to</p>	<p>The Programme has monitored the activity of controllers (Croatian, as well as the ones from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro) during the whole implementation period.</p> <p>It has regularly organised network meetings and workshops for the control bodies from Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and Serbia. These events were organized for controllers to discuss different documents and tools, share experiences and best practices, and</p>

						<p>the fact that the reduction of the staff (which followed the merging of the Agency for Regional Development and the Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds) could limit the capacity of the Croatian controllers to carry out controls on the 100% of the expenditures declared. It was recommended that the Programme bodies monitor the activity of Croatian controllers in order to verify their capacity to carry out controls consistently with the rules established in the Control Guidelines.</p> <p>The set-up of the Programme bodies lasted two years. This was mainly due to the need for Programme bodies to write all the rules, regulations and documents ex novo. The new programming period should facilitate capitalisation on the 2014-2020 experience by expediting the set-up of the Programme bodies. It was recommended to analyse the draft regulation for the post 2020 period in order to anticipate problems related to possible regulatory changes.</p>	<p>ensure the same approach and treatment in verifying expenditures in all countries. Furthermore, the overview of the proper functioning of Control bodies has been reported once a year to the Managing Authority, whereas more detailed report on verifications carried out and conclusions drawn from these controls, including errors identified and corrective measures implemented, has been submitted to the Managing Authority twice a year.</p> <p>As regards the set-up of the Programme bodies in the post 2020 period, the experiences and documents from 2014-2020 have been used and adapted to the new period, so the set-up of the Programme bodies and procedures was carried out much faster.</p>	
Executed	Evaluation (Impact assessment) of	IPA(e)	2021	Impact	a b d	Linkages between financed	EQ6: Available Territorial and socio-economic analysis of the	No follow up was needed.

	<p>Interreg IPA Crossborder cooperation Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina- Montenegro 2014-2020</p>				g	<p>interventions and results</p> <p>EQ 6: What changes have been made in the programme area in terms of the needs and challenges of the programme area?</p> <p>EQ 7: What programme interventions can be considered particularly successful in contributing to positive developments in the programme area?</p> <p>EQ 8: What are the conclusions given the project results and their expected impact? What are the key elements for achieving long-term cross-border impact?</p>	<p>programme areaof the 2021-2027 Interreg IPA CBC Programme HR-BA-ME shows that priority goals from 2014-2020 period remain relevant.</p> <p>EQ7: The analysed projects within all four priority axes show a positive trend in reaching Programme goals. Implemented projects clearly contribute to the development of programme area in terms of health services availability, energy efficiency implementation models, preservation of nature, fostering cross-border tourism development and improving skills and competences in business environment.</p> <p>EQ8: Although projects have had an overall positive impact, sustainability of their activities is difficult to achieve due to the lack of key elements for achieving long-term cross-border impact such as other funding opportunities and uncertainty of circumstances as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic that has had a large impact on the continuation of project activities.</p>	
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Executed	Evaluation (Impact assessment) of Interreg IPA Crossborder cooperation Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro 2014-2020	IPA(e)	2021	Impact	g	<p>SO 4.1: Enhance institutional infrastructure and services in order to accelerate the competitiveness and development of business environment in the programme area</p> <p>EQ 28: How much has institutional infrastructure and services in the business environment improved?</p> <p>EQ 29: Did the interventions strengthen competitiveness and the business environment in the programme area?</p> <p>EQ 30: Did programme interventions affect the development of innovations, new technologies and ICT solutions in the programming area?</p>	<p>Institutional infrastructure and services in the business environment improved in the following sectors: green economy, tourism and materials sector (use of metal and plastic) by testing capacity building and training schemes for SME and by creating innovative clusters and networks between research and business actors. Capacity to network was the dimension in which all projects increased the skills and competences of SMEs. Programme interventions affected the development of innovations, new technologies and ICT solutions in the programme area, which was seen in the project competenceNET where the project involved use of new, smart technologies and approaches to perform tasks of production, education or cooperation.</p>	No follow up was needed.
Executed	Evaluation (Impact assessment) of Interreg IPA Crossborder cooperation Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-	IPA(e)	2021	Impact	a	<p>SO 1.1: Improving the quality of the services in public health and social care sector across the borders</p>	<p>Data from the survey indicate that new services and skills in the public health and social care sectors have been introduced mostly thanks to the interventions of the Programme such as</p>	No follow up was needed.

	Montenegro 2014-2020					<p>EQ 17: Have new services and skills in the public health and social care sectors been introduced thanks to the interventions of the Programme?</p> <p>EQ 18: To what extent has the availability of services in the public health and social care sectors improved thanks to activities financed by the programme?</p>	<p>developing, testing or adopting new solutions in the field of health care and social care services and improving competences/skills of key stakeholders. This suggests that the availability of services in the public health and social care sectors improved thanks to activities financed by the programme.</p>	
Executed	Evaluation (Impact assessment) of Interreg IPA Crossborder cooperation Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro 2014-2020	IPA(e)	2021	Impact	a b d g	<p>Horizontal issues</p> <p>EQ 14: Did the planned measures/projects successfully contribute to the horizontal programme principles?</p> <p>EQ 15: Evaluation question 15: How much has the Programme contributed to the relevant macro-regional strategies?</p> <p>EQ 16: Have the established communication goals been achieved and</p>	<p>EQ 14: The analysis based on the review of project application forms points to the overwhelmingly positive contribution to horizontal programme principles. Simultaneously, survey results – conducted after the projects were finalized – confirm that the projects had a positive net impact, albeit a more modest one.</p> <p>EQ 15: Most of the of the analysed projects was aligned with some of the EUSAIR's and EUSDR's Pillars. On the basis of self-assessment, their perceived contribution to the strategies can</p>	No follow up was needed.

						<p>how have the target groups accepted the Programme?</p>	<p>be deemed as average to high.</p> <p>EQ 16: Most of the Programme communication goals have been achieved, such as the goal to ensure successful external communication towards other relevant programmes and benefits of cross-border cooperation by disseminating the results to different stakeholder groups in the project and/or Programme area and/or to the general public. Target groups gained new knowledge and improved their capacities which were the initially expected impacts of the projects.</p>	
Executed	Evaluation (Impact assessment) of Interreg IPA Crossborder cooperation Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro 2014-2020	IPA(e)	2021	Impact	b	<p>SO 2.1: Promote and improve environment and nature protection and management systems for risk prevention</p> <p>EQ 19: How much has risk management been strengthened and improved through activities financed from the programme?</p> <p>EQ 20: How did the interventions of the programme affect the</p>	<p>Within projects in the scope of the SO 2.1. activities were conducted that resulted in a positive impact and strengthened risk management systems. That was achieved mostly through conducting studies and research in the field of nature protection and risk prevention and improving the competencies and skills of relevant stakeholders. Simultaneously, their impact was the weakest when it came to the development of policy instruments for improving cross-</p>	No follow up was needed.

