

# **INTERREG V A Italy – Croatia CBC Programme**

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## **Factsheet n. 2 Project Generation**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>A.</b>	<b>ALIGNING THE (PROJECT) IDEA WITH THE (PROGRAMME) STRATEGY .....</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Programme Result indicators.....</b>	<b>6</b>
	<b>Programme Output Indicators .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>B.</b>	<b>LOOKING FOR SUITABLE PARTNERS .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>C.</b>	<b>WHERE TO FIND ASSISTANCE DURING THIS STAGE OF YOUR PROJECT? ...</b>	<b>11</b>

## A. ALIGNING THE (PROJECT) IDEA WITH THE (PROGRAMME) STRATEGY

The Programme strategy envisages several thematic fields where EU-supported intervention is possible. As outlined in the factsheet n. 1 "Introduction and Background", it is essential for applicants to understand how the Programme strategy came into existence in order to deliver project proposals fully in line with that strategy and its rationale. Detailed information can also be found in the Cooperation Programme available in the Programme website ([www.italy-croatia.eu](http://www.italy-croatia.eu)).

A situation analysis on the Programme area was carried out with regard to the three pillars of the EU2020 Strategy. The situation analysis aimed at verifying the state of play on key aspects of the socio-economic and environmental trends in the Programme area. The Member States own priorities laid down in strategies and policy documents relevant for the area were also analysed.

The European Union Macro-regional Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) has been taken into account as a key reference strategy: the Programme aims to play a significant role in promoting synergies with it and in increasing the territorial cohesion of the area.

Based on this situation analysis, a SWOT was produced highlighting the main strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in the area for the three pillars. The work determined the common needs of the area.

Following the identification of the Programme area common needs, the Programme partners have chosen to concentrate their efforts on four thematic objectives for the INTERREG V A Italy – Croatia CBC Programme out of the 11 available. Under each of them, one or more investment priorities have been chosen. These EU-defined Investment Priorities provide for more focus.

Thematic Objectives	Investment Priorities
<p><b>1</b> - Strengthening research, technological development and innovation</p>	<p><b>IP 1 (b)</b> – promoting business investment in R&amp;I, developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the higher education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation, and supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advanced manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies</p>

<p><b>5</b> - Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management</p>	<p><b>IP 5 (a)</b> - supporting investment for adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches</p> <p><b>IP 5 (b)</b> - promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems</p>
<p><b>6</b> - Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency</p>	<p><b>IP 6 (c)</b> – conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage</p> <p><b>IP 6 (d)</b> – protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure</p> <p><b>IP 6 (f)</b> – promoting innovative technologies to improve environmental protection and resource efficiency in the waste sector, water sector and with regard to soil, or to reduce air pollution</p>
<p><b>7</b> - Promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures</p>	<p><b>IP 7 (c)</b> – developing and improving environment-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</p>

To further steer the Programme intervention in these domains, the adopted thematic objectives and investment priorities have been translated into four Programme Priority Axes, which in turn are broken down into seven specific objectives. Both elements are Programme-specific but are totally consistent with the chosen thematic objectives and investment priorities as defined in the EU regulations. The following figures provide a summary of the **approved Programme strategy**, composed of **4 priority axes** and **7 specific objectives**. More information is available in factsheet n.1 “Introduction and Background”.

