

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

IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

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

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

2021 has been challenging for the Programme, because of the COVID19 pandemic. Throughout 2021 many restrictions were imposed by the authorities in order to limit the spread of the SARS COV 2 virus. Therefore, the implementation of many projects has been affected. Out of 69 running projects, more than 63% needed an extension of the implementation period (44 projects were extended in 2021). Even in these conditions, the Programme has progressed and followed the implementation schedule without major deviations. The absorption target for 2021 (ERDF 37 mil.€) has been overreached (namely by 50 mil.€). The amount of 50 mil.€ certified above the absorption target of 2021 ensures the absorption target for 2022 as well as 32.93% of the absorption target for 2023 (12 mil.€ already certified out of 38 mil.€).

At the end of 2021, 172 projects were contracted with a total value of 275.03 mil.€, out of which 3 were terminated. Concluding, at the end of 2021, 169 projects were covered by contracts (ongoing or finalized projects). There were no projects contracted in 2021 and it is not foreseen to contract other projects within the current financial exercise. Also, 19 projects, with a budget of 31.85 mil.€ remained on the reserve list, with no financial allocation available.

In terms of project implementation, important progress has been made, 71% (120 finalized projects out of 169 projects) of the total contracted projects being completed and producing results that contribute to the development of the cbc area. By the end of 2021, 49 projects were still in implementation, with a total budget of 168 mil. €.

During 2021, the evolution of the project implementation process had been distinct at each PAs level. Thus, PA1 *A well connected region*, PA2 *A green region* and PA3 *A safe region* were significantly affected by the Covid 19 pandemic, because the beneficiaries could not implement soft activities involving face to face meetings and hard activities such as constructions, as the constructors were affected by the unavailability of their staff, social distancing, disruption in the supply chain for the construction materials, etc.

Out of 44 projects that have extended the implementation period, 40 are projects implemented under the first 3 PAs. This process had different impact on the achievement of the PAs indicators targets. Thus, regardless the extension period process, as the projects financed under PA 2 and PA 5 were in an advance implementation stage, the PAs indicators' targets were reached in a proportion higher than 96%.

But, for PA1 and PA3 the situation is different, as the majority of the financed projects include investments activities which generate results at a later stage. Thus, the extension of the projects' implementation period had postponed the projects results for 2022-2023 period, and consequently the indicators' targets. However, at this stage, reaching of 2023 indicators targets is not under risk.

For PA2 "A green region", 75.36% of the projects are already finalized and indicators' targets have a high level of achievement. The projects under PA1 "A well connected region" and PA3 "A safe region", need more time for implementation due to their investment specificity. In this regard, 23.8% of the projects under PA1 and 60.71% of the projects under PA3 have been completed. The related indicators for PA 1 and 3 will register important progress during the next years.

The main results of the PA1 were generated by the "*Improving the connection to the TEN-T network in the*

cross-border area Medgidia–Dobrich” Project (RoBg439), providing a better connectivity to TEN-T for 136,114 inhabitants in the Dobrich and Medgidia cross border area, and thus, contributing to the indicators targets. 16 projects are still running.

The main achievement of PA2 was the completion of the Green management plan for protection of Nature park Rusenski Lom and Nature park Comana Project (RoBg464), which has improved the sustainable use of natural and cultural heritage in abovementioned parks, through specific actions. These actions focused on the development of the integrated management plan of Comana - Lamovete ecological corridor, a study of the alien invasive species, and promotion of intervention measures for nature protection. Other 8 projects finalized in 2021 have focused on the promotion of the natural and cultural heritage, contributing to the increase of the tourist attractiveness of the area, through actions as: creating virtual museums in Gorna Oriahovitsa, Rosiori de Vede, Calarasi, Turnu Severin, Ruse and Silistra; promoting and organizing urban art activities in Calafat and Veliko Turnovo; encouraging the conservation of cultural heritage (e.g. scanning more than 200,000 pages of old books) and promotion of written intangible cultural heritage by developing a joint touristic package for Literary Tourism; organizing painting camps and establishing art galleries in Medgidia and Elena; reconstructing the shore promenade area in Balchik and developing special touristic products for families.

5 projects financed under PA3 were completed during 2021, 3 of which supported the development of cbc risk management systems and endowment of the authorities with specific intervention equipment in Calarasi and Belene; Ovidiu and Shabla, and in Tshenovovo, Greaca and Hotarele, while 2 promoted soft information activities on risk prevention and intervention. The result indicator of PA3 – *“Quality of joint risk management in the CBC area”* is achieved as envisaged by the survey performed in 2022 (satisfaction degree of stakeholders is 4–appropriate).

The PA4 *A skilled and inclusive region* and PA5 *An efficient region* have almost finalized the implementation process, reaching in high degree the indicators’ targets. As such, PA 4 “A skilled and inclusive region” and 5 “An efficient region” are almost closed, more than 90% of the projects under these PAs are finalized (5 projects remaining to be finalized until 2023) and the targets of the related indicators have been reached or are close to being reached (all indicators on PA4 reached more than 89% of the targets and the target of output indicator on PA5, reached 96%).

Under PA4, the projects implementation was finalized since 2020, only one project was still running and foreseen to be finalized in 2021. Still, due of the COVID19 pandemic and other issues related to the public procurement, the project was extended until 2022. Even so, the indicators have registered progress compared with 2020, as part of the projects finalized reported results in their final or sustainability reports submitted during 2021.

The situation is similar for PA5, only 4 projects were still running at the end of 2021. The target for the result indicator *“Level of coordination of the public institutions in the eligible area”* is reached, as envisaged by the survey performed in 2022 (satisfaction degree of stakeholders is 4–appropriate).