						<p>environment and biodiversity in the programme area?</p> <p>EQ 21: Have the activities related to the importance of nature conservation been implemented, enhanced understanding among the local population and visitors of the area?</p>	<p>border governance in the field. Concerning the interventions that were intended to have an impact on biodiversity and awareness-raising, the evaluation team observed that the projects were successful in achieving their stated objectives.</p>	
Executed	Evaluation (Impact assessment) of Interreg IPA Crossborder cooperation Programme Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro 2014-2020	IPA(e)	2021	Impact	b	<p>SO 2.2: Promote utilization of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency</p> <p>EQ 22: Did the projects develop new energy solutions?</p> <p>EQ 23: Can changes in public awareness be recognised as a result of the promotion of sustainable energy sources?</p> <p>EQ 24: How much did the implemented project activities contribute to the reduction of electricity consumption in public buildings in the programme</p>	<p>Under the SO 2.2. four interventions have been implemented within the 1st Call for Proposals (finalisation of projects: one project ended mid 2019, one project ended end 2018, another project ended end 2019 and the last project ended at the beginning of 2020). The outputs and results of these projects suggest that the cross border area has experienced an increase in energy efficiency and use of renewable energy resources. The contribution to the PA2 indicator Additional capacity of renewable energy production consists of 1,91 MW renewable energy produced by the 4 implemented projects. Furthermore, implemented project activities led to increased capacity of</p>	No follow up was needed.

						area?	policy makers in the sustainable energy planning, better governance in energy planning (tools, regulatory frameworks, standards), reduction of energy consumption and increased awareness of the benefits coming from the use of energy efficiency measures.	
Executed	Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014 - 2020	IPA(e)	2019	Process	a b d g	Managing Interreg IPA programme and Programme procedures - Programme procedures and decision-making processes	The management structures are generally coherent with what was planned by the Programme strategy. The only differences concern: (1) the merging of the Agency for Regional Development of the Republic of Croatia (initially established as MA) with the Ministry of Regional Development and EU funds. According to the information collected, this merging has slightly reduced the staff involved in the management of the programme (MA) but has not affected the overall efficiency of the two management structures; (2) The hiring of branch office staff by the national authorities (and not directly by the JS). Also in this case, the change has not affected the overall quality, or the efficiency of the support provided by the JS branch offices. The implementation of the	No follow up was needed.

							Programme implies the constant interaction between different Programme bodies. The analysis of the decision-making processes and the opinion of the interviewees indicate that the decision-making process is generally efficient.	
Executed	Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014 - 2020	IPA(e)	2019	Process	a b d g	Managing Interreg IPA programme and Programme - Procedures for publishing calls and selecting projects	Data from the monitoring system (325 application forms received) and data from the survey highlight the capacity of the Programme to reach a relevant number of applicants including stakeholders with no previous experience as project partners of IPA CBC programme. Application process: The analysis of the Programme documents indicates an efficient organization of the application process. This is confirmed by the opinion of the beneficiaries/applicants who took part in the web survey which considers the workload required to submit the application form in line with what required by other Interreg Programmes. Selection process: The information collected indicates an efficient organization of the selection process. Between the two calls procedures have been adjusted in order to ensure higher	Since there was no more Calls for Proposals launched after the evaluation was done, the Managing Authority implemented the recommendation and set a minimum threshold for the relevance criterion in the assessment and selection process in the Calls for Proposals launched in 2021-2027 period.  A separate question for MC/NA members has not been included in the assessment grid, however, a Joint Steering Committee for the selection process was set up, so MC/NA members are able to check the relevance of the project proposals more closely and be more involved in the selection process.

							<p>consistency in the approach adopted by external assessors. Information collected through the interviews and the survey raise no doubts regarding the transparency and fairness of the selection process. However, the absence of a minimum threshold level for assessing the relevance of the projects implies the risk of accepting projects with low relevance to the Programme objectives. We recommend establishing a minimum threshold at the level of the relevance criterion. We also suggest to consider to offer JMC/NA the possibility to check the relevance of the projects proposals to their own local/regional strategies. This approach would ensure more involvement of JMC/NA members in the selection process.</p>	
Executed	Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014 - 2020	IPA(e)	2019	Process	a b d g	Managing Interreg IPA programme and Programme procedures - Project implementation monitoring procedures	<p>The procedures for managing payments and certification is generally effective. All exchanges between the beneficiaries and the control bodies are made via eMS; moreover the Programme is in line with the requirements of the Omnibus regulation in terms of use of SCO. Some of the interviewees stress that the</p>	<p>In the new programming period, new SCO options are used, namely flat-rate for office and administration costs, travel and accommodation, as well as optionally for staff costs.</p>