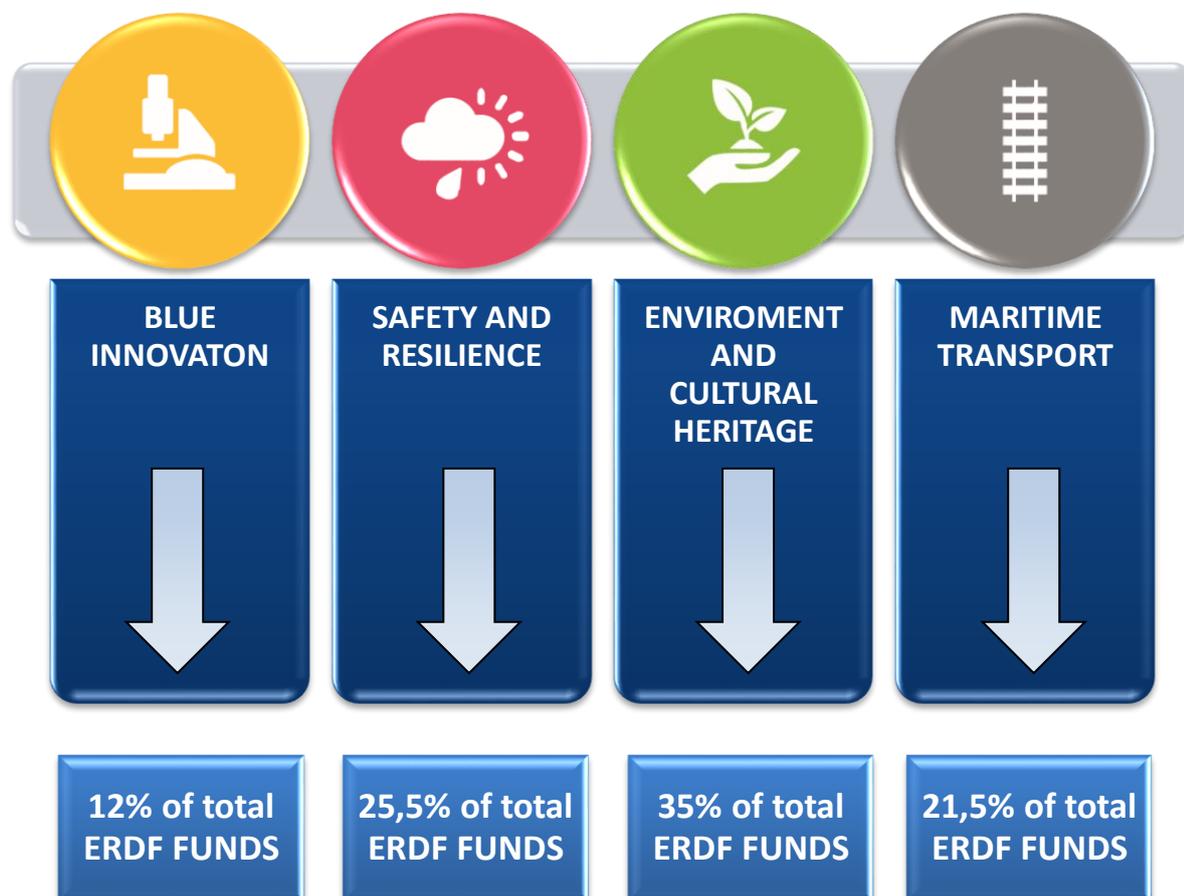


Figure 1 – INTERREG V A Italy-Croatia CBC Programme Priority Axes

Projects will need to be submitted and implemented under these priority axes and specific objectives and deliver against the expected results of these. The results sought by the Programme are captured by **result indicators**. Delivering expected results is to be achieved by delivering certain outputs which have also been foreseen for each specific objective. **Output indicators** are part of the Programme performance framework. Target values to be reached at certain times in the lifecycle of the Programme have been defined and this is the basis which the European Commission will use to assess the performance of the Programme.

To be selected for funding, projects shall demonstrate a **clear contribution to one specific objective** of the Programme. Projects will be assessed by their **contribution to both output and result indicators** related to the Programme priority specific objective under which they are submitted. This implies a shift in the approach and focus of projects compared to previous

programming periods: the emphasis is now first and foremost on the delivery of outputs and results rather than on the implementation of project activities.