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	A well connected region	<p>Out of 21 contracted projects (total 134.56 mil €), 5 projects were finalized (one in 2021). 2 were soft projects (RoBg2, ROBG 1) and 3 hard projects (RoBg127, RoBg133 and RoBg439), focused on the modernization of roads.</p> <p>The COVID 19 crisis had impacted the implementation of these projects. Thus, due to the restrictions imposed by the authorities, the presence of the workforce on the worksites was limited and the supply chain of building materials suffered delays. All these had influence the behaviour of the tenderers, and as a consequence some public procurement procedures needed to be re-launched as no offers were received. On the other hand, the activities on the existing worksites were delayed. All this had influenced the implementation schedule and thus 11 projects had to extend their implementation period. The total length of reconstructed or upgraded roads reached 76.91km (51.27% out of the total 150km target), serving 267,701 people (13.39% out of the total target of 2 mil. people). The contribution to indicator 7b.1-No of joint mechanisms to facilitate the connection of secondary/tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure has reached the value of 12, representing 34.29% of the total target of 35 mechanisms.</p> <p>In 2021 no results have been registered for the SO1.2-Increase transport safety on waterways and maritime transport routes, compared with the situation presented AIR 2020, as the project RoBg522 and RoBg130, covering the output and results indicators are still running.</p> <p>In conclusion, even if the COVID 19 pandemic is impacting the projects implementation, the objectives and the indicators of PA1 are not under a high risk, as results will be generated by the end of 2023.</p>
PA 2	A green region	<p>Out of 70 projects contracted one project was terminated, meaning that 69 projects remained contracted. 52 projects were finalized (9 in 2021). Out of these, 5 were focused on the improvement of the sustainable use of cultural and natural heritage and resources in the cbc area and 4 created tourism products related to common natural, historical and cultural heritage. 17 projects were still under implementation at the end of 2021.</p> <p>The projects under PA2 have also been affected by the COVID19 crisis, as many of the projects activities could not be performed because of the restrictive measures related with the travel and organization of events. As a direct consequence, in 2021, 19 projects were extended due to the COVID19 crisis or procurement issues.</p> <p>Nevertheless, the finalized projects have contributed to the indicators targets. Indicator “No of integrated tourism products/services created” has reached 98% of the set target, while the indicator “No of common strategies ... economic uses” 73.33% out of the target. Also, the indicator “Increase in expected number of visits” has registered an increase to 110,972 visits, overreaching the target.</p> <p>The result indicator “Number of tourists overnights” was reported as achieved at the end of 2018. However, in 2021, according to the statistical information, the value of the overnights in the eligible area was of 196,685. This was due to COVID19 related restriction in the tourism sector.</p> <p>The indicator “NATURA 2000 sites in the cross border area with coordinated management tools” was overreached, based on the contribution of the RoBg464 (15 sites vs 12 sites, target value).</p>
PA 3	A safe region	<p>28 projects were contracted (45.27 mil €). In total 17 projects were finalized, out of which 5 in 2021. In 2021, 10 projects were extended due to the COVID19 crisis or due to procurement issues.</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>The projects contribution to indicators is reduced compared with the rest of PAs (due to delays generated by the complex procurements and COVID19 impact).</p> <p>The results of the finalized projects significantly contributed to the targets indicators. The highest progress is noticed at the level of the people which benefit from actions of risk management, 77.10% of the target of 4.2 mil being reached. The main contribution to this evolution is due to project RoBg22, which has developed an instrument taken up by many municipalities in the region and used for planning their actions against insect proliferation (mosquitos). The output indicator number of joint partnerships has registered an important progress and reached 62% (31 partnerships out of 50). The rest of the output indicators have also registered progress during 2021, but remain at a low level of achievement, 134,270 people benefiting from flood protection measures (3.20% out of the 4.2 mil. target) and 131,379 people benefiting from forest fire protection measures (3.13% out of the 4.2 mil. target).</p> <p>In order to capture the impact of the result indicator Quality of the joint risk management in the CBC area a survey was carried out, showing that the stakeholders satisfaction degree increased up to 4—appropriate level, the set target (3) being reached.</p> <p>In conclusion, regardless the context generated by the pandemic, the reaching of the indicators targets is not at risks as the majority of the projects that will be finalized and produce outputs and results in the upcoming period.</p>
PA 4	A skilled and inclusive region	<p>Out of 34 projects contracted, two projects were terminated, meaning that 32 projects remained contracted. Out of these 32 projects, 31 were completed before the reporting year and 1 project was still under implementation at the end of 2021. Therefore all output indicators specific for this PA are reached. The remaining project, RoBg175, is planned to be completed in 2022.</p> <p>The Programme focused on the ex-post monitoring activities for the finalized projects.</p> <p>During 2021, 21 projects have submitted durability reports. All projects were running, regardless the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic. Some projects dealing with the workforce mobility faced challenges in carrying out the sustainability activities (such as annual job-fairs, training, etc.) and thus, some of them moved the activities and services in online format and others re-planned the activities.</p> <p>Also, the Programme structures have continued supporting the projects during the sustainability, including by providing recommendations such as: replacing the face-to-face meetings/events with online meetings/events, schedule them in the restriction free periods.</p> <p>The target of the result indicator Population that have access to joint employment initiatives was overreached. Thus, 899,462 people benefited from the projects' results and gain access to the labour market opportunities in the area. To this indicator will also be added the results of project RoBg175, which is still under implementation. A detailed list of outputs of the projects financed under the PA4 is available at https://www.interregrobg.eu/ro/projects/.</p>
PA 5	An efficient region	<p>19 projects contracted, with a total value of 15.18 mil. Euro. 15 projects were completed (none in 2021), 4 were still running. In 2021, 3 projects extended their implementation period due to the COVID19 pandemic or due to procurement issues.</p> <p>As mentioned within the previous AIR, the output indicator was achieved in proportion of 96%, while the survey done in 2019 for the qualitative result indicator envisaged the achievement of the result indicator.</p> <p>During 2021, almost all partners focused on ensuring the durability and sustainability of the projects.</p> <p>Compared with PA 4 projects, the COVID 19 pandemic had limited impact on the sustainability activities of the PA 5 projects. This is due to the fact that almost all partners of this PA are public institutions which could ensure the necessary resources for carrying out the sustainability activities (financial and human resources). Thus, the results of the projects (such as the cross-border mechanisms) were</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 use and the partners continued the cooperation after the projects' completion.</p> <p>In order to capture the impact of the result indicator Level of co-ordination of the public institutions in the eligible area the Programme structures have carried out a survey. Based on the results of the survey, the perception of the stakeholders on the intensity of cooperation between public institutions in the RoBg CBC area is considered “appropriate” (level 4), the set target of the indicator being reached.</p>
PA 6	Technical assistance	<p>By the end of 2021, a total of 10.90 million euro have been declared by the TA beneficiaries to MA. Almost 18.87 million euro were contracted by the TA beneficiaries (MA, NA, JS and Ro FLC), out of which 1.03 million euro in 2021.</p> <p>These funds were used for ensuring the necessary support related to the programme implementation (monitoring activities, project implementation, FLC verifications, staff costs, applicants and beneficiaries support, audit, communication and information activities, running of the website, etc.). Thus, the Programme structures continued providing technical assistance to strengthen the beneficiaries' capacity in coordinating, managing and implementing the projects, in order to overcome the major challenge generated by the pandemic COVID -19.</p> <p>During 2021, 30 technical assistance meetings (23 online meetings and 7 at the headquarters of the JS/ JS antenna in Ruse) and 4 trainings were organized for discussing with the beneficiaries particular problems of the running projects. Providing information and clarifications on the provisions of the Programme was carried out by the experts of the programme structures also through written, telephone and electronic correspondence.</p> <p>Detailed information regarding the TA contracts/decisions are published on the website: http://interregrobg.eu/en/projects/our-projects.html.</p> <p>Also, the TA has been used for preparing the next programming period and drafting the Programme Interreg VI-A Romania-Bulgaria, carrying out SEA procedure, as well as for running the Interreg VI-A website.</p>

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

Priority axes other than technical assistance

Priority axis	PA 1 - A well connected region
Investment priority	7b - Enhancing regional mobility by connecting secondary and tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure, including multimodal nodes

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 1.7b

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2021	Observations
F	CO14	Roads: Total length of reconstructed or upgraded roads	km	150.00	76.91	Although foreseen to mainly be realized in 2021 and 2022, because of the COVID 19 related problems the majority of the projects have extended their implementation period, therefore the main achievements for this indicator have shifted to 2022 - 2023 period.
S	CO14	Roads: Total length of reconstructed or upgraded roads	km	150.00	238.63	
F	7b.1	Number of joint mechanisms (e.g. route guidance, incidents/emergencies detection and management, studies on traffic flows, feasibility studies addressing cross-border transport issues, traffic safety measures, black-spot maps, awareness raising activities	Number of mechanisms facilitating connection	35.00	12.00	
S	7b.1	Number of joint mechanisms (e.g. route guidance, incidents/emergencies detection and management, studies on traffic flows, feasibility studies addressing cross-border transport issues, traffic safety measures, black-spot maps, awareness raising activities	Number of mechanisms facilitating connection	35.00	49.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO14	Roads: Total length of reconstructed or upgraded roads	49.63	30.61	7.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO14	Roads: Total length of reconstructed or upgraded roads	238.63	219.31	165.15	79.94	79.94	0.00	0.00
F	7b.1	Number of joint mechanisms (e.g. route guidance, incidents/emergencies detection and management, studies on traffic flows, feasibility studies addressing cross-border transport issues, traffic safety measures, black-spot maps, awareness raising activities	3.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	7b.1	Number of joint mechanisms (e.g. route guidance, incidents/emergencies detection and management, studies on traffic flows, feasibility studies addressing cross-border transport issues, traffic safety measures, black-spot maps, awareness raising activities	49.00	46.00	31.00	8.00	8.00	3.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	PA 1 - A well connected region
Investment priority	7b - Enhancing regional mobility by connecting secondary and tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure, including multimodal nodes
Specific objective	SO1.1 - Improve the planning, development and coordination of cross-border transport systems for better connections to TEN-T transport networks

Table 1: Result indicators - PA 1.7b.SO1.1

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2021 Total	2021 Qualitative	Observations
R 1.1	Cross-border population served by modernized infrastructure leading to TEN-T	Number	626,140.00	2014	2,000,000.00	893,841.00		The contribution for 2018-2021 period is of 267,701 people served by the modernized infrastructure. The total value reported for 2021 is calculated by adding this achievement to the baseline value (626,140).