							<p>control process is sometimes slow due to the different legal frameworks among the country partners. But as the analysis of the financial progress these problems have not affected the capacity of the programme of absorb the available resources. In view of the new programming period we recommend to already start to: reflect on the possible use of additional SCO. Among the different solution we remind the possible use of SCO adopted under other EC instruments (e.g. Erasmus + method to calculate units cost for travel expenses). Data from the survey indicate that the Programme effectively supports the beneficiaries during the project implementation. They appreciate the quality of the Programme manual (very helpful for the 47% of the respondents) and also the approach for managing the payment claims (very efficient for the 40% of respondents). The eMS used by the Programme responds to the regulatory requirements and is generally efficient. There are some weaknesses in aggregating data and reporting them in useful formats, but they have been solved by using additional tools. The eMS allows constant</p>	
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							monitoring of the state of play of projects and their progress towards the targets.	
Executed	Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014 - 2020	IPA(e)	2019	Process	a b d g	Interreg IPA programme communication strategy - Evaluating the achievement of communication strategy objectives	<p>Analysis of the communication activities as well as inputs from the case studies indicate that information and support provided were harmonized and consistent across all the territories. Opinion from applicants and beneficiaries involved in the survey indicates that the support of the Programme was good (95% of the respondents declare to not having encountered any difficulties in meeting the communication requirements, which proves both the clarity of the rules but also the quality of the support provided). Only in 2019 some of the projects from 1st call completed the project implementation which explains the momentary lack of specific capitalisation activities. According to the information collected from the interviews, EC Day and other events (e.g. Regio stars awards in Bruxelles) are some of the specific capitalization activities that will take place during the last part of 2019. We recommend defining specific activities to offer beneficiaries the possibility to</p>	<p>Project beneficiaries regularly organise project closure conference where they present the achievements and results of the implemented projects. Such events and results achieved are also published on Programme website and social media accounts. Projects are also invited to present their results to the wider public during the different communication events (e.g. EC day celebration, Interreg project slam etc.).</p> <p>Regarding suggestion that the impact evaluation could support capitalisation processes and insight to the direct results produced by the projects, it was envisaged that the impact evaluation covers also this aspect, however, the results of the finalised impact evaluation were below expectations since its conclusions were mainly based on Programme documents and a web-survey done by beneficiaries, without identifying specific direct results of the implemented projects (that are not monitored by the Programme indicators).</p>

							present to other beneficiaries and to the wider public the results of the projects. Impact evaluation could support capitalisation processes by offering to Programme bodies and projects the opportunity to reflect on the direct results produced by the projects (which are not monitored by the indicators).	
Executed	Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014 - 2020	IPA(e)	2019	Process	a b d g	Interreg IPA programme communication strategy - Inclusion of partners and relevant stakeholders	Different tools and activities are foreseen to reach all different categories. In this sense it is possible to affirm that the Programme foresees mechanisms to effectively address and involve the relevant target groups. However, if we look to the communication activities implemented, the level of implementation of the activities targeting the wider public is limited compared to the activities targeting the beneficiaries and the potential beneficiaries. We recommend reinforcing the communication activities targeting the wider public. The objective should not be to attract new applicants but to inform citizens and stakeholders about the benefits that the Programme is bringing to the territories. The Programme attracted a significant number of projects	Programme regularly uses its Programme website and its social media accounts not only for sharing information and news from the Programme level directed primarily to the (potential) applicants and beneficiaries, but also for promoting project activities and results benefiting the wider public and the Programme area. Until 2019, when the evaluation was completed, not a lot of projects have reached its final stage and produced results that could be widely promoted. However, as more projects started delivering results and benefits to the area, the communication activities on social media accounts significantly increased. Un-official procedure was set-up between project partners and Programme bodies (MA/JS) in which the projects inform MA/JS on all important

						<p>proposals (approximately five times more than the projects approved) and all programme axes are equally effective in attracting project ideas. Information collected from the case studies indicate that projects partners are organising interesting activities to communicate to their groups the outputs and results produced by the projects. It is reasonable to assume that as the projects approach the final stage, the intensity of the communication activities to the wider public will increase, as well as their capacity to involve their target groups. The perception of the capacity to mobilise the target groups is shared by the beneficiaries.</p>	<p>steps/results/events so that the Programme can share the news from its side 'in real time' and not after the project report is officially submitted.</p> <p>Additionally, projects are regularly invited to present their results to other projects and to the wider public during the celebration of EC day, which is organized every year in different parts of Programme area (on rotation basis between the Programme participating countries). Certain projects also received wider recognition in the Interreg community and beyond by competing in the storytelling competition Interreg Project Slam and REGIO STARS.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Programme created booklets describing implemented projects and their main results and achievements, which have been distributed during different Programme events (launching conference, closure conference, EC day celebration, etc.).</p>	
Executed	Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia - Bosnia	IPA(e)	2019	Process	a b d g	Implementation of Interreg IPA programme - Progress in achieving the target values in the performance	The Programme is overperforming compared to the initial milestones, both at the level of financial progress (i.e.	During the whole programme implementation, the progress to the indicators was closely monitored, especially to the ones whose target

	and Herzegovina 2014 - 2020					framework	<p>certified expenditure), and at the level of progress of the output indicators. All four axes have certified more expenditures than expected, with axis 1 having certified more than double of the expenditures planned for 2018. The targets for 2023 appear reachable. This is confirmed both by the analysis of the data presented in the AIR and by the perception of the beneficiaries (i.e. data from the survey). More precisely, if we look to the final targets for 2023 data show: one indicator has already achieved the targets for 2023 and four others have already achieved more than half than what was planned; three indicators are between the 20% and 50% of the final targets which, from our perspective, make the final targets effectively reachable; five indicators below the threshold of 20% with respect to the final target. We recommend to monitor the progress of the underachieved indicators. When selecting new projects we recommend to reward applications contributing to the underachieved indicators. Data from the survey show that the support provided by the Programme authorities is generally considered very helpful</p>	<p>values were more difficult to reach. Moreover, in the 2nd Call for Proposals, the applications contributing to the (at the time) underachieved indicators were awarded with additional points.</p>
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							(none of the respondents consider the support of the Programme bodies as “not helpful”).	
Executed	Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014 - 2020	IPA(e)	2019	Process	a b d g	Implementation of Interreg IPA programme - Contribution to the objectives of Europe 2020 Strategy and to macro-regional strategies	The information collected from the case studies confirm the potential of the programme. In particular, the case studies reveal the capacity of the projects to reduce emissions, to increase the production of energy from renewable sources and to increase the energy efficiency. The information collected from the case studies confirm the potential of the programme. In particular, the case studies reveal the capacity of the projects to contribute to priority areas 2, 3, 7, 8 and 9 of EUSDR and to pillars 2 and 4 of EUSAIR.	No follow up was needed.
Executed	Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014 - 2020	IPA(e)	2019	Process	a b d g	Implementation of Interreg IPA programme - Progress in achieving the objectives and results of the programme	Result indicators: in the case of PA 1 and PA 2.1 we can observe progress in the direction of the targeted changes. For PA 3 we observe a significant decrease in the number of tourists’ arrivals that is due to factors which are external to the Programme implementation. Finally, data in the AIR 2018 indicate problems in monitoring the result indicators for PA 2.2 and PA 4. Output indicators: population covered with improved health	Regarding the recommendation to reduce the target value of output indicator "Population covered with improved health services and/or social services or facilities", in 2021, after additional analysis, the Programme modification was carried out and the target value was decreased to 130.000.  In the same Programme modification, target value of output indicator "Additional capacity of

