

IMPLEMENTATION REPORT FOR THE EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL COOPERATION GOAL

PART A

IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL/FINAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

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2. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013 AND ARTICLE 14(3)(A) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1299/2013)

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

No changes to the Cooperation Programme were undertaken in 2016.

2.1 Calls for applications

Six calls were launched by the end of 2016 with a total of 60 projects contracted.

Priorities 1-3

In 2016, contracting and implementation of the 35 projects selected by the Monitoring Committee (MC) began. All projects but one were contracted by the end of the year. The subsidy contract for the remaining project was signed at the beginning of 2017.

The second call for applications addressing priorities 1-3 opened in March 2016. As with the first call, it was based on a two-step application procedure including the submission of concept notes (212 received) as the first step and the submission of full applications by invitation as a second step. By the end of 2016, 75 applicants had been invited to submit full applications by January 2017.

Priority 4

The first call for applications for seed money under specific objective 4.1 opened in September 2016. By the end of 2016, Policy Area (PA) and Horizontal Action (HA) Coordinators had pre-selected 36 applications: five in PA Bioeconomy, three each in PA Hazards, PA Culture, PA Innovation, PA Education, PA Energy and HA Spatial Planning, two each in PA Nutri and PA Transport, and one each in PA Tourism, PA Health, HA Capacity, HA Climate and HA Neighbours.

Under specific objective 4.2, the first call for applications to organise targeted support and communication measures for the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) opened at the end of 2015 and closed in February 2016. The call focused on visibility and communication, capacity building, and evaluation. Of the three applications received, one was selected in May 2016. Noting the urgency of enhancing the capacity of Policy Area Coordinators (PACs) and Horizontal Action Coordinators

(HACs), the Monitoring Committee decided to launch soon thereafter a second call for applications with this particular focus. This second call for targeted support, which was opened in September and closed in October 2016, drew one application. The selection process was underway by the end of 2016. The second call for applications for support to the EUSBSR PACs and HACs opened at the end of 2015 and closed in February 2016. All twelve of the applications received were selected in May and contracted by the end of the year. The call for applications for the organisation of the EUSBSR Forum 2017 was opened in June 2016. By the July deadline, one application had been received, which was then selected in September.

2.2 Support to applicants

The Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat (MA/JS) supported applicants in various ways in 2016. At the project idea stage, interested applicants completed Project Idea Forms as a basis for individual project consultations with the MA/JS to discuss their project ideas. Written feedback on project ideas was also provided. In total, 167 project ideas received individual consultation from the MA/JS. Information events and seminars were held and information about the Programme was available at external events. Furthermore, in anticipation of participation of Russian organisations as project partners in the second call for priorities 1-3, the MA/JS also facilitated contact between such organisations and lead applicants of selected concept notes. Information regarding the predecessor programme and its projects was also made available in the form of an online project database and output library. The Programme website continued to provide information to applicants through relevant documents and news items.

2.3 Programme implementation tools

Documents and procedures

Documents and procedures developed by the MA/JS in 2016 included a staff cost tool, simplified State aid self-declaration form and other State aid support, updated procedure on how to involve partners from countries outside the Programme area, first level control (FLC) report and checklist, procurement rules for private partners, visibility files, and updates to the Programme Manuals for priorities 1-3 as well as specific objective 4.2.

Monitoring system BAMOS

The development of a new electronic monitoring system (BAMOS) was launched in January 2015 with the support of an external service provider. The system serves as interface between the Programme management bodies, lead partners/ applicants and their first level controllers. By the end of 2016, the sections of BAMOS related to

application, assessment, admissibility check, funding decision, contracting, and reporting had been finalised. In parallel many useful tools like a compare function for different versions of a document and a task manager for MA/JS staff was developed. Best practices were exchanged with the staff of other programmes during meetings of Interact as well as “User Group Meetings”, which have been organised by the MA/JS since 2007.