ID	Indicator	2020 Total	2020 Qualitative	2019 Total	2019 Qualitative	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative
R 1.1	Cross-border population served by modernized infrastructure leading to TEN-T	757,827.00		721,540.00		628,334.00			

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R 1.1	Cross-border population served by modernized infrastructure leading to TEN-T						

Priority axis	PA 1 - A well connected region
Investment priority	7c - Developing and improving environmentally-friendly (including low noise) and low-carbon transport systems, including inland waterways and maritime transport, ports, multimodal links and airport infrastructure, in order to promote sustainable regional and local mobility

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 1.7c

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2021	Observations
F	CO16	Inland waterways: Total length of improved or created inland waterway	km	479.00	0.00	No intermediary contribution was reported by the end of 2021. The project ensuring the achievement of this indicator extended of the implementation period until October 2022. Still, the project made important progress and no major risks have been identified in relation with the realization of the project's results.
S	CO16	Inland waterways: Total length of improved or created inland waterway	km	479.00	479.00	Two projects are contributing to this indicator, one of which is implemented by the relevant national bodies for the navigation on the Romanian – Bulgarian common sector of the Danube. The results of this project are covering the entire length of the abovementioned sector with a system designed to improve the navigation conditions (RoBg522).
F	7c.1	Number of studies, strategies and action plans to improve safety of the navigation on the Danube and the Black Sea supported	Number of strategies, action plans	2.00	1.00	The second contribution to this indicator is ensured by project RoBg522 which shall be finalized in October 2022.
S	7c.1	Number of studies, strategies and action plans to improve safety of the navigation on the Danube and the Black Sea supported	Number of strategies, action plans	2.00	2.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO16	Inland waterways: Total length of improved or created inland waterway	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO16	Inland waterways: Total length of improved or created inland waterway	479.00	470.00	470.00	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
F	7c.1	Number of studies, strategies and action plans to improve safety of the navigation on the Danube and the Black Sea supported	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	7c.1	Number of studies, strategies and action plans to improve safety of the navigation on the Danube and the Black Sea supported	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	PA 1 - A well connected region
Investment priority	7c - Developing and improving environmentally-friendly (including low noise) and low-carbon transport systems, including inland waterways and maritime transport, ports, multimodal links and airport infrastructure, in order to promote sustainable regional and local mobility
Specific objective	SO1.2 - Increase transport safety on waterways and maritime transport routes

Table 1: Result indicators - PA 1.7c.SO1.2

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2021 Total	2021 Qualitative	Observations
R 1.2	% of the RO-BG CBC Danube length and Black Sea where safety of the navigation have been improved	percent	1.29	2014	50.00			No projects were finalized in 2021 in this field.

ID	Indicator	2020 Total	2020 Qualitative	2019 Total	2019 Qualitative	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative
R 1.2	% of the RO-BG CBC Danube length and Black Sea where safety of the navigation have been improved								

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R 1.2	% of the RO-BG CBC Danube length and Black Sea where safety of the navigation have been improved						

Priority axis	PA 2 - A green region
Investment priority	6c - Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 2.6c

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2021	Observations
F	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	Visits/year	100,000.00	110,972.00	From intermediary and final project reports, verified by the Programme structures. The projects report cumulative values of new visits (not divided per year). In order to reflect the requirement of the common output indicator, the Programme structures divided the no. of visits per the years spent in implementation. In this regard, considering the finalized projects' contribution, the value of the visits, per year, is as follows: 2017: 7,600 visits; 2018: 42,118 visits, 2019: 8,606 visits, 9,112 in 2020, 43,536 in 2021. Thus, the cumulated value is reflected in the table.
S	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	Visits/year	100,000.00	287,719.00	The target is based on the forecast provided by the contracted projects (cumulative values, not divided per years). The division will be performed by the Programme structures, when reporting the actual achieved contribution.
F	6c.1	Number of integrated tourism products/services created	Number	100.00	98.00	From intermediary and final project reports, verified by the Programme structures.
S	6c.1	Number of integrated tourism products/services created	Number	100.00	178.00	The forecast includes the contribution of the contracted projects.
F	6c.2	Number of common strategies, policies or management plans for valorising (including raising awareness) the cultural and natural heritage through its restoration and promotion for sustainable economic uses	Number of common strategies/management plans approved	75.00	55.00	From intermediary and final project reports, verified by the Programme structures.
S	6c.2	Number of common strategies, policies or management plans for valorising (including raising awareness) the cultural and natural heritage through its restoration and promotion for sustainable economic uses	Number of common strategies/management plans approved	75.00	87.00	The forecast includes the contribution of the contracted projects.

(1)	ID	Indicator	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	67,436.00	58,324.00	49,718.00	7,600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	287,719.00	287,719.00	272,719.00	120,030.00	120,030.00	100,630.00	0.00
F	6c.1	Number of integrated tourism products/services created	78.00	34.00	32.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	6c.1	Number of integrated tourism products/services created	178.00	178.00	177.00	50.00	50.00	41.00	0.00
F	6c.2	Number of common strategies, policies or management plans for valorising (including raising awareness) the cultural and natural heritage through its restoration and promotion for sustainable economic uses	44.00	16.00	14.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	6c.2	Number of common strategies, policies or management plans for valorising (including raising awareness) the cultural and natural heritage through its restoration and promotion for sustainable economic uses	87.00	87.00	86.00	35.00	35.00	19.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	PA 2 - A green region
Investment priority	6c - Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage
Specific objective	SO2.1 - To improve the sustainable use of natural heritage and resources and cultural heritage

Table 1: Result indicators - PA 2.6c.SO2.1

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2021 Total	2021 Qualitative	Observations
R 2.1	Number of tourist overnights in the CBC region	Number of Overnights	6,668,515.00	2013	8,800,000.00			In 2018, based on the statistic information total number of 2,157,884 overnights was reported. The Programme structures have collected information regarding the number of the overnights in the Programme area, having as cut-off date 31st December 2021. Thus, in 2021, the statistic information reported only 196,685 overnights. The decrease in overnights in the Programme area is in line with the general trend in the tourist sector. As the pandemic restrictions had applied for the entire 2021, it may be concluded that the collected statistic information regarding the number of overnights for 2021 are not relevant in report with the Programme's target, set in 2014 when the tourism sector was on an ascended trend or with the measurement performed for 2018 when the target value was achieved, confirming the ascendant trend estimated when drafting the Programme.

ID	Indicator	2020 Total	2020 Qualitative	2019 Total	2019 Qualitative	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative
R 2.1	Number of tourist overnights in the CBC region					8,826,399.00			

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R 2.1	Number of tourist overnights in the CBC region						

Priority axis	PA 2 - A green region
Investment priority	6d - Protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 2.6d

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2021	Observations
F	CO23	Nature and biodiversity: Surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status	Hectares	27,000.00	27,058.50	The projects contributing to this indicators were completed in 2019. Thus, the target indicator is reached. No contribution reported for 2020 and 2021.
S	CO23	Nature and biodiversity: Surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status	Hectares	27,000.00	27,058.50	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO23	Nature and biodiversity: Surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status	27,058.50	27,058.50	27,058.50	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO23	Nature and biodiversity: Surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status	27,058.50	27,058.50	27,058.50	27,058.50	27,058.50	27,058.50	0.00

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

Priority axis	PA 2 - A green region
Investment priority	6d - Protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure
Specific objective	SO2.2 - To enhance the sustainable management of the ecosystems from the cross-border area

Table 1: Result indicators - PA 2.6d.SO2.2

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2021 Total	2021 Qualitative	Observations
R 2.2	NATURA 2000 sites from the cross-border area with coordinated management tools	Number	2.00	2014	12.00	17.00		All projects contributing to this indicator, financed within the Programme finalized the implementation, no other project still running is foreseen to contribute to this indicator. The value reported (17 sites) includes the contribution of the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme (15) to the set baseline (2).