						<p>services and/or social services or facilities - the Programme is underperforming. It is recommended to formally revise the CP by reducing the target. However, this indicator is excluded from the performance framework which means that the underperformance does not imply any formal consequence;</p> <p>Population benefiting from flood protection measures - the Programme is underperforming. It is recommended to formally revise the CP by reducing the target. However, this indicator is excluded from the performance framework which means that the underperformance does not imply any formal consequence;</p> <p>Additional capacity of renewable energy production - The analysis of Annex 19 of the CP reveals that the target value declared in the CP (32 MW) does not correspond to the correct application of the formula provided in the methodological document. We recommend modify/correcting the target.</p> <p>TA axis is absorbing resources faster than the other axes. For what concerns the other axes, the eligible costs of the operations selected under axis 3 appears lower than expected.</p>	<p>renewable energy production" was corrected to correspond to the application of the formula provided in the methodological document.</p>
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Executed	Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014 - 2020	IPA(e)	2019	Process	a b d g	Implementation of Interreg IPA programme - Respecting horizontal principles	Horizontal principles are integrated in all phases of the Programme management: programming phase, selection of operations, monitoring and control of operations. Case studies reveal the presence of project activities contributing both to the sustainable development principles and to equal opportunities, non-discrimination and equality.	No follow up was needed.
Executed	Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014 - 2020	IPA(e)	2019	Process	a b d g	Interreg IPA programme communication strategy - Monitoring procedures regarding the achievement of communication strategy objectives	The analysis reveals that the Programme has already implemented a large part of the planned activities. We recommend reinforcing the communication activities targeting the wider public. The objective should not be to attract new applicants but to inform citizens and stakeholders about the benefits that the Programme is bringing in the territories. The analysis of the events organized indicates the effort made to ensure the balanced coverage of all three countries (10 events were organised in Croatia, 11 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 7 in Montenegro).	Since the evaluation was completed, the Programme increased the frequency of use of the social networks and it continually and regularly publishes all relevant news, both from the Programme side (such as news on Call for proposals, workshops for applicants and beneficiaries, documents and guides for project partners etc.) as well as on project activities and achieved results benefiting the Programme area, on all social media accounts (Facebook, X, LinkedIn) as well as on Programme website.
Executed	Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of	IPA(e)	2019	Process	a b d	Implementation of Interreg IPA programme -	The indicator system proposed is coherent with the regulatory	As logical framework for indicators was changed for the

	<p>the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014 - 2020</p>				g	<p>Procedures for monitoring the implementation of the programme</p>	<p>framework which means that the Programme have indicators measuring the projects outputs and the results of the Programme (at SO level). But there are no indicators measuring the direct results of the projects. The post 2020 period foresees a different logical framework which implies the presence of indicators measuring the direct results produced by the projects. From the perspective of the preparation of the new Programme it is recommendable to start to elaborate a possible set of “direct results indicators”. The impact evaluation could be used to start to reflect on the future monitoring system. Every six months (except for the first progress report which covers the first three months) beneficiaries are to report on activities and expenditures. Beneficiaries consider that the process of handling and delivering of the progress reports is efficient.</p>	<p>period 2021-2027, as the findings indicate, and the set of both common output and (direct) results indicators were elaborated for programmes to use them, there was no need to further elaborate additional indicators. In 2021-2027, the Programme uses only Interreg-specific and ERDF indicators, no Programme-specific indicators were defined.</p>
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## 10.2 The results of the information and publicity measures of the Funds carried out under the communication strategy

**All communication activities during the 2014-2020 period followed the Communication Strategy of the Interreg IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Croatia – Bosnia and Herzegovina – Montenegro 2014-2020**, adopted on 24 February 2016 by the Joint Monitoring Committee, along with Annual Communication Plans detailing specific activities. The Visibility Guidelines, published on 29 December 2017, provided communication guidance for project partners.

The Strategy aimed to enhance collaboration, awareness, and implementation in line with EU regulations, building on the 2007-2013 programme to strengthen cross-border partnerships. It ensured effective communication among programme bodies, stakeholders, and related initiatives, focusing on project visibility, funding awareness, and beneficiary support. Engaging stakeholders, sharing results, and coordinating with other programmes helped maximize the programme's impact. A key aspect was raising awareness by involving stakeholders and the public. Projects were required to create communication plans, use the Programme logo and branding, and develop a project-specific website for beneficiaries, stakeholders, and the public.

The official Programme website (<https://interreg-hr-ba-me.eu/>) was launched in December 2015, and the Programme's visual identity, including its logotype, was approved in February 2016.

Three launching conferences were held: the first on 10 March 2016 in Split, Croatia, marking the launch of the programme and the 1st Call for Proposals (CfP); the second one on 10 July 2017 in Podgorica, Montenegro, marking the contracting and start of projects under the 1st CfP, and the third on 21 September 2018 in Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina, marking the opening of the 2nd CfP. All three conferences were high-level events attended by dignitaries from all three countries and European Commission representatives. The Programme's final conference, "Shaping the Future Together", took place on 12 December 2023 in Podgorica, showcasing programme results, premiering short films on implemented projects, and featuring four panel discussions on programme priorities.

Both the programme and its projects had a continuing presence in the local and regional media via the implementation of communication activities, with programme results widely shared via the Newsletter, web page, and social media.

As part of its publication activities, the Managing Authority published two booklets, one for each CfP, featuring details on contracted projects, activities, and key achievements. These booklets were distributed at all public events, including European/Interreg Cooperation Day.

The European/Interreg Cooperation Day was celebrated by the programme highlighting the achievements of cross-border, transnational, and interregional cooperation in European regions and countries. Locations included National Park Krka (HR, 2016), Šibenik (HR, 2017), Herceg Novi (ME, 2018), Banja Luka (BA, 2019), the social media campaign "Discover your neighbourhood" (2020), combination online and Bar (ME, 2021), Neum (BA, 2022), Split and Pučišća (HR, 2023), and Herceg Novi (ME, 2024).

Among the many activities celebrating European territorial cooperation, some included T-shirt coloring, painting canvases, and creating a wall mural in Herceg Novi with children from three children's homes from Dubrovnik (HR), Mostar (BA), and Bijela (ME). The "Cycle Cinema" activity was a widely attended event where visitors generated power for project-related video screenings by pedaling bicycles. A power-generating competition was organized to engage participants, with prizes for those producing the highest energy output.