Communication strategy

The communication strategy approved in 2015 was revised in the first half of 2016 to reflect ongoing developments in messaging. The updates included general programme messages as well as field messages aimed at specific target audiences.

Major events

The MA/JS organised a number of events, including:

- Lead partner seminar - Rostock, March 2016
- Two project development workshops – Berlin and Riga, October 2016
- Two MC meetings – Copenhagen, June 2016 and Hämeenlinna, September 2016
- ‘Blue Growth’ project platform workshop – Stockholm, November 2016

In addition, the MA/JS organised information events to PACs/HACs of the EUSBSR, held a joint information seminar for applicants together with Interreg Central Europe, and contributed to various other events, such as national information events, the EUSBSR Annual Forum in November 2016 and EUSBSR National Coordinators’ meetings.

Audit and control system

The audit and control system of Interreg Baltic Sea Region was built on the system used in the predecessor programme. The Audit Strategy for the Programme was developed by the Programme’s new Audit Authority (AA), the Ministry of Justice, Cultural and European Affairs of Schleswig-Holstein, and submitted to the Commission in February 2016.

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
1	Capacity for innovation	<p>The contracting of the first 12 selected projects was finalised in 2016. Six of them submitted their first progress reports end of 2016. The rest is expected in early 2017.</p> <p>Similar to the first call for applications, this priority was the most popular in the second call. Altogether 98 concept notes were submitted. Based on the analysis of the existing project portfolio, the applicants were particularly encouraged to submit concept notes addressing the following topics: support to regions/countries in their management tasks related to smart specialisation strategies, support the implementation of smart specialisation strategies in selected sectors (including cross-sector approaches) and involvement of national/regional authorities as drivers for demand for innovation and foster public-private partnerships, innovation procurement as well as foster setting up new funding models supporting innovation. The content of the announcement note for the call was reflected well in the submitted concept notes. The most favoured specific objective continued to be "non-technological innovation", which received 52 applications.</p> <p>The MC selected 31 concept notes and invited them to submit a full application in the second step. The distribution of the selected concept notes among three specific objectives of the priority was as follows: 13 addressed 'research and innovation infrastructures', 5 addressed 'smart specialisation', and 13 addressed 'non-technological innovation'. The final selection of the applications was planned for May 2017.</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
		No significant problems were encountered in this priority.
2	Efficient management of natural resources	<p>The contracting of the first 13 selected projects was almost finalised in 2016. The signature of one subsidy contract was postponed till January 2017. Eight of the contracted projects submitted their first progress report at the end of 2016. The rest is expected in early 2017.</p> <p>Based on the analysis of the existing project portfolio applicants of the second call were particularly encouraged to submit concept notes addressing the following topics: support to renewable energy production and storage, optimisation of resources and creating emission neutral regions, and development of blue growth businesses. Applicants were invited to focus on piloting of proposed solutions and implementing pilot investments. Similar to the first call for applications, priority 2 was popular among applicants in the second call. Altogether 67 concept notes were submitted. The topics on renewable energy and energy efficiency were sufficiently covered, while the support to blue growth businesses was only partly tackled by the submitted concept notes. The most favoured specific objective continued to be "clear waters", which received 23 applications.</p> <p>The MC selected 26 concept notes and invited them to submit a full application in the second step. The distribution of the selected concept notes among four specific objectives of the priority was as follows: 8 addressed 'clear waters', 8 addressed 'renewable energy"', 6 addressed 'energy efficiency', and 4 addressed 'blue growth'. The final selection of the applications was planned for May 2017.</p> <p>No significant problems were encountered. A minor challenge was caused by the delayed contracting of one project due to partner changes and State aid relevant issues in the project set-up.</p>
3	Sustainable transport	The contracting of the first 10 selected projects was finalised in 2016. Five of them submitted

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>their first progress reports at the end of 2016. The rest is expected in early 2017.</p> <p>Based on the analysis of the existing project portfolio applicants of the second call were particularly encouraged to submit concept notes in specific objectives ‘