ID	Indicator	2020 Total	2020 Qualitative	2019 Total	2019 Qualitative	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative
R 2.2	NATURA 2000 sites from the cross-border area with coordinated management tools	13.00		13.00		13.00			

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R 2.2	NATURA 2000 sites from the cross-border area with coordinated management tools						

Priority axis	PA 3 - A safe region
Investment priority	5b - Promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 3.5b

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2021	Observations
F	CO20	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from flood protection measures	Persons	4,200,000.00	134,270.00	From intermediary and final project reports, verified by the Programme structures.
S	CO20	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from flood protection measures	Persons	4,200,000.00	4,200,000.00	There is one project implemented by the relevant national institutions in this field (RoBg351), covering the entire eligible area with specific action in the benefit of the entire population.
F	CO21	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from forest fire protection measures	Persons	4,200,000.00	131,379.00	From intermediary and final project reports, verified by the Programme structures.
S	CO21	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from forest fire protection measures	Persons	4,200,000.00	4,200,000.00	There is one project implemented by the relevant national institutions in this field, covering the entire eligible area with specific action in the benefit of the entire population.
F	5b.1	Population benefiting from actions of risk management	Number	4,200,000.00	3,238,355.00	From intermediary and final project reports, verified by the Programme structures. RoBG22 project has a major contribution to this indicator (the project has developed a joint instrument that was scaled up and used by many municipalities within the cross border area to plan actions against insect proliferation (mosquitos)).
S	5b.1	Population benefiting from actions of risk management	Number	4,200,000.00	4,200,000.00	There are several projects in this field, covering the entire eligible area with specific action in the benefit of the entire population.
F	5b.2	Number of joint partnerships in the field of joint early warning and emergency response	Number	50.00	31.00	From intermediary and final project reports, verified by the Programme structures.
S	5b.2	Number of joint partnerships in the field of joint early warning and emergency response	Number	50.00	63.00	The forecast of all contracted projects

(1)	ID	Indicator	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO20	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from flood protection measures	26,716.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO20	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from flood protection measures	4,200,000.00	4,150,000.00	4,150,000.00	1,486,375.00	1,486,375.00	0.00	0.00
F	CO21	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from forest fire protection measures	26,717.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO21	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from forest fire protection measures	4,200,000.00	4,150,000.00	4,150,000.00	540,006.00	540,006.00	0.00	0.00
F	5b.1	Population benefiting from actions of risk management	487,447.00	304,370.00	291,093.00	6,018.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	5b.1	Population benefiting from actions of risk management	4,200,000.00	4,150,000.00	4,150,000.00	4,150,000.00	4,150,000.00	4,150,000.00	0.00
F	5b.2	Number of joint partnerships in the field of joint early warning and emergency response	10.00	7.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	5b.2	Number of joint partnerships in the field of joint early warning and emergency response	63.00	55.00	44.00	9.00	9.00	1.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	PA 3 - A safe region
Investment priority	5b - Promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems
Specific objective	SO3.1 - To improve joint risk management in the cross-border area

Table 1: Result indicators - PA 3.5b.SO3.1

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2021 Total	2021 Qualitative	Observations
R 3.1	The quality of the joint risk management in the CBC area	the satisfaction degree of the stakeholders in the area	2	2014	3		4	A survey for measuring the quality of the joint risk management in the CBC area was carried out in 2022 to capture the impact of the projects at the end of 2021. The survey was performed on March 2022, online, using Google forms and was based on the methodology foreseen in Annex 10 ("methodology for measuring indicators") of the Interreg V-A Programme. The results of the survey show that the stakeholders consider the quality of risk management in the RoBg CBC area as appropriate (level 4). Thus, the set target was achieved (level 3 – satisfactory).

ID	Indicator	2020 Total	2020 Qualitative	2019 Total	2019 Qualitative	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative
R 3.1	The quality of the joint risk management in the CBC area						3.5		

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R 3.1	The quality of the joint risk management in the CBC area						

Priority axis	PA 4 - A skilled and inclusive region
Investment priority	8e - Integrating cross-border labour markets, including cross-border mobility, joint local employment initiatives, information and advisory services and joint training (ETC-CB)

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 4.8e

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2021	Observations
F	CO44	Labour Market and Training: Number of participants in joint local employment initiatives and joint training	Persons	25,000.00	32,029.00	From intermediary and final project reports, verified by the Programme structures.
S	CO44	Labour Market and Training: Number of participants in joint local employment initiatives and joint training	Persons	25,000.00	54,071.00	
F	CO46	Labour Market and Training: Number of participants in joint education and training schemes to support youth employment, educational opportunities and higher and vocational education across borders	Persons	9,000.00	10,566.00	From intermediary and final project reports, verified by the Programme structures.
S	CO46	Labour Market and Training: Number of participants in joint education and training schemes to support youth employment, educational opportunities and higher and vocational education across borders	Persons	9,000.00	10,566.00	The initial selected value (S) reported in previous AIR increased up to 10,566, as some projects overreached the estimated contribution to this indicator (no modifications of contract/application form were done in this regard).
F	8e.1	No. of initiatives (trainings, education schemes, websites, agreements, networks, job-fairs etc.) that activate workforce mobility in the cross border area	Number	200.00	191.00	From intermediary and final project reports, verified by the Programme structures.
S	8e.1	No. of initiatives (trainings, education schemes, websites, agreements, networks, job-fairs etc.) that activate workforce mobility in the cross border area	Number	200.00	293.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO44	Labour Market and Training: Number of participants in joint local employment initiatives and joint training	21,760.00	18,474.00	4,540.00	116.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO44	Labour Market and Training: Number of participants in joint local employment initiatives and joint training	54,071.00	54,071.00	54,071.00	54,071.00	54,071.00	0.00	0.00
F	CO46	Labour Market and Training: Number of participants in joint education and training schemes to support youth employment, educational opportunities and higher and vocational education across borders	9,915.00	9,096.00	3,743.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO46	Labour Market and Training: Number of participants in joint education and training schemes to support youth employment, educational opportunities and higher and vocational education across borders	9,915.00	9,866.00	9,791.00	9,791.00	9,701.00	0.00	0.00
F	8e.1	No. of initiatives (trainings, education schemes, websites, agreements, networks, job-fairs etc.) that activate workforce mobility in the cross border area	183.00	162.00	121.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	8e.1	No. of initiatives (trainings, education schemes, websites, agreements, networks, job-fairs etc.) that activate workforce mobility in the cross border area	293.00	293.00	293.00	293.00	293.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	PA 4 - A skilled and inclusive region
Investment priority	8e - Integrating cross-border labour markets, including cross-border mobility, joint local employment initiatives, information and advisory services and joint training (ETC-CB)
Specific objective	SO4.1 - To encourage the integration of the cross-border area in terms of employment and labour mobility

Table 1: Result indicators - PA 4.8e.SO4.1

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2021 Total	2021 Qualitative	Observations
R 4.1	Population that have access to joint employment initiatives	Number	200,000.00	2014	1,000,000.00	1,099,462.00		The cumulative contribution of the Programme to this result indicator is: 899,462 persons that have access to joint employment initiatives (from finalized / running projects).

ID	Indicator	2020 Total	2020 Qualitative	2019 Total	2019 Qualitative	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative
R 4.1	Population that have access to joint employment initiatives	1,051,145.00		974,698.00		461,166.00			

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R 4.1	Population that have access to joint employment initiatives						

Priority axis	PA 5 - An efficient region
Investment priority	11b - Promoting legal and administrative cooperation and cooperation between citizens and institutions (ETC-CB)

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 5.11b

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2021	Observations
F	11b.1	Number of supported cross border mechanisms (agreements, networks, regulations, studies, policies, strategies, information exchange tools) to enhance cooperation capacity	Number	100.00	96.00	From intermediary and final project reports, verified by the Programme structures.
S	11b.1	Number of supported cross border mechanisms (agreements, networks, regulations, studies, policies, strategies, information exchange tools) to enhance cooperation capacity	Number	100.00	127.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	11b.1	Number of supported cross border mechanisms (agreements, networks, regulations, studies, policies, strategies, information exchange tools) to enhance cooperation capacity	74.00	62.00	14.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	11b.1	Number of supported cross border mechanisms (agreements, networks, regulations, studies, policies, strategies, information exchange tools) to enhance cooperation capacity	127.00	127.00	127.00	127.00	127.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	PA 5 - An efficient region
Investment priority	11b - Promoting legal and administrative cooperation and cooperation between citizens and institutions (ETC-CB)
Specific objective	SO5.1 - To increase cooperation capacity and the efficiency of public institutions in a CBC context

Table 1: Result indicators - PA 5.11b.SO5.1

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2021 Total	2021 Qualitative	Observations
R 5.1	Level of co-ordination of the public institutions in the eligible area	Intensity of cooperation between cross-border stakeholders	3	2014	4		4	A survey for measuring the level of cooperation of the public institutions in the Programme area was carried out in 2022 to capture the impact of the projects at the end of 2021. The survey was performed on March 2022, online, using Google forms and was based on the methodology foreseen in Annex 10 ("methodology for measuring indicators") of the Interreg V-A Programme. The results of the survey show that the stakeholders consider appropriate the level of cooperation of the public institutions in the Programme area (level 4). Thus, the set target was achieved (level 4 – appropriate).