In 2019, the Programme took part in the European Week of Regions and Cities during the Tasting of Regions and Cities session, showcasing the gastronomy of the counties, municipalities, and districts involved in the Programme. Tastings of local and authentic food products from the Programme area were offered, highlighting the diverse cultural, geographic, and gastronomic practices of our cross-border region. In addition, the Programme was represented by the SafEarth project, which participated in the panel discussion "Cities and Regions: Leaders in Addressing Climate Change."

To celebrate 30 years of INTERREG, the Programme organized three local events during September and October 2020, accompanied by the planting of 10 trees in each participating country—Karlovac (HR), Podgorica (ME), and Hutovo Blato (BA). The planting of 30 trees symbolized three decades of

successful INTERREG cooperation and highlighted one of the key themes of the celebration: Green Europe.

The Programme participated in several competitions to expand its communication outreach. Notable achievements include the 2021 Interreg Annual Event, where the SMART SCHOOLS project was a finalist in the GREEN Europe category. The SafEarth project was a finalist for the Interreg Project Slam 2021 Social Media Award, securing 4th place. The same video also competed in the Interreg Project Slam 2021 Grand Final. In Croatia, the SMART SCHOOLS and IRENE projects were finalists in the prestigious "Best EU Project 2020" competition, organized by Jutarnji list, the Croatian Union of Counties, and the European Parliament Office in Croatia. Additionally, SMART SCHOOLS2 won first place in the 2022 National Environmental Awards - Green Prix, Zagreb (HR), in the category of local and regional self-government. These successes provided valuable visibility, demonstrated the importance of communication with the public, and highlighted the role of effective communication.

Among the smaller events, it is worth mentioning the information days of the two open Calls for Proposals, implementation workshops, project clinics, thematic workshops, and promotional events. A launching conference marking the opening of the 1st CfP was held on 10 March 2016 in Split, and the conference marking the opening of the 2nd CfP was held in Trebinje (BA) on 21 September 2018.

The COVID-19 pandemic required the programme to adjust many of its communication activities, shifting primarily to virtual formats. This included increased reliance on the website and social media channels (Facebook and Twitter posts, video content, and online meetings). To address the absence of in-person interactions, programme staff embraced new technology to enhance communication. In many cases, internal communication and participation in project events and meetings were conducted through online platforms when no alternative solutions were possible.

During the 2016–2023 period, numerous articles were published on both the programme and individual project websites as well as the Programme's social media accounts. Approximately 600 posts were shared on the Programme's website, covering a range of topics such as general activities, project implementation tips and tricks, and updates about the Programme, including notifications, documents, and materials.

**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**

N/A

No integrated territorial development tools (CLLDs, ITIs etc) are used by the Programme.

## **11.2 Progress in implementation of actions to reinforce the capacity of authorities and beneficiaries to administer and to use the IPA**

By organising a variety of capacity-building activities, including trainings, workshops, info sessions, providing online tools and documents, and ensuring day-to-day support (via email, telephone, and social media communication), the Programme bodies significantly contributed to strengthening the capacities of applicants, potential applicants, and beneficiaries throughout the project cycle. These efforts continued throughout the implementation of the 1st and 2nd Calls for Proposals (CfPs), which concluded at the end of 2023.

Activities focused on key topics such as financial management, public procurement, reporting, and use of the eMS system, as well as implementing Interreg's project intervention logic. These measures resulted in improved capacities for managing ERDF and IPA II funds, fostering better project implementation and administrative performance. Specific details of these activities are outlined in section 9.5 of this report.

Parallel to these efforts, the Programme bodies prioritised their own capacity-building. Activities included specialized trainings for TA beneficiaries, workshops on audit procedures (GoA meetings), reporting and public procurement (FLC network meetings), and general Programme management (meetings of the Managing Authority, National Authorities, and other Programme bodies). Representatives of Programme bodies also actively participated in INTERACT events, where best practices from other programmes were shared and subsequently implemented within this Programme.

The results of these capacity-building efforts are evident in several key achievements:

The successful receipt and evaluation of applications under both CfPs, reflecting the enhanced understanding and preparedness of applicants.

Accomplishment of performance framework milestones within the given timeframe, ensuring efficient Programme implementation.

Improved certification rates of Programme funds, reflecting the strengthened capacity of beneficiaries and Programme bodies in financial management and reporting.

In conclusion, the comprehensive approach to capacity-building across all levels of the Programme—beneficiaries, applicants, and Programme bodies—has contributed to the efficient and effective use of IPA II funds and the successful implementation of the Programme’s objectives. The skills and knowledge acquired through these activities have laid the groundwork for sustainable improvements in administrative and operational capacities in the Programme area.

### 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:

The Programme shares its programme area aligns with territories covered by EU Strategies for the Danube Region (EUSDR) and Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR). Its strategy reflects their macro-regional objectives, tackling shared challenges through cross-border cooperation and demonstrating how they are addressed.

For example, challenges identified by the EUSDR related to sustainable energy, managing environmental risks, and preserving biodiversity, as well as the EUSAIR pillar focused on preserving, protecting, and improving the quality of the environment, were addressed by projects under Priority Axis (PA) 2. These include:

“SMART SCHOOLS”, “SMART SCHOOLS2” “RENEW HEAT”, “IRENE”, and “RMPPI”, which enhanced the use of renewable energy sources; “safEarth”, which improved emergency preparedness, risk prevention systems, and flood protection measures benefiting the local population; and “Chestnut”, which revitalized degraded areas by planting permanent crops of chestnuts.

The EUSDR objective to promote culture and tourism and the EUSAIR pillar aiming to increase regional attractiveness by supporting sustainable inland, coastal, and maritime tourism, as well as the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage, were addressed by projects under PA3. For example:

“Heritage route”, which preserved and restored cultural, historical, and natural heritage assets in the cross-border area (e.g., Banja Luka, Garešnica, and Lipik) and created 116 km of joint tourism routes, enhancing the competitiveness of cross-border tourism providers.

“ADRIATIC CANYONING”, which developed outdoor tourism infrastructure and increased the visibility of the Adriatic hinterland as a premier outdoor destination.

ČIRO II project expanded the existing infrastructure of the bicycle trail and created new tourist content (the construction of 10 rest places, 2 parks and 1 playground for children, development of ČIRO mobile application and 3D animation, etc.).