It shall be underlined that there is a difference in the way the contribution to output and result indicators is expected and therefore will be assessed during the selection procedure: while in the case of output indicators a punctual correspondence with expected main outputs to be achieved by the projects is required, in the case of result indicators a punctual correspondence with project results is not required as Programme result indicators are meant to capture the change in the Programme area per each concerned specific objective and shall thus be treated as a measurement of the contribution of the projects to the specific objective in general. This means that projects have to demonstrate that they contribute to the change sought by the specific objective and not necessarily planning to contribute to the quantitative result indicator chosen by the Programme. It is also worth to remind that result indicators are variables that provide information on some specific aspects of results that lend themselves to be measured and, consequently, can difficultly describe the whole change taking place in each specific objective's thematic field.

More information on project assessment can be found in factsheet n. 5 "Project Selection".

The tables below provide a list of all Programme indicators with information on the expected contributions from funded project.

## Programme Result indicators

Specific Objective	Result Indicator	Description	Explanation of the indicator	Expected project contribution
<b>1.1 Enhance the framework conditions for innovation in the relevant sectors of the blue economy within the cooperation area</b>	Number of EPO applications	This indicator will point out the concrete capacity to promote the innovation in the cooperation area	The change which is captured by this indicator is related to the improved framework conditions for innovation in the relevant sector of the blue economy as a result of the projects funded by the INTERREG V A Italy-Croatia CBC Programme.	Projects are expected to contribute to this result indicator through their cross-border cooperation actions leading to more fertile ground for new and improved products, services and technologies. These actions may or may not include ad hoc EPO applications.
<b>2.1 Improve the climate change monitoring and planning of adaptation measures tackling specific effects, in the cooperation area</b>	Inhabitants benefiting from planning of adaptation measures	This indicator will point out the capacity to plan adaptation measures in the cooperation area	The change which is captured by this indicator concerns the adaptation measures in place and related coverage in terms of territory and population included, typologies of climate change effects tackled, existing measures updated/improved in order to respect the legislation in force.	Projects are expected to contribute to this result indicator through their cross-border cooperation actions leading to new and effective adaptation measures from which inhabitants of the Programme area can benefit.
<b>2.1 Increase the safety of the programme area from natural and man-made disaster</b>	Inhabitants benefiting from risk management coordinated measures	This indicator will point out the capacity to tackle risk in a coordinated way	The change which is captured by this indicator concerns the risk management coordinated measures and related coverage in terms of territory and population included, typologies of risks tackled, existing measures updated/improved in order to respect the legislation in force.	Projects are expected to contribute to this result indicator through their cross-border cooperation actions leading to effective risk management coordination measures from which inhabitants of the Programme area can benefit.
<b>3.1 Make natural and cultural heritage a leverage for sustainable and more balanced territorial development</b>	Seasonality in tourism in the programme area	This indicator will point out the unequal distribution of tourism during the year	The change which is captured by the indicator reflects the presence of tourists in the Programme area throughout the year. Tourism is only one of the ways in which territorial development can be assessed. At the same time natural and cultural heritage constitute an important attraction for tourists. Consequently, tourism has been chosen as a possible measurement of the capacity of natural and cultural heritage actors to promote more balanced territorial development.	Projects are expected to contribute to this result indicator through their cross-border cooperation actions aimed at making natural and cultural heritage a leverage for sustainable and more balanced territorial development. These actions may or may not include tourism-related activities.