ID	Indicator	2020 Total	2020 Qualitative	2019 Total	2019 Qualitative	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative
R 5.1	Level of co-ordination of the public institutions in the eligible area						4		

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R 5.1	Level of co-ordination of the public institutions in the eligible area						

Priority axes for technical assistance

Priority axis	PA 6 - Technical assistance
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Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - PA 6.Technical assistance

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2021	Observations
F	TA6.1	No of performed evaluations of the programme	Number		1.00	
S	TA6.1	No of performed evaluations of the programme	Number		1.00	
F	TA6.3	No of Monitoring Committee meetings	Number		13.00	1 Monitoring Committee meeting was organized in 2021, in online format, due to the pandemic restrictions.
S	TA6.3	No of Monitoring Committee meetings	Number		13.00	
F	TA6.4	No of events for beneficiaries	Number		78.00	4 in 2021
S	TA6.4	No of events for beneficiaries	Number		78.00	
F	TA6.5	Number of employees (full time) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	number		72.00	Out of which 9 from MA
S	TA6.5	Number of employees (full time) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	number		72.00	
F	TA6.6	Functional electronic system	number		1.00	
S	TA6.6	Functional electronic system	number		1.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	TA6.1	No of performed evaluations of the programme	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	TA6.1	No of performed evaluations of the programme	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	TA6.3	No of Monitoring Committee meetings	12.00	11.00	10.00	9.00	6.00	3.00	0.00
S	TA6.3	No of Monitoring Committee meetings	12.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	TA6.4	No of events for beneficiaries	74.00	70.00	59.00	49.00	30.00	16.00	0.00
S	TA6.4	No of events for beneficiaries	74.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	TA6.5	Number of employees (full time) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	72.00	71.00	57.00	57.00	52.00	39.00	0.00
S	TA6.5	Number of employees (full time) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	72.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	TA6.6	Functional electronic system	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
S	TA6.6	Functional electronic system	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

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

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	2021	Observations
PA 1	O	CO14	Roads: Total length of reconstructed or upgraded roads	km	Km of reconstructed or upgraded roads	150.00	76.91	
PA 1	F	1F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	8000000	116,333,743.00	61,608,577.26	
PA 1	I	1K1	Number of KM of roads to be upgraded or reconstructed for which tenders have been launched	Number of KM	60	150.00	238.63	
PA 2	O	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	Visits/year	1000	100,000.00	110,972.00	
PA 2	F	2F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	5100000	54,276,757.00	35,937,445.72	
PA 2	O	6c.1	Number of integrated tourism products/services created	Number	10	100.00	98.00	
PA 3	F	3F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	4500000	41,571,197.00	24,914,343.60	
PA 3	O	5b.2	Number of joint partnerships in the field of joint early warning and emergency response	Number	10	50.00	31.00	
PA 4	F	4F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	1000000	13,807,295.00	13,552,309.76	
PA 4	O	8e.1	No. of initiatives (trainings, education schemes, websites, agreements, networks, job-fairs etc.) that activate workforce mobility in the cross border area	Number	10	200.00	191.00	
PA 5	F	5F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	1000000	12,600,168.00	10,768,696.94	
PA 5	O	11b.1	Number of supported cross border mechanisms (agreements, networks, regulations, studies, policies, strategies, information exchange tools) to enhance cooperation capacity	Number	10	100.00	96.00	

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
PA 1	O	CO14	Roads: Total length of reconstructed or upgraded roads	km	49.63	30.61	7.68	0.00	0.00
PA 1	F	1F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	22,475,137.86	13,904,770.59	8,022,462.12	607,924.86	69,370.37
PA 1	I	1K1	Number of KM of roads to be upgraded or reconstructed for which tenders have been launched	Number of KM	238.63	175.00	123.07	15.01	0.00
PA 2	O	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	Visits/year	67,436.00	58,324.00	49,718.00	7,600.00	0.00
PA 2	F	2F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	24,978,821.34	17,982,064.69	9,975,330.14	4,476,584.44	997,046.62
PA 2	O	6c.1	Number of integrated tourism products/services created	Number	78.00	34.00	32.00	20.00	0.00
PA 3	F	3F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	14,244,885.24	17,043,333.37	15,105,886.36	641,618.70	121,431.54
PA 3	O	5b.2	Number of joint partnerships in the field of joint early warning and emergency response	Number	10.00	7.00	6.00	0.00	0.00
PA 4	F	4F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	12,597,871.58	12,235,499.94	9,375,897.77	278,181.51	0.00
PA 4	O	8e.1	No. of initiatives (trainings, education schemes, websites, agreements, networks, job-fairs etc.) that activate workforce mobility in the cross border area	Number	183.00	162.00	121.00	6.00	0.00
PA 5	F	5F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	9,138,069.63	8,453,888.79	5,339,299.55	44,981.41	0.00
PA 5	O	11b.1	Number of supported cross border mechanisms (agreements, networks, regulations, studies, policies, strategies, information exchange tools) to enhance cooperation capacity	Number	74.00	62.00	14.00	1.00	0.00

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	2015	2014
PA 1	O	CO14	Roads: Total length of reconstructed or upgraded roads	km	0.00	0.00
PA 1	F	1F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	0.00	0.00
PA 1	I	1K1	Number of KM of roads to be upgraded or reconstructed for which tenders have been launched	Number of KM	0.00	0.00
PA 2	O	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	Visits/year	0.00	0.00
PA 2	F	2F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	0.00	0.00
PA 2	O	6c.1	Number of integrated tourism products/services created	Number	0.00	0.00
PA 3	F	3F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	0.00	0.00
PA 3	O	5b.2	Number of joint partnerships in the field of joint early warning and emergency response	Number	0.00	0.00
PA 4	F	4F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	0.00	0.00
PA 4	O	8e.1	No. of initiatives (trainings, education schemes, websites, agreements, networks, job-fairs etc.) that activate workforce mobility in the cross border area	Number	0.00	0.00
PA 5	F	5F1	(Certified) Expenditure	EUR	0.00	0.00
PA 5	O	11b.1	Number of supported cross border mechanisms (agreements, networks, regulations, studies, policies, strategies, information exchange tools) to enhance	Number	0.00	0.00

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	2015	2014
			cooperation capacity			

3.4. Financial data

Table 4: Financial information at priority axis and programme level

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

Priority axis	Fund	Calculation basis	Total funding	Co-financing rate	Total eligible cost of operations selected for support	Proportion of the total allocation covered with selected operations	Public eligible cost of operations selected for support	Total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the managing authority	Proportion of the total allocation covered by eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries	Number of operations selected
PA 1	ERDF	Total	116,333,743.00	85.00	134,561,296.53	115.67%	134,534,962.97	65,682,031.18	56.46%	21
PA 2	ERDF	Total	54,276,757.00	85.00	59,912,318.56	110.38%	59,520,839.59	37,457,329.49	69.01%	69
PA 3	ERDF	Total	41,571,197.00	85.00	45,279,876.68	108.92%	45,230,730.85	28,419,571.56	68.36%	28
PA 4	ERDF	Total	13,807,295.00	85.00	16,277,977.28	117.89%	16,054,405.95	13,597,053.29	98.48%	32
PA 5	ERDF	Total	12,600,168.00	85.00	15,184,146.51	120.51%	15,159,113.43	10,934,727.51	86.78%	19
PA 6	ERDF	Total	19,914,966.00	65.00	18,877,349.99	94.79%	18,877,349.99	10,900,547.16	54.74%	17
Total	ERDF		258,504,126.00	83.46	290,092,965.55	112.22%	289,377,402.78	166,991,260.19	64.60%	186
Grand total			258,504,126.00	83.46	290,092,965.55	112.22%	289,377,402.78	166,991,260.19	64.60%	186