Challenges related to the competitiveness of enterprises, including cluster development, as outlined in the EUSDR, and the EUSAIR objectives concerning research, innovation, and SME development were supported by projects under PA4. Notably: “competenceNET”, “BACAR”, “CODE” and “2CODE”

contributed to the development of institutional infrastructure, services, and networks that provide businesses with access to appropriate competences, enhancing competitiveness and the business environment in the cross-border area.

Capacity-building activities, a cross-cutting aspect of both macro-regional strategies, were integrated into projects across all Priority Axes. These included training and education initiatives in fields such as palliative and elderly care, environmental and biodiversity protection, sustainable and responsible tourism, providing tourism services to blind and visually impaired persons and other disadvantaged groups, cultural management, the sustainable use of pesticides, innovative technologies, and skills development for unemployed individuals and businesses.

By the end of 2023, the Programme had successfully aligned its activities with the objectives of the EUSDR and EUSAIR, demonstrating how cross-border cooperation contributes to addressing macro-regional and sea-basin challenges. The Programme's projects have not only delivered tangible results in key thematic areas but also strengthened cooperation and capacity-building across the regions, leaving a lasting impact aligned with EU macro-regional strategies.

- EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)
- EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR)

**The pillar(s) and priority area(s) that the programme is relevant to:**

	<b>Pillar</b>	<b>Priority area</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - Connecting the Danube region	1.1 - Mobility - waterways
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - Connecting the Danube region	1.2 - Mobility - rail, road & air
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 - Connecting the Danube region	1.3 - Energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 - Connecting the Danube region	1.4 - Culture and tourism
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 - Protecting the environment in the Danube region	2.1 - Water quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 - Protecting the environment in the Danube region	2.2 - Environmental risks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 - Protecting the environment in the Danube region	2.3 - Biodiversity, landscapes, air and soil quality
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 - Building prosperity in the Danube region	3.1 - Knowledge society
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 - Building prosperity in the Danube region	3.2 - Competitiveness
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 - Building prosperity in the Danube region	3.3 - People & skills
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 - Strengthening the Danube region	4.1 - Institutional capacity & cooperation
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 - Strengthening the Danube region	4.2 - Security

**Actions or mechanisms used to better link the programme with the EUSDR**

**A. Are macro-regional coordinators (mainly National Coordinators, Priority Area Coordinators or Steering Group 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 EUSDR?**

Yes  No

**a) Are targeted calls for proposals planned in relation to EUSDR**

Yes  No

**b) How many macro-regional projects/actions are already supported by the programme? (Number)**

**c) Were extra points/bonus given to a project/action with high macro-regional significance or impact? If yes, please elaborate (1 specific sentence)**

The project could obtain max. score (3) on the question related to contribution to different strategies, in case of clearly shown contribution to at least one macroregional strategy.

**d) Other actions (e.g. planned strategic projects). Please elaborate (1 specific sentence)**

No additional actions/strategic projects were implemented in 2023.

**C. Has the programme invested EU funds in the EUSDR?**

Yes  No

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

The programme indirectly invests in the EUDSR through co-financing projects that are contributing EUDSR pillars.

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

The projects contracted within the 1st CfP ended their implementation by 2020, so their contribution to EUSDR was previously reported. In 2022, projects contracted within 2nd CfP are contributing to EUSDR with: • additional capacities of renewable energy produced by project INGRID and Wood KEY, by installing new highly efficient biomass-using heating boilers and small solar power plants; • 3 training centres for environmental risk prevention renovated in the cross-border area by project SAFE TOGETHER • more than 11.000 ha of chestnut forest analysed with the aim to achieve a better conservation status by project CHESTNUT

**E. Does the programme contribute to the targets as validated by the national coordinators and priority area coordinators in 2016 (uploaded on the EUSDR website)? (Please specify the target(s))**

The Programme contributes to Priority Areas 2,3,4,5,6,7,8 and 9.

**Pillar(s), topic(s) and/or cross cutting issue(s) that the programme is relevant to:**

	<b>Pillar</b>	<b>Topic / Cross cutting issue</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - Blue growth	1.1.1 - Blue technologies
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - Blue growth	1.1.2 - Fisheries and aquaculture
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - Blue growth	1.1.3 - Maritime and marine governance and services
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - Blue growth	1.2.1 - Strengthening R&D, innovation
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - Blue growth	1.2.2 - SMEs development
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - Blue growth	1.2.3 - Capacity building
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 - Connecting the region	2.1.1 - Maritime transport
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 - Connecting the region	2.1.2 - Intermodal connections to the hinterland
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 - Connecting the region	2.1.3 - Energy networks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 - Connecting the region	2.2.1 - Strengthening R&D, innovation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 - Connecting the region	2.2.2 - SMEs development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 - Connecting the region	2.2.3 - Capacity building
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 - Environmental quality	3.1.1 - The marine environment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 - Environmental quality	3.1.2 - Transnational terrestrial habitats and biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 - Environmental quality	3.2.1 - Strengthening R&D, innovation
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 - Environmental quality	3.2.2 - SMEs development
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 - Environmental quality	3.2.3 - Capacity building
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 - Sustainable tourism	4.1.1 - Diversified tourism offer (products and services)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 - Sustainable tourism	4.1.2 - Sustainable and responsible tourism management\r(innovation and quality)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 - Sustainable tourism	4.2.1 - Strengthening R&D, innovation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 - Sustainable tourism	4.2.2 - SMEs development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 - Sustainable tourism	4.2.3 - Capacity building

**Actions or mechanisms used to better link the programme with the EUSAIR**

**A. Are macro-regional coordinators (mainly National Coordinators, Pillar Coordinators, or Thematic Steering Group 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 EUSAIR?**

Yes  No

**a) Are targeted calls for proposals planned in relation to EUSAIR**

Yes  No

**b) How many macro-regional projects/actions are already supported by the programme? (Number)**

**c) Were extra points/bonus given to a project/action with high macro-regional significance or impact? If yes, please elaborate (1 specific sentence)**

The project could obtain max. score (3) on the question related to contribution to different strategies, in case of clearly shown contribution to at least one macroregional strategy.

**d) Other actions (e.g. planned strategic projects). Please elaborate (1 specific sentence)**

No additional actions/strategic projects were implemented in 2023.

