



# **INTERREG ITALY-CROATIA PROGRAMME 2021 – 2027**

Glossary



# **Action Plan**

Detailed plan outlining actions needed to reach one or more goals breaking them down into specific tasks. It should include the sequence of steps to be taken, or activities that must be performed, for a strategy to succeed. Therefore it should include a time line, the financial resources and a definition of the responsible actors.

# Assessment criteria

A group of related assessment questions on which a judgment or decision whether the project should be funded will be based.

# Assessment procedure

A standardised and transparent procedure carried out by Programme bodies that allows selection of projects for co-financing. Assessment procedure is carried out after the closure of the application procedure. It consists of eligibility/admissibility checks, quality assessment and State Aid assessment.

# Beneficiary

As defined in art. 2 of CPR and Programme rules, a beneficiary means a public or private body, an entity with legal personality, responsible for initiating and implementing operations and benefitting from Programme funds.

# **Blue economy**

All economic activities that depend on the sea (not including military activities): e.g. coastal tourism, offshore oil and gas, deep sea shipping, short-sea shipping, yachting and marinas, passenger ferry services, cruise tourism, fisheries, inland waterway protection, coastal protection, offshore wind, etc. Please be aware that the Cooperation Programme supports only a number of the above mentioned activities as indicated in Section 1 of the Cooperation Programme (Blue energy – offshore wind power, tidal and wave power, Aquaculture and sustainable fisheries, maritime and coastal tourism, sea shipping, marine biotechnology, desalination, coastal protection, monitoring and surveillance).

# Blue growth

Smart, sustainable and inclusive economic and employment growth from the seas and coasts.

# **Blue innovation**

It refers to innovation in the sector of blue economy.

# Capitalisation

Building process aimed at consolidating the capital built by Interreg, with the objectives of:

- Identifying results through benchmarking and detailed content analysis, building on existing knowledge and experience.
- Making the knowledge and results generated by projects more accessible, thus improving the transfer of knowledge, among Interreg and beyond.



- Promoting the re-use and/or transfer of this knowledge and these results, in order to support performance and delivery, future policies and programmes' developments.
- Raising awareness and improving communication of results in specific fields of regional policy.

# **Climate proofing**

A process to prevent infrastructure from being vulnerable to potential long-term climate impacts whilst ensuring that the 'energy efficiency first' principle is respected and that the level of greenhouse gas emissions arising from the project is consistent with the climate neutrality objective in 2050.

# Department

Organisational unit which can take part as a single applicant in a project. The department is an organisational unit with financial and administrative autonomy and having technical and administrative staff to ensure its functioning.

# **Direct costs**

Direct costs are costs that can be attributed directly to the project. They are directly related to an individual activity of the partner organisation, where the link with this individual activity can be demonstrated (for instance, through direct time registration). Please be aware that the Programme considers direct costs the sum of the costs budgeted under the following cost categories (if they are not reimbursed as SCOs): staff, external expertise and services costs, equipment costs, costs for infrastructure and works.

# Durability

Durability of project outputs and results refers to the long-lasting effect of a project achievement beyond project duration.

# **Eco-innovation**

Eco-innovation is any innovation that reduces the use of natural resources and decreases the release of harmful substances across the whole life cycle. Within the Cooperation Programme, "eco-innovation" is taken to mean the development and introduction of new and improved products, services, technologies and ideas that deliver benefits in terms of environmental performance and/or sustainability.

# **Environmental protection**

Any activity that maintains the balance of the environment by preventing contamination and deterioration of natural resources, including activities such as: a) changes in the characteristics of goods and services, and changes in consumption patterns; b) changes in production techniques; c) waste treatment or disposal in separate environmental protection facilities; d) recycling; e) prevention of landscape degradation.





#### **European transport network**

**Italy - Croatia** 

European transport networks are to be understood in the sense of the Trans-European transport network (TEN-T) consisting of infrastructure for railways, inland waterways, roads, maritime and air transport, thereby ensuring the smooth functioning of the internal market and strengthening economic and social cohesion. It is developed through a dual-layer approach, consisting of a comprehensive network which constitutes the basic layer and a core network. The core network consists of the strategically most important parts and constitutes the backbone of the multi-modal mobility network. It concentrates on those components of TEN-T with the highest European added value: cross border missing links, key bottlenecks and multi-modal nodes.