Specific Objective	Result Indicator	Description	Explanation of the indicator	Expected project contribution
<b>3.2 Contribute to protect and restore biodiversity</b>	Excellent conservation status of habitat types and species of Natura 2000 sites in Programme area	This indicator will suggest the concrete contribution in biodiversity protection by the exam of Natura 2000 sites conservation status, where reliable data are available	The change which is captured by the indicator reflects the contributions of funded projects to protection and restoration of biodiversity in the Programme area.	Projects are expected to contribute to this result indicator through their cross-border cooperation actions aimed at improving the status of conservation of biodiversity in the concerned area.
<b>3.3 Improve the environmental quality conditions of the sea and coastal area by use of sustainable and innovative technologies and approaches</b>	Quality level of coastal bathing waters (according to the Dir. 2006/7/CE)	This indicator will assess the quality of coastal bathing waters by measuring the concentrations of two bacteria, Escherichia Coli and Intestinal Enterococci. The presence of either of these bacteria in the samples may indicate pollution in the bathing water site, usually originating from sewage or livestock waste	The change which is captured by the indicator reflects the contributions of funded projects to improve the environmental quality conditions of the sea and coastal areas through innovative technologies and approaches in the Programme area.	Projects are expected to contribute to this result indicator through their cross-border cooperation actions aimed at having a positive impact on the quality of sea and coastal areas. These actions may or may not include activities directly affecting the quality of coastal bathing water, although the impact on water quality shall be anyhow demonstrated.
<b>4.1 Improve the quality, safety and environmental sustainability of marine and coastal transport services and nodes by promoting multimodality in the Programme area</b>	Goods transported by maritime mode	This indicator will measure the maritime freight transport in the area (only IT-HR traffic)	The change which is captured by the indicator reflects the contributions of funded projects to improve the quality, safety and environmental sustainability of marine and coastal transport by means of multimodal approaches in the Programme area. The quantity of goods transported by maritime mode has been chosen as one of the possible measurements of the change of transport modes towards increased sustainability.	Projects are expected to contribute to this result indicator through their cross-border cooperation actions aimed at promoting multimodality and an increase of more sustainable modes of transport at large. These actions may not include freight transport-related activities, being focused on passenger transportation.

## Programme Output Indicators

Specific Objective	Output Indicator	Measurement Unit	Target value (2023)
<b>1.1 Enhance the framework conditions for innovation in the relevant sectors of the blue economy within the cooperation area</b>	Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support *	Enterprises	30
	Number of enterprises receiving grants *	Enterprises	6
	Number of Research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects *	Organisations	10
	Number of participants in joint local employment initiatives and joint training*	Persons	120
	Number of enterprises receiving support*	Enterprises	36
<b>2.1 Improve the climate change monitoring and planning of adaptation measures tackling specific effects, in the cooperation area</b>	Climate change monitoring systems put in operation	Number	5
	Plans of adaptation measures put in place	Number	5
<b>2.2 Increase the safety of the Programme area from natural and man-made disaster</b>	Population benefitting from flood protection measures*	Persons	1.500.000
	Population benefitting from oil spills and other marine hazards protection measures*	Persons	1.200.000
	Population benefitting from forest fire protection measures*	Persons	1.000.000
	People reached by initiatives for increasing awareness	Number	100.000
<b>3.1 Make natural and cultural heritage a leverage for sustainable and more balanced territorial development</b>	Cultural and natural heritage (tangible and intangible) promoted*	Number	20
	Actors involved in actions aimed at promoting natural and cultural heritage (including typical products, joint branding and tourism)	Number	40
	Natural and cultural heritage destinations with improved accessibilities (e.g.: to disabled tourists, virtual tourists etc.) in place	Number	10
	Beneficiaries with ecolabel/green certification	Number	10
<b>3.2 Contribute to protect and restore biodiversity</b>	Natural ecosystems supported in order to attain a better conservation status	Number	6
	Monitoring systems and data collections for protecting biodiversity and ecosystems put in place	Number	4
	Restoration actions supporting endangered species	Number	4
	Integrated management systems (sea, coastal and river environment) put in place	Number	4
<b>3.3 Improve the environmental quality conditions of the sea and coastal area by use of sustainable and innovative technologies and approaches</b>	Environmental friendly technological solutions (and approaches) implemented	Number	2
	Microplastic waste collected in marine areas*	Particles	1.000.000
<b>4.1 Improve the quality, safety</b>	Improved multimodal transport services	Number	5

Specific Objective	Output Indicator	Measurement Unit	Target value (2023)
and environmental sustainability of marine and coastal transport services and nodes by promoting multimodality in the Programme area	Number of new links established	Number	2
	Harmonized services for passengers put in place	Number	4

\* indicators introduced in the new version of the Cooperation Programme which is currently under approval.