**C. Has the programme invested EU funds in the EUSAIR?**

Yes  No

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

The programme indirectly invests in the EUDSR through co-financing projects that are contributing EUSAIR pillars.

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

The projects contracted within the 1st CfP ended their implementation by 2020, so their contribution to EUSAIR was previously reported. In 2022 the 2nd CfP projects contributed to EUSAIR with: • Project FORTITUDE created and launched a joint cultural manifestation, "Night of Fortresses", aimed at popularizing and promoting fortified cultural heritage in the cross-border area. The first manifestation was held on April 29 and 30, 2022 in three partner countries, and included concerts, workshops, exhibitions and guided tours. • Project HERITAGE REVIVED performed reconstruction of three archaeological sites in cross-border area. The sites are also equipped by new VR content. • Project WRECKS FOR ALL performed photogrammetric scanning of Adriatic seabed in the cross-border area, in order to create new touristic offer - Virtual East Adriatic shipwrecks/underwater heritage trails map. Moreover, all projects contracted within PA1 provided joint education and training schemes on health and/or

**E. Does the programme contribute to the objectives and/or targets which are attached to each topic under the Pillars, as stated in the Action Plan? (please specify the objective(s) and target(s))**

The Programme contributes to objectives 2 and 3 of Pilar 3: ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, and to all objectives of Pilar 4 SUSTAINABLE TOURISM.

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

The Programme's social innovation initiatives aimed to deliver transformative strategies, products, and processes that bring sustainable improvements to the lives of people in the Programme area. These initiatives address long-term challenges, enhance impact, boost community resilience, and support societal goals.

**Priority Axis 1** focuses on improving healthcare systems, building capacity, and fostering cross-border cooperation to manage health emergencies and public health crises. The goal is to create sustainable healthcare solutions for shared regional challenges.

### 1. Public Health and Epidemic Preparedness

#### Social Innovation Activities:

- Cross-border health collaboration: Joint health response systems to enhance regional cooperation.
- Health surveillance systems: Innovative systems to monitor and manage cross-border health risks.
- Health awareness campaigns: Educating populations on disease prevention and health promotion.

#### Example Projects:

- ERI-HEALTH: Strengthening public health preparedness for epidemics.
- RACE: Enhancing cross-border cooperation for epidemic response.

**Priority Axis 2** emphasizes developing sustainable environmental practices, community involvement, renewable energy, and climate resilience. These projects aim to turn environmental challenges into opportunities for sustainable development.

### 1. Sustainable Energy and Energy Efficiency

#### Social Innovation Activities:

- Promoting energy-efficient practices and renewable energy adoption.
- Supporting green energy initiatives and solutions in energy management.

#### Example Projects:

- Smart Schools: Promoting energy-efficient practices in schools.
- I.N.G.R.I.D.: Green energy solutions and energy efficiency in rural areas.

**Priority Axis 3** encourages community involvement in tourism development, the preservation of cultural and natural heritage, and the promotion of sustainable tourism.

## 1. Sustainable Tourism Development

### Social Innovation Activities:

- Promoting community-driven tourism initiatives focusing on sustainability.
- Developing cross-border tourism routes to support local tourism and preserve heritage.

### Example Projects:

- Heritage Route: Creating a cross-border tourism route to highlight cultural and natural heritage.
- RiTour: Enhancing tourism offerings by focusing on heritage and sustainability.

**Priority Axis 4** focuses on improving business practices, digitalization, and sustainable economic growth across the region.

## 1. Improvement of Institutional Infrastructure and Services

### Social Innovation Activities:

- Developing digital infrastructure for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).
- Building capacity in public institutions to enhance services for businesses.

### Example Projects:

- 2CODE: Enhancing digital infrastructure for businesses.
- CentrikomNET: Strengthening local institutions to support business development.

These projects, contracted under the four priority axes, address a wide range of social challenges and promote long-term solutions, helping to create a more sustainable, resilient, and prosperous region.

## 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 **Programme** has made significant contributions to the European Union's strategy for smart, sustainable, and inclusive growth through its contracted projects. The Programme's projects, as outlined in the Priority Axes, align with EU goals by fostering sustainable development, innovation, and inclusivity across the region.

### 1. Smart Growth

The Programme enhances **innovation** and **digitalization** in business, tourism, and healthcare. Projects like **2CODE** and **CREATIVE@CBC** focus on developing digital infrastructure and fostering creativity, which are key components of the EU's digital strategy. Additionally, initiatives under Priority Axis 4 aim to strengthen institutional support and improve business environments, boosting innovation and competitiveness in local economies.

### 2. Sustainable Growth

Projects within **Priority Axis 2**, such as **Smart Schools** and **I.N.G.R.I.D.**, promote **renewable energy** and **energy efficiency**, advancing the EU's green transition. These projects integrate sustainable practices in education and rural areas, contributing to the EU's environmental goals by improving energy management and resource efficiency. Furthermore, **Flood & Fire** and **RESPONSa** focus on risk prevention, supporting climate change resilience and environmental protection.

### 3. Inclusive Growth

Priority Axis 1 contributes to **inclusive growth** by addressing **healthcare accessibility** and **social services**, especially in border regions. Projects like **ERI-Health** and **RACE** focus on enhancing public health preparedness and ensuring equitable access to services, fostering social inclusion and improving the quality of life for vulnerable populations. Similarly, **Heritage Route** and **RiTour** under Priority Axis 3 work to make tourism more inclusive, engaging local communities and preserving cultural heritage for future generations.

In summary, through its projects, the Programme fosters smart, sustainable, and inclusive growth by promoting innovation, supporting green and energy-efficient practices, and ensuring social inclusion across Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro. These efforts align with and contribute to the overarching EU goals for regional development.



#### **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 targets set out in the performance framework are all achieved over 80% and are mostly even surpassed. By the end of the Programme, all Output Indicators were achieved or surpassed, except for PA3a (number of joint tourism offers/products developed and promoted) and PA4c (number of laboratories/competence centres developed or improved), where the Programme achieved over 80% of the targets. Further details on the achievement of output and result indicators are provided in Chapter 3.2 of the Final Implementation Report.

The issues affecting the performance of the Programme and measures taken are described in Chapter 5.