#### EUSAIR

The EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) is a macro-regional strategy adopted by the European Commission and endorsed by the European Council in 2014. The Strategy was jointly developed by the Commission, together with the Adriatic-Ionian Region countries and stakeholders, in order to address common challenges together. The Strategy aims at creating synergies and fostering coordination among all territories in the Adriatic-Ionian Region.

#### Flat rate

One of the simplified cost options. Specific categories of eligible costs which are clearly identified in advance are calculated by applying a percentage fixed ex-ante to one or several other categories of eligible costs. Flat rates involve approximations of costs and are defined based on fair, equitable and verifiable calculation methods, or they are established by the Fund-specific regulations.

#### Governance

Governance refers to sustaining coordination and coherence among a wide variety of actors with different purposes and objectives. Such actors may include political actors and institutions, interest groups, civil society, non-governmental and international or cross-border organisations.

#### Innovation systems and actors

An innovation system is to be understood as "the network of institutions in the public and private sectors whose activities and interactions initiate, import, modify and diffuse new technologies" (Freeman, 1987). The actors of the innovation system include stakeholders from the research and business sector, policy makers and public authorities.

#### Integrated environmental management

Integrated environmental management means a comprehensive approach to natural resource planning and management that encompasses ecological, social, and economic objectives. It considers the interrelationships among different elements and incorporates concepts of carrying capacity, resilience and sustainability.



# **Interreg Specific Objective**

Two additional specific objectives are defined in art 14 of Interreg Regulation, which are: a better cooperation governance; a safer and more secure Europe.

# Key enabling technologies

The Commission defines KETs as "knowledge intensive and associated with high R&D intensity, rapid innovation cycles, high capital expenditure and highly skilled employment". They enable process, goods and service innovation throughout the economy and are of systemic relevance.

They are multidisciplinary, cutting across many technology areas with a trend towards convergence and integration. KETs can assist technology leaders in other fields to capitalise on their research efforts. They cover notably: nano-technology, micro- and nano-electronics including semiconductors, advanced materials, biotechnology and photonics.

# Lead partner

Where there are two or more partners, one of them shall be designated by all the partners as the lead partner. According to art. 26 of Interreg Regulation, The lead partner shall:

(a) lay down the arrangements with the other partners in an agreement comprising provisions that, inter alia, guarantee the sound financial management of the respective Union funds allocated to the Interreg operation, including the arrangements for recovering amounts unduly paid;

(b) assume responsibility for ensuring implementation of the entire Interreg operation; and

(c) ensure that expenditure presented by all partners has been paid in implementing the Interreg operation and corresponds to the activities agreed between all the partners, and is in accordance with the document provided by the managing authority pursuant to Article 22(6).

# Linkages

The innovative activities of a firm partly depend on the variety and structure of its links to sources of information, knowledge, technologies, practices, and human and financial resources. Each linkage connects the innovating firm to other actors in the innovation system: government laboratories, universities, policy departments, regulators, competitors, suppliers, and customers. It is of crucial importance to build strong links among all elements operating in innovation systems. Countries that top the innovation index have improved linkages among innovation actors, most notably in science and higher education and in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors.

# Low carbon mobility planning

Low carbon mobility planning is to be understood as a set of interrelated measures designed to satisfy the mobility needs of people and businesses. They are the result of an integrated planning approach and address low carbon forms of transport.

# Lump-sum

One of the simplified cost options. A lump sum is a total allocation of the grant (calculated ex-ante), paid to the project upon completion of pre-defined terms of agreement on activities and/or outputs. Lump





sums involve approximations of costs established based on fair, equitable and verifiable calculation methods.

# Macro-regional strategy

A macro-regional strategy means an integrated framework endorsed by the European Council, which may be supported by the ESI Funds among others, to address common challenges faced by a defined geographical area relating to Member States and third countries located in the same geographical area which thereby benefit from strengthened cooperation contributing to achievement of economic, social and territorial cohesion.