To be effective in this respect, the project intervention logic should mirror the Programme intervention logic, as illustrated in the tables below.

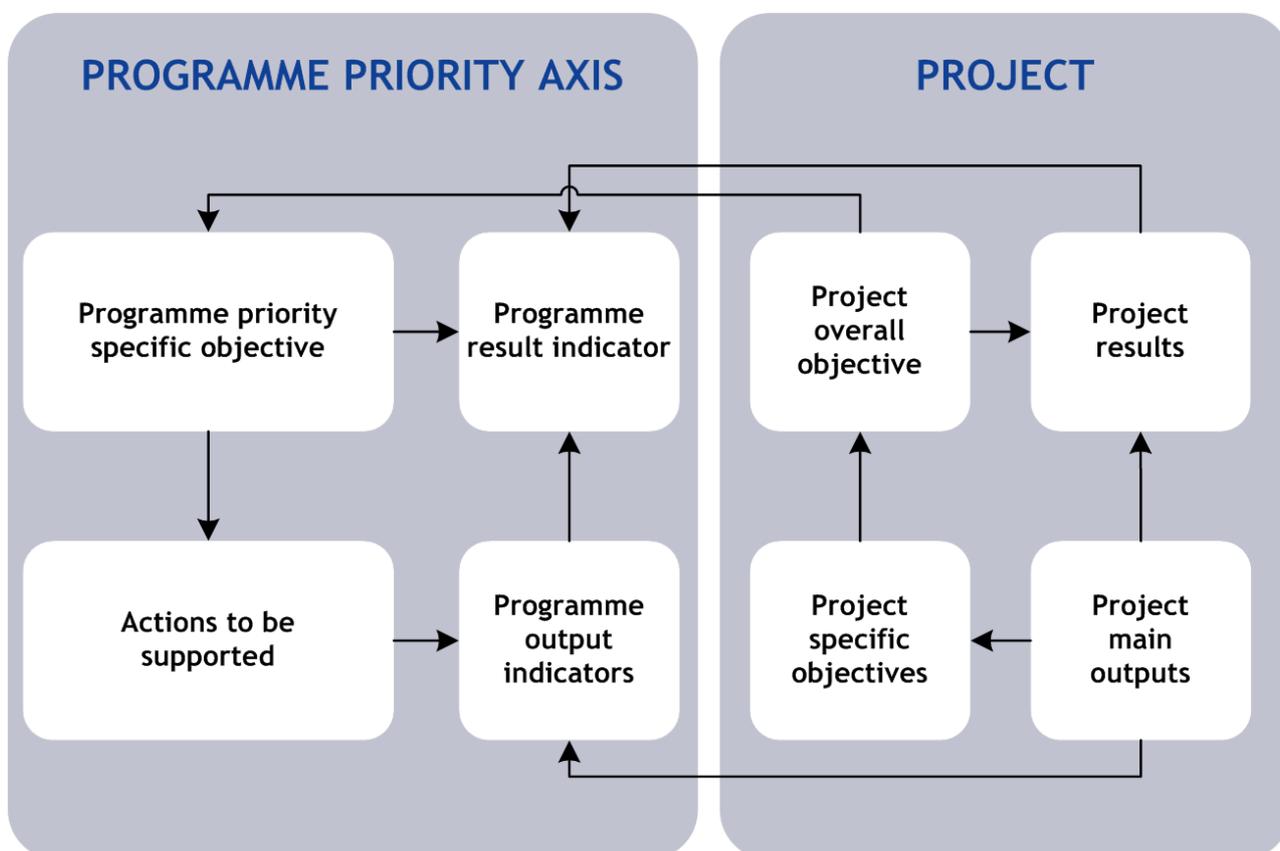


Figure 2 – Programme and Project intervention logics - INTERACT

Applicants need to go through a deliberate process of verifying whether their project ideas fit with the Programme strategy and intervention logic. The Programme glossary available as part of the Application Package provides definitions for the above terms.

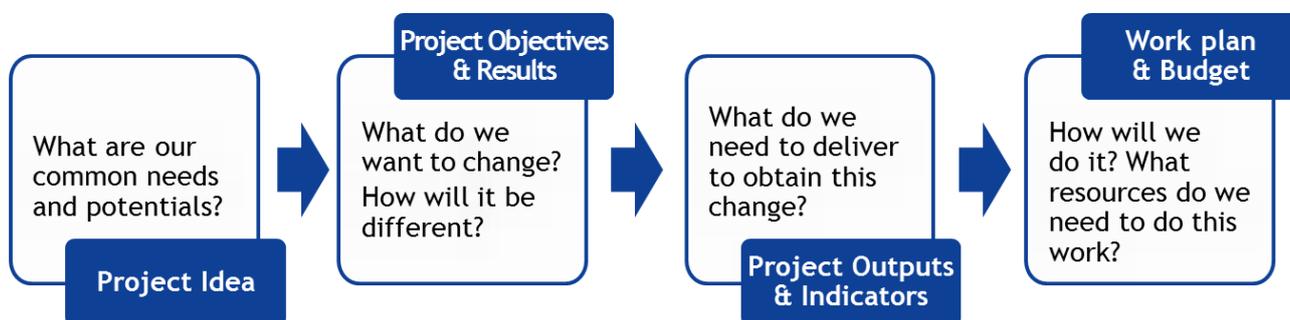


Figure 3 – Project Intervention logic - INTERACT

## B. LOOKING FOR SUITABLE PARTNERS

In the framework of the Project generation phase, the Programme wants to support partnership constitution and facilitate project development. In order to help organisations interested in participating in the INTERREG V A Italy – Croatia CBC Programme to find partners and develop project ideas, two specific tools have been developed.

The **Project Idea tool** is a way for organisations that have an initial idea for a project, to circulate it to find suitable partners and help further develop the idea.

The tool can be found on the Programme website (<http://www.italy-croatia.eu/projects/project-ideas>). Organisations can fill in the Project Idea tool and publish the ideas on the Programme website. From then on, they are open for consultation, and organisations can contact each other to develop a project together.

The **Expertise Availability tool** is a way for organisations that possess a certain expertise to make it available to other organisations in order to build a partnership and develop a project proposal.

The tool can be found on the Programme website (<http://www.italy-croatia.eu/projects/expertise-availability>). Organisations can fill in the Expertise Availability tool and publish details of their organisation on the Programme website. From then on, other organisations are able to contact them to build up a partnership together.

In order to register for both tools, users need to request a login and password via the “Register” button in the relevant Programme website’s page. Once the registration is approved, users will receive an email confirming the registration and providing a link for setting the user’s password. By logging in the website with user ID and password, users will be able to “add an idea” or “add an expertise availability”. Once the inserted contents (project idea or expertise availability) are approved, users will be able to see their contents published on the Programme website.

### C. WHERE TO FIND ASSISTANCE DURING THIS STAGE OF YOUR PROJECT?

During the Project Generation phase, your main contact with the INTERREG V A Italy – Croatia Programme is the Joint Secretariat (JS). The JS is based in Venice, with two branch offices one in Zadar and one in Dubrovnik and can be contacted at any time by Lead Applicants and Lead Partners for any queries related to project development, implementation, finance, communication, management, etc.

Contact details of the JS are:

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c/o Veneto Region, Organisational Unit MA of INTERREG V A Italy – Croatia CBC Programme

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