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

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

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

Priority axis	Fund	Intervention field	Form of finance	Territorial dimension	Territorial delivery mechanism	Thematic objective dimension	ESF secondary theme	Economic dimension	Location dimension	Total eligible cost of operations selected for support	Public eligible cost of operations selected for support	The total eligible expenditure declared by eneficiaries to the managing authority	Number of operations selected
PA 1	ERDF	034	01	07	07	07		08	BG312	3,738,123.35	3,738,123.35	162,495.01	1
PA 1	ERDF	034	01	07	07	07		08	BG321	4,769,687.25	4,767,340.81	129,684.74	1
PA 1	ERDF	034	01	07	07	07		08	BG323	6,326,447.20	6,326,447.20	4,454,617.53	1
PA 1	ERDF	034	01	07	07	07		08	RO223	30,872,013.64	30,872,013.64	21,720,345.46	4
PA 1	ERDF	034	01	07	07	07		08	RO314	20,756,005.57	20,756,005.57	11,856,857.12	3
PA 1	ERDF	034	01	07	07	07		08	RO317	19,335,134.21	19,335,134.21	9,163,002.87	3
PA 1	ERDF	034	01	07	07	07		08	RO411	19,686,876.69	19,686,876.69	3,957,029.48	3
PA 1	ERDF	034	01	07	07	07		08	RO413	7,943,701.93	7,943,701.93	4,304,931.70	1
PA 1	ERDF	041	01	07	07	07		08	BG323	7,345,319.73	7,345,319.73	4,849,121.51	1
PA 1	ERDF	041	01	07	07	07		12	RO312	5,946,041.74	5,946,041.74	111,888.21	1
PA 1	ERDF	044	01	07	07	07		12	BG311	762,085.72	746,836.40	714,427.51	1
PA 1	ERDF	044	01	07	07	07		12	BG314	1,380,246.63	1,371,508.83	1,070,699.90	1
PA 1	ERDF	044	01	07	07	07		12	BG323	5,699,612.87	5,699,612.87	3,186,930.14	1
PA 2	ERDF	085	01	07	07	06		24	BG312	601,996.28	589,950.34	539,582.16	1
PA 2	ERDF	086	01	07	07	06		15	BG311	258,191.52	253,025.12	228,986.52	1
PA 2	ERDF	086	01	07	07	06		15	RO321	1,082,716.06	1,082,716.06	726,647.15	1
PA 2	ERDF	091	01	07	07	06		23	BG311	3,410,018.40	3,348,427.43	3,132,557.10	6
PA 2	ERDF	091	01	07	07	06		23	BG312	1,862,104.49	1,852,146.20	1,242,808.50	2
PA 2	ERDF	091	01	07	07	06		23	BG313	2,147,901.11	2,142,894.64	1,425,234.29	3
PA 2	ERDF	091	01	07	07	06		23	BG314	4,392,206.08	4,343,627.67	2,696,240.89	4
PA 2	ERDF	091	01	07	07	06		23	BG323	2,342,505.07	2,329,486.50	1,687,084.22	3
PA 2	ERDF	091	01	07	07	06		23	BG332	1,494,037.68	1,494,037.68	164,132.82	1
PA 2	ERDF	091	01	07	07	06		23	RO223	2,453,220.63	2,443,742.84	1,039,895.77	3
PA 2	ERDF	091	01	07	07	06		23	RO312	2,411,189.65	2,366,700.48	2,148,133.25	5
PA 2	ERDF	091	01	07	07	06		23	RO411	955,387.05	936,269.77	881,527.96	2
PA 2	ERDF	091	01	07	07	06		23	RO413	400,468.18	392,454.82	334,812.14	1
PA 2	ERDF	091	01	07	07	06		23	RO414	1,086,671.71	1,064,927.42	615,768.68	2
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		23	BG411	486,028.75	484,113.78	237,700.38	1
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	BG311	2,304,915.04	2,263,339.82	2,042,733.18	6
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	BG312	693,880.93	679,996.38	645,517.99	1
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	BG313	495,103.46	495,103.46	384,540.30	1
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	BG314	8,105,111.96	8,091,080.01	3,417,416.13	4
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	BG321	4,326,563.32	4,323,314.30	3,252,416.79	3
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	BG323	2,944,528.15	2,914,793.71	1,740,130.47	4
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	BG325	2,886,611.40	2,886,611.40	1,289,984.10	3
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	BG332	3,941,093.44	3,941,093.44	2,928,637.08	3
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	BG411	3,948.83	3,948.83	3,487.88	1
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	RO223	4,947,719.49	4,941,032.54	2,170,605.49	3
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	RO314	360,279.12	356,501.42	254,173.18	1
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	RO317	2,597,519.00	2,597,519.00	1,378,509.82	2
PA 2	ERDF	094	01	07	07	06		24	RO411	920,401.76	901,984.53	848,065.25	2
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	BG311	278,390.69	275,701.16	242,691.92	1
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	BG312	1,259,228.98	1,252,251.77	1,196,261.08	2
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	BG313	937,151.73	937,151.73	772,741.77	1
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	BG314	2,199,943.00	2,193,006.88	1,872,872.02	2
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	BG321	4,842,920.20	4,842,920.20	4,100,710.53	2
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	BG323	829,984.18	829,984.18	694,920.24	1
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	BG325	998,815.75	998,163.13	324,505.83	1
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	BG332	800,216.17	800,216.17	310,564.23	1
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	RO223	988,827.18	985,655.16	888,987.36	1
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	RO312	1,298,720.48	1,293,556.05	754,850.11	2
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	RO314	6,759,457.15	6,755,061.33	955,409.16	3

Priority axis	Fund	Intervention field	Form of finance	Territorial dimension	Territorial delivery mechanism	Thematic objective dimension	ESF secondary theme	Economic dimension	Location dimension	Total eligible cost of operations selected for support	Public eligible cost of operations selected for support	The total eligible expenditure declared by eneficiaries to the managing authority	Number of operations selected
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	RO321	1,008,946.32	1,008,946.32	404,994.06	1
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	RO411	1,222,530.55	1,216,916.43	237,317.88	2
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	RO413	2,066,279.25	2,066,279.25	1,685,521.31	2
PA 3	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		22	RO414	916,047.52	916,047.52	334,802.18	1
PA 3	ERDF	088	01	07	07	05		22	BG311	288,084.21	282,319.65	261,208.70	1
PA 3	ERDF	088	01	07	07	05		22	RO322	12,648,689.90	12,640,910.50	11,890,402.19	3
PA 3	ERDF	088	01	07	07	05		22	RO411	5,935,643.42	5,935,643.42	1,490,810.99	1
PA 4	ERDF	102	01	07	07	08		21	BG312	161,949.92	160,581.85	143,796.72	1
PA 4	ERDF	102	01	07	07	08		21	BG314	598,785.51	598,785.51	424,858.94	1
PA 4	ERDF	102	01	07	07	08		21	BG321	1,714,711.73	1,704,804.02	1,524,985.21	2
PA 4	ERDF	102	01	07	07	08		21	BG323	312,937.17	306,675.30	274,609.72	1
PA 4	ERDF	102	01	07	07	08		21	BG332	711,645.52	703,113.96	573,007.81	2
PA 4	ERDF	102	01	07	07	08		21	RO223	833,632.44	831,692.51	695,193.28	2
PA 4	ERDF	102	01	07	07	08		21	RO312	656,665.01	643,525.16	528,688.68	1
PA 4	ERDF	102	01	07	07	08		21	RO314	597,259.23	590,473.82	386,407.88	1
PA 4	ERDF	102	01	07	07	08		21	RO321	584,872.97	578,784.47	487,131.01	1
PA 4	ERDF	102	01	07	07	08		21	RO411	2,498,784.74	2,460,285.87	2,246,078.65	5
PA 4	ERDF	102	01	07	07	08		21	RO413	1,093,192.89	1,079,825.42	871,314.14	2
PA 4	ERDF	106	01	07	07	08		21	BG321	1,166,026.41	1,150,080.57	897,044.81	2
PA 4	ERDF	106	01	07	07	08		21	BG332	818,592.96	805,297.31	713,389.98	2
PA 4	ERDF	106	01	07	07	08		21	RO411	1,402,364.20	1,374,302.91	1,198,412.55	2
PA 4	ERDF	108	01	07	07	08		21	BG323	853,777.72	836,693.64	748,555.30	2
PA 4	ERDF	108	01	07	07	08		21	BG332	378,122.50	370,556.28	292,525.00	1
PA 4	ERDF	108	01	07	07	08		21	RO312	1,369,699.19	1,344,474.57	1,146,895.79	3
PA 4	ERDF	108	01	07	07	08		21	RO314	524,957.17	514,452.78	444,157.82	1
PA 5	ERDF	119	01	07	07	11		12	BG411	1,440,504.40	1,440,504.40	1,301,120.91	1
PA 5	ERDF	119	01	07	07	11		15	RO223	721,492.63	712,057.59	624,741.77	1
PA 5	ERDF	119	01	07	07	11		18	BG312	1,450,529.96	1,450,529.96	504,413.36	1
PA 5	ERDF	119	01	07	07	11		18	BG323	1,081,938.54	1,081,938.54	733,985.02	1
PA 5	ERDF	119	01	07	07	11		18	BG332	427,222.06	427,222.06	335,916.76	1
PA 5	ERDF	119	01	07	07	11		18	RO314	739,577.73	739,577.73	604,537.83	2
PA 5	ERDF	119	01	07	07	11		18	RO317	811,253.08	811,253.08	19,229.75	1
PA 5	ERDF	119	01	07	07	11		20	RO317	1,475,894.96	1,475,894.96	1,326,426.97	1
PA 5	ERDF	119	01	07	07	11		20	RO411	1,300,322.42	1,300,322.42	1,226,676.21	1
PA 5	ERDF	119	01	07	07	11		21	RO223	538,554.97	538,554.97	282,942.22	1
PA 5	ERDF	120	01	07	07	11		18	BG323	366,816.47	364,100.17	338,833.22	1
PA 5	ERDF	120	01	07	07	11		19	BG312	145,020.62	145,020.62	121,864.29	1
PA 5	ERDF	120	01	07	07	11		19	BG332	170,806.17	170,806.17	111,376.90	1
PA 5	ERDF	120	01	07	07	11		19	BG413	1,309,615.60	1,304,126.73	1,078,357.35	1
PA 5	ERDF	120	01	07	07	11		19	RO223	372,178.65	372,178.65	285,261.57	1
PA 5	ERDF	120	01	07	07	11		19	RO312	994,896.64	994,896.64	787,068.40	1
PA 5	ERDF	120	01	07	07	11		20	RO223	1,489,666.82	1,489,234.51	1,012,631.85	1
PA 5	ERDF	120	01	07	07	11		21	BG311	347,854.79	340,894.23	239,343.13	1
PA 6	ERDF	121	01	07	07			13	BG411	1,699,649.78	1,699,649.78	135,478.21	2
PA 6	ERDF	121	01	07	07			13	RO321	4,207,904.50	4,207,904.50	1,396,375.67	5
PA 6	ERDF	121	01	07	07			24	RO312	10,420,085.45	10,420,085.45	8,043,548.92	9
PA 6	ERDF	122	01	07	07			13	RO321	548,855.73	548,855.73	156,622.19	5
PA 6	ERDF	123	01	07	07			13	BG411	29,991.22	29,991.22	6,324.40	2
PA 6	ERDF	123	01	07	07			13	RO321	728,084.76	728,084.76	196,102.98	5
PA 6	ERDF	123	01	07	07			24	RO312	1,242,778.55	1,242,778.55	966,094.79	4