# Milestone

An intermediate value to be achieved at a given point in time during the eligibility period in relation to an output indicator included under a specific objective

# Natural heritage and resources

Natural heritage is to be considered as the natural features, geological and physiographical formations (including habitats) and natural sites or precisely delineated natural areas.

Natural resources are produced by nature, commonly subdivided into non – renewable resources, such as minerals and fossil fuels, and renewable natural resources that propagate or sustain life and are naturally self-renewing when properly managed, including plants and animals, as well as soil and water.

# **Operations of Strategic Importance (OSI projects)**

Operation of strategic importance means an operation which provides a significant contribution to the achievement of the objectives of a programme and which is subject to particular monitoring and communication measures.

# **Pilot action**

A pilot action is to be understood as a practical implementation of novel schemes (e.g. services, tools, methods or approaches). An experimental nature is central to a pilot action which aims at testing, evaluating and/or demonstrating the feasibility and effectiveness of a scheme. Therefore it covers either the testing of innovative solutions or demonstrating the application of existing solutions to a certain territory/sector. The results and practices of pilot actions should be exploited on and transferred to other institutions and territories. A pilot action is limited in its scope (area, duration, scale etc.) and must be unprecedented in a comparable environment.

# **Policy objectives**

Cohesion Policy 2021-27 addresses 5 Policy Objectives, defined on art 5 of CPR, which are: (a) a more competitive and smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation and regional ICT connectivity;





(b) a greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe by promoting clean and fair energy transition, green and blue investment, the circular economy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, risk prevention and management, and sustainable urban mobility; (c) a more connected Europe by enhancing mobility;

(d) a more social and inclusive Europe implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights;

(e) a Europe closer to citizens by fostering the sustainable and integrated development of all types of territories and local initiatives.

# **Programme Specific Objective**

Programme Specific Objective reflects the change that the Programme is aiming for in each policy domain.

# Programme result indicator

An indicator to measure the effects of the interventions supported, with particular reference to the direct addressees, population targeted or users of infrastructure.

# Programme output indicator

An indicator to measure the specific deliverables of the intervention

#### **Project activities**

Specific task performed for which resources are used. It is a work package (see below) component and shall result in one or more deliverables.. Activities shall lead to the development of project outputs. For each activity the start and the end month as well as the indicative cost must be specified.

# **Project deliverables**

A side-product or service of the project that contributes to the development of a project's output. Each activity (see above) should include one or more deliverables (e.g. analysis report, feasibility study etc.) that contribute to the achievement of project outputs.

# **Project overall objective**

Provides the overall context for what the project aims to achieve. It describes the long-term objective the project seeks to support and relates to the strategic aspects of the project. It has to contribute to a Programme specific objective.

# **Project output**

Is the outcome obtained following the implementation of project activities paid with project funds (i.e. strategy/action plan, tool, pilot action, training etc.). Each output should be captured by a Programme output indicator and should directly contribute to the achievement of the project result. Each work package must foresee at least one main output.



# **Project result**

Describes the advantage of carrying out the project and characterising the change compared to the initial situation. Results are derived from the outputs achieved by the project. They have to be coherent with project objectives and contribute to the Programme results.

# **Project specific objective**

Describes the immediate objective sought by the project, which can be realistically achieved within the project life time through the development of the project outputs. It should be verifiable at the conclusion of a project whether the specific objective was achieved or not. Each project specific objective has to clearly contribute to the project main objective.

# **Public infrastructure**

Infrastructure that is owned by the public and/or is for public use, including public buildings.

# **Regional actors**

Regional actors are all main stakeholders operating at regional level in a specific thematic field independently from their legal status, thus comprising the public as well as the private sector. These sectors include different types of entities such as public administrations, infrastructure providers and operators, interest groups, NGOs, research centres, education facilities, enterprises including SMEs etc.