## Annex I. List of all operations phased from 2014-2020 into 2021-2027

Priority	Operation reference	Operation title	Date (and number) of tacit agreement/approval by commission (if major project)	Phased operation under article 118	Phased operation under article 118a	Total cost of operation (in EUR) - Total (for both phases, final or estimated)	Total cost of operation (in EUR) - For the second phase (final or estimated)	Total certified expenditure for the first phase (in EUR)	Public contribution for the first phase (in EUR)	Planned/final completion date of the second phase (year, quarter)	2021-2027 Programme under which the operation will be/was completed
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## Annex II. List of non-functioning operations

Priority	Operation reference	Operation title	Name of the beneficiary / recipient	Total cost of the operation (in EUR)	Total Certified Expenditure (in EUR)	Public contribution (in EUR)
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### 1. ANNEX III. LIST OF OPERATIONS AFFECTED BY ONGOING NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS / SUSPENDED BY A LEGAL PROCEEDING OR BY AN ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL HAVING SUSPENSORY EFFECT

Priority	Operation reference	Operation title	Name of the beneficiary / recipient	Total Certified Expenditure affected (in EUR)	Public contribution affected (in EUR)	Operation affected by ongoing national investigations	Operation suspended by a legal proceeding or by an administrative appeal having suspensory effect
PA 3	HR-BA-ME377 PA.CON	Pannonia-Adria Connection	Općina Nijemci (Croatia)	119,002.49	101,152.12		✓
PA 3	HR-BA-ME419 EXCHANGE	Explore Cross-border Aquatic Biodiversity	University of Dubrovnik (Croatia)	457,450.17	388,832.64	✓	

## DOCUMENTS

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent By
Citizens' summary	Citizens' summary	07-Apr-2025			Citizens' summary	07-Apr-2025	n008u76v

## LATEST VALIDATION RESULTS

Severity	Code	Message
Info		Implementation report version has been validated
Warning	2.40	In Section 'Macro-regional and sea basin strategies' when the answer to question B is Yes, questions a) and b) should not be empty for strategy EUSAIR
Warning	2.40	In Section 'Macro-regional and sea basin strategies' when the answer to question B is Yes, questions a) and b) should not be empty for strategy EUSDR
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 1, investment priority: -, specific objective: 1.1, indicator: PA1, year: 2014 (0.00 < 44.00). Please check.
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, specific objective: 3.1, indicator: PA3, year: 2014 (0.00 < 73,522,546.00). Please check.
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, specific objective: 3.1, indicator: PA3, year: 2018 (59,114,676.00 < 73,522,546.00). Please check.
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, specific objective: 3.1, indicator: PA3, year: 2019 (59,114,676.00 < 73,522,546.00). Please check.
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, specific objective: 3.1, indicator: PA3, year: 2020 (23,196,700.00 < 73,522,546.00). Please check.
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, specific objective: 3.1, indicator: PA3, year: 2021 (23,196,700.00 < 73,522,546.00). Please check.
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, specific objective: 3.1, indicator: PA3, year: 2022 (23,196,700.00 < 73,522,546.00). Please check.
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, specific objective: 3.1, indicator: PA3, year: 2023 (66,500,216.00 < 73,522,546.00). Please check.
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 4, investment priority: -, specific objective: 4.1, indicator: PA4, year: 2020 (5.00 < 33.00). Please check.
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 4, investment priority: -, specific objective: 4.1, indicator: PA4, year: 2021 (5.00 < 33.00). Please check.
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 4, investment priority: -, specific objective: 4.1, indicator: PA4, year: 2022 (5.00 < 33.00). Please check.
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 4, investment priority: -, specific objective: 4.1, indicator: PA4, year: 2023 (9.00 < 33.00). Please check.
Warning	2.50.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is greater than the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: PA 2, investment priority: -, specific objective: 2.2, indicator: PA2.2, year: 2023 (8,286,513,338.32 > 2,697,101,345.25). Please check.
Warning	2.51.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the target value for priority axis: PA 2, investment priority: -, specific objective: 2.2, indicator: PA2.2, year: 2014 (0.00 < 2,508,304,251.08). Please check.
Warning	2.51.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the target value for priority axis: PA 2, investment priority: -, specific objective: 2.2, indicator: PA2.2, year: 2020 (922,091,375.24 < 2,508,304,251.08). Please check.
Warning	2.51.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the target value for priority axis: PA 2, investment priority: -, specific objective: 2.2, indicator: PA2.2, year: 2021 (922,091,375.24 < 2,508,304,251.08). Please check.
Warning	2.51.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the target value for priority axis: PA 2, investment priority: -, specific objective: 2.2, indicator: PA2.2, year: 2022 (922,091,375.24 < 2,508,304,251.08). Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 103.03% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, indicator: PA3b, year: 2019. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 103.03% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, indicator: PA3b, year: 2020. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 103.03% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, indicator: PA3b, year: 2021. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 103.03% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, indicator: PA3b, year: 2022. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 103.03% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, indicator: PA3b, year: 2023. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 121.43% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, indicator: PA3f, year: 2020. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 121.43% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, indicator: PA3f, year: 2021. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 121.43% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, indicator: PA3f, year: 2022. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 121.43% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, indicator: PA3f, year: 2023. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 122.86% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: PA 5, investment priority: -, indicator: 5.16, year: 2020. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 125.67% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: PA 1, investment priority: -, indicator: PA1b, year: 2020. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 125.67% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: PA 1, investment priority: -, indicator: PA1b, year: 2021. Please check.







Severity	Code	Message
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 100.00% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: PA 2, investment priority: -, indicator: PA2b, year: 2023. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 101.48% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: PA 5, investment priority: -, indicator: 5.16, year: 2023. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 104.41% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: PA 2, investment priority: -, indicator: PA2d, year: 2023. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 116.67% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: PA 2, investment priority: -, indicator: PA2d, year: 2019. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 120.84% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: PA 1, investment priority: -, indicator: CO36, year: 2023. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 120.93% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: PA 3, investment priority: -, indicator: PA3e, year: 2023. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 122.55% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: PA 1, investment priority: -, indicator: PA1b, year: 2018. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 128.94% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: PA 1, investment priority: -, indicator: PA1b, year: 2022. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 137.33% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: PA 5, investment priority: -, indicator: 5.16, year: 2019. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 149.33% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: PA 5, investment priority: -, indicator: 5.16, year: 2018. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 178.64% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: PA 1, investment priority: -, indicator: PA1b, year: 2023. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 262.98% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: PA 1, investment priority: -, indicator: PA1b, year: 2019. Please check.