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

1. Operation (2)	2. The amount of ERDF support(1) envisaged to be used for all or part of an operation implemented outside the Union part of the programme area based on selected operations	3. Share of the total financial allocation to all or part of an operation located outside the Union part of the programme area (%) (column 2/total amount allocated to the support from the ERDF at programme level *100)	4. Eligible expenditure of ERDF support incurred in all or part of an operation implemented outside the Union part of the programme area declared by the beneficiary to the managing authority	5. Share of the total financial allocation to all or part of an operation located outside the Union part of the programme area (%) (column 4/total amount allocated to the support from the ERDF at programme level *100)
34	2,604,996.82	1.21%	2,440,614.06	1.13%

(1) ERDF support is the Commission decision on the respective cooperation programme.

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

4. SYNTHESIS OF THE EVALUATIONS

During 2019-2020, the Managing Authority carried out the evaluation regarding the implementation and impact of the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme.

The recommendations of the Implementation Evaluation Report, Communication Evaluation report (as part of the implementation evaluation of the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme) and Impact Evaluation Report are implemented or under implementation, as they are continues or are related to 2021-2027 programming period.

Also, the Monitoring Committee is permanently informed on the implementation status of the recommendations, for this purpose, on 16th December 2021, in the 13th meeting of the MC, the members were informed on the current implementation status of recommendations.

As such, the implementation status of the recommendations is:

Programme Implementation Evaluation: the programme structures closely monitor the achievement of all specific indicators and, at project level, closely follow the impact of important procurement procedures on the smooth implementation of infrastructure projects. In this respect data about the public procurement procedures is constantly collected from the monitoring instruments available according with the procedure, such as progress reports, monitoring visits, and meeting with the beneficiaries. When necessary, JS also verifies the status of the procedures in the Electronic Public Procurement Systems in Romania and Bulgaria and organizes meetings with the beneficiaries, if the case and elaborates plans of measures for projects with problems in implementation;

Also, some key successful implementation rules, like the ceiling of 4 projects per beneficiary and the mid-term implementation target at project level, shall be further considered when preparing the calls for proposals for the 2021-2027 in order to prioritize the support to the best projects and improve the impact of such rules in terms of efficiency and effectiveness of Programme implementation.

Programme management: the use of SCOs is under implementation for the new Programme for the 2021-2027, as they proved to have a positive impact on the implementation of the 2014-2020 Programme. Also, the transition to a full digital flow of information is already in place for the current programme and shall be considered when starting up the new Programme, the programme structures is targeting a “0 paper“ flow for the next programming period.

As related to the system of expenditure control, the 2021-2027 Programme will consider a simpler and more efficient system of expenditure control, by eliminating duplications and by improving the control-related common interpretation of some eligibility rules, especially in relation with SCOs.

When starting up the 2021-2027 Programme, the Programme structures shall also consider to redefine the procedure for selecting the members for the Monitoring Committee, by stimulating a wider and more effective participation of the civil society in order to improve the representativeness in the MC

During 2021, the following recommendations on communication activities, formulated within the evaluation report, were implemented:

- Organizing events for the beneficiaries;
- Issuing more online publications for the large public;
- To increase the number of press releases, interviews, advertisements in all kind of mass-media and to concentrate their scope towards the promotion and dissemination of Programme results as well as on the best practices and success stories;
- Dissemination of information through social media as the beneficiaries expressed interest in receiving information through this channel;
- Increasing the visibility online to easily reach a greater number of potential beneficiaries, beneficiaries and general public;
- Improvement and extension of the unique database with all the projects and results (a well-structured web-repository of the projects materials and findings per domains);
- The organization of the events (fairs, seminars, etc.) in which to present the successful results obtained from the implementation of the projects;
- Elaboration of a handbook with examples for the communication measures in order to establish the same level of visibility to all the projects, by giving freedom of creativity to beneficiaries in defining the most suitable actions for their project types – a handbook called Starter Communication Kit, designed for beneficiaries for communication at project level, to be used during the next programming period, was developed;
- The beneficiaries should focus on targeted promotion of their success stories at the local level, for a clearer association with the European funding obtained through the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme;
- The Programme structures should continue their efforts in informing/training the beneficiaries on important aspects to consider for the projects promotion activities;
- Building an online interactive platform for debates and updated information on implementation of the projects and their results would be useful for the beneficiaries in order to have a greater interaction with other beneficiaries in similar situations – a Facebook group (as an online platform) – called "Know How ROBG" – was created for facilitating and stimulating communication and exchange of good practices between beneficiaries of projects;
- Focusing communication efforts at the project level, rather than at the Programme level, by communicating the results, the real cases, the examples of changes, through a storytelling approach;
- The adaptation of information, communication activities and promotional materials according to the target group concerned is beneficial in terms of promoting the Programme - under implementation, a handbook called Starter Communication Kit, designed for beneficiaries for communication at project level, to be used during the next programming period, was developed.

The implementation status of the recommendations from the Impact Evaluation Report:

In order to improve coordination between similar policies in the border area, the synergies with similar investments programmes has been ensured within the programming process for 2021-2027 through extensive stakeholders' consultations and the use of existing coordination mechanisms set-up at national level in the two countries. Also, the Strategy Board set for Policy Objective 5 will create the framework for ensuring the synergies and complementarities with the local/regional policies. In this respect kick-off

an inter-institutional platform combining local and national administration to discuss key issues and coordinate policies shall be considered when drafting the territorial integrated strategy.

Also, for the purpose of further stimulate and encourage synergies and complementary coordination between the projects funded by the 2021-2027 Programme and other projects financed in connection to other programmes/policies, at project level, complementarities and synergies shall be considered when designing the calls for proposals and the selection criteria (for example awarding extra points for complementarities and synergies with other projects could be considered). Moreover, when identifying the operations of strategic importance, the synergies with other projects was encouraged, as well as the capitalization on the results of already implemented projects.

As related to the horizontal principles, civic education on waste generated by tourism activities shall be considered when drafting the territorial integrated strategy under Policy Objective 5. However, types of actions that are promoting civic education on issues related to environment are envisaged (under Policy Objective 2, Specific Objective 2.7). Also, the horizontal principles in all its forms, will be embedded in the project appraisal process and when drafting the territorial integrated strategy.

For the purpose of promoting the organization of training courses through projects, Policy Objective 4, Specific Objective 4.2 was selected for funding in the next programming cycle. The types of actions included in PO 4 (SO 4.2) include training for digital skills, so that activities of skills development be better correlated with labour market demand.

As for the recommendation on the development of a monitoring system that can measure and monitorize the number of persons still employed at specific periods of time after the finalisation of projects as a result of the implementation of the financed actions: this was not accepted. For Policy Objective 4 selected for funding under the new Programme, the indicators system provided the legal framework set by the EU regulations in relation to the indicators is observed (selection of RCO and RCR set by ERDF regulation). The logic of the intervention is reflected by the indicators system.

As regards the further involvement of the private sector in the consultation through the organisation of dissemination events in the area and further stimulation of the integration of services and the exchange of good practices between the public and private sectors in the cross-border area, as already mentioned, a Facebook group – called "Know How ROBG" – was created for facilitating and stimulating the involvement and the exchange of good practices between the public and private sectors in the cross-border area. In addition, the MA implemented, together with the OECD, a pilot project - Citizen Engagement Pilot – to enhance the involvement of the citizens and relevant stakeholders in the future programme (including public consultations to be carried out during the programming and all implementation stages of the programme). Also, the Strategy Board set for PO 5 includes representatives from relevant actors in the area, including private partners, which will be responsible with drafting the integrated territorial strategy for PO 5, starting from local needs and potential.

Name	Fund	From month	From year	To month	To year	Type of evaluation	Thematic objective	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

In 2021 the Programme continue coping with the effects of the COVID 19 pandemic, on the ongoing or planned activities under funded projects.

Most of the effects were generated by the restrictive measures imposed by the national authorities in Romania and Bulgaria. In particular, the restrictions regarding free-movement of people and goods and social distancing (physical distancing) had impacted the ongoing projects, resulting in:

- the execution of the works for the investment projects were delayed as many worksites had to deal with problems caused by the workforce mobility.
- delays in organizing meetings, festivals, field exercises or any other activity involving a relative large number of participants.

Another side effect of the COVID 19 pandemic was the increase of the contraction materials prices, with impact on the projects activities.

In order to cope with the delays, the Programme supported the beneficiaries in amending, where possible, the financing contracts for adapting the activities to the new context (for including the on-line events instead of initially physical format, procurement of specific software or IT equipment for online meetings, special equipment for supporting activities related to COVID 19 pandemic etc.) or to extend the projects' implementation period.

The extension of the projects' implementation period impacted the Programme's initial planning. Based on the initial projects implementation schedule, most of the them were expected to be finalized in 2020-2021 period and only 17 projects in 2022-2023 period. But, following the adaptation to the COVID 19 context and the extension of the projects' implementation periods, the number of projects to be finalized in 2022 – 2023 period increased to 49 (16 under PA1, 17 under PA2, 11 under PA 3, 1 under PA 4 and 4 under PA 5).

Considering the size and the complexity of the financing contracts, the highest impact was on the hard projects financed under PA1. First, the restrictive measures have impacted the workforce availability on the worksites and the construction materials chain supply. All these had caused delays of works, and thus of the projects duration. Secondly, due to increased costs (of construction materials and human resources), scarcity of resources (caused by shortcuts in chain supply and workforce mobility) and uncertain economic conditions, the tenderers hesitated in participating in public procurement procedures. Thus, some of the public procurement procedures had to be re-launched as no tender offers were initially submitted.

The increase of the contraction materials prices was another significant problem encountered by the beneficiaries, especially on the Romanian side. As a consequence, several constructors have terminated the signed works contracts and the beneficiaries were forced to re-launch the public procurement procedures for the remaining works. So, 11 projects had extended the projects' implementation periods under the PA 1.

In order to cope with these problems, the Programme allowed beneficiaries to use the project savings to cover the increase in costs of construction materials and to allow them to continue and to complete the works. For Romanian beneficiaries, the Law 281/2021 set the legal framework for all Romanian Contracting Authorities to amend their works contracts' value. In this regard, MA has issued the Order no. 1329/2021, later on amended by Order no. 1931/20.12.2021, setting up a specific methodology for the implementation of the legal provisions of Law 281/2021. The law also allows the Romanian Contracting Authorities to reimburse from the Romanian State Budget the expenditures caused by the increased building materials prices, if the increase exceeds the eligible ERDF value of the projects in discussion.

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

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

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

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

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

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

8.1. Major projects

Table 7: Major projects

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

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Table 8: Joint action plans (JAP)

Title of the JAP	CCI	Stage of implementation of JAP	Total eligible costs	Total public support	OP contribution to JAP	Priority axis	Type of JAP	[Planned] submission to the Commission	[Planned] start of implementation	[Planned] completion	Main outputs and results	Total eligible expenditure certified to the Commission	Observations
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Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them

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

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

Priority axis	PA 1 - A well connected region
Priority axis	PA 2 - A green region
Priority axis	PA 3 - A safe region
Priority axis	PA 4 - A skilled and inclusive region
Priority axis	PA 5 - An efficient region
Priority axis	PA 6 - Technical assistance

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

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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

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

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

Priority axis	Amount of support to be used for climate change objectives (EUR)	Proportion of total allocation to the operational programme (%)
PA 1	7,185,324.23	7.27%
PA 2	660,587.31	1.43%
PA 3	28,862,961.87	81.68%
Total	36,708,873.41	17.01%

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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

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**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**

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Status	Name	Fund	Year of finalizing evaluation	Type of evaluation	Thematic objective	Topic	Findings (in case of execution)	Follow up (in case of execution)
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10.2 The results of the information and publicity measures of the Funds carried out under the communication strategy

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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

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

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

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

169 projects are covered by contracts (ongoing and finalized projects) with a total value of 271.22 mil Euro, out of which 113 projects selected within the Programme with a total ERDF value of 171,279,520.51 Euro, receiving extra points during the selection process due to the fact that are contributing to the EUSR. All 15 projects finalized in 2021 and the running projects contributed to the EUSR main pillars, as follows:

1. Mobility and transport connections to TNT network along the Danube and promoting culture and tourism in the cross border area along the Danube (see projects in PA1 and PA2).
2. Protecting the environment: especially implementing projects for management of environmental risks (see projects in PA3);
3. Building prosperity: with projects investing in people and skills of the workforce in the eligible area and promoting cross border mobility (see projects in PA4);

Strengthening the region: with projects increasing the institutional capacity of the public institutions in the eligible area work together to promote security and tackle organised and serious crime (see projects in PA5 and PA 3).

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

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

	Pillar	Priority area
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 - Connecting the Danube region	1.1 - Mobility - waterways
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 - Strengthening the Danube region	4.1 - Institutional capacity & cooperation
<input checked="" 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 ☐

Name and function

Ministry of Foreign Affairs as National Coordinator of EUSDR

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)

169

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

Out of 169 contracted projects, 113 have received extrapoints for major contribution on EUSDR.

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

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

Yes ☒ No ☐

Approximate or exact amount in Euro invested in the EUSDR:

ERDF	171,279,520.51
CF	
ESF	
EAFRD	
EMFF	
ENI	
IPA	
any other funds	
name of "any other funds"	-

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

169 projects are contributing to all 4 pillars of the EUSRD: 1. Connecting the region (RoBg projects under PA 1), 2. Protecting the environment (RoBg projects under PA 2 and 3), 3. Building prosperity (RoBg projects under PA4) and 4. Strengthening the region (RoBg projects under PA 5 and PA 3). The main results of the projects are presented on the programme website, under the section dedicated to projects outputs.

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))

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

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13. SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

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

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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).

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DOCUMENTS

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent By
Citizen's summary - 2021 Annual Implementation Report	Citizens' summary	09-May-2022		Ares(2022)3870448	Citizen's summary - 2021 Annual Implementation Report	23-May-2022	nheriuli