# **Simplified Cost Options**

The Common Provisions regulation (CPR — Regulation 2021/1060) includes options for the ESI funds to be reimbursed on a real cost basis (reimbursement of real costs actually incurred and paid by beneficiaries in implementing the project) but also in the form of unit costs, lump-sums, flat-rate financing (SCOs) and of financing not linked to costs (FNLC) based on the fulfilment of conditions or achievement of results. The amounts for the forms of grants referred to unit costs, lump-sums, flat-rate financing shall be established ex-ante through a fair, equitable and verifiable calculation method or in other possible ways as determined by the Regulation (article 53). Amounts and rates need to be a reliable proxy to real costs. SCOs are intended to significantly reduce the administrative burden of reporting and possible source of errors. The aim is to shift the focus more on outputs rather than on inputs of the project.

# Small-scale project

A new form of cooperation in the Programme area, resulting from the will of reaching new target groups and allowing newcomers to contribute to the improvement of the social, economic and territorial cohesion of the cross-border region. Compared to Standard projects, they are shorter, supporting smaller partnerships with limited-scope interventions, mainly implemented by smaller organisations, addressing specific thematic issues and very concrete needs in the area. They promote direct cooperation between citizens and institutions, foster contacts between people locally, and bring border regions and their citizens closer together. These projects shall aim at improving legal and administrative cross-border collaboration, strengthen the communication channels, and increase the main stakeholders' awareness (including public authorities), for example through the implementation of awareness-raising campaigns,





implementation of training and educational activities, specific actions aiming at improving and facilitating the cooperation of the organisations on the other side of the maritime border.

# Smart specialisation strategy

National or regional innovation strategies which set priorities in order to build competitive advantage by developing and matching research and innovation own strengths to business needs in order to address emerging opportunities and market developments in a coherent manner, while avoiding duplication and fragmentation of efforts; a smart specialisation strategy may take the form of, or be included in, a national or regional research and innovation (R&I) strategic policy framework.

# Social innovation

Social innovations are new ideas (products, services and models) that simultaneously meet social needs (more effectively than alternatives) and create new social relationships or collaborations. Fields of activity are among others work integration, social services, education and research, culture and recreation, health etc.

# Standard projects

More complex cooperation projects typically originating from the acknowledgement of a need or a potential and consequently testing a potential cross-border solution. They involve for example actions such as the implementation of new solutions, the testing of new services, the development of strategies, joint action plans and pilots, the sharing of expertise, joint training actions, and the setting up of new governance structures. They should be developed based on an innovative project concept, although the capitalisation of previous programming periods' projects and results is also strongly encouraged.

# Strategy

A strategy should be jointly defined on the basis of problems which are relevant for the participating regions. It should provide a common vision and set objectives and priorities in a mid- to long-term perspective. The formulation of a transnational and/or regional strategy should be carried out with involvement of relevant stakeholders (targeting the policy level) and aim at its subsequent implementation.

# Sustainable development

Sustainable development means using natural resources in a way that avoids irreversible damage to ecosystem structure and function, the loss of irreplaceable features or a reduction in ecosystem resilience. Environmental interests must be considered alongside social and economic interests, so as to prevent the irreplaceable loss of natural features, function or processes and to ensure a long-term and dependable flow of benefits from the exploitation of renewable resources. Delivering such sustainable development will involve significant measures to recover ecosystem structure and function, where the flow of benefits is already reduced or impaired, or where ecosystem resilience is at risk.



#### **Target groups**

The target groups concern those individuals and/or organisations directly positively affected by the activities and results of operations. Not necessarily receiving a financial grant and even not directly involved in the operation, the target groups may exploit project outcomes for their own benefits.

# Transferability

Transferability refers to the degree to which the project main outputs can be generalised or transferred to other contexts or settings. The project partners can enhance transferability by doing a thorough job of describing the outputs and the assumptions that were central to its development. The organisation which wishes to "transfer" the outputs to a different context is then responsible for making the judgment of how sensible the transfer is.

#### Vulnerability

A set of conditions and processes resulting from physical, social, economic and environmental factors, indicating the susceptibility of a community to the impact of hazards.

#### Work Package

A group of related project activities required to produce project main outputs. Ideally, a work package shall not have more than 4-6 activities and shall lead to at least 1 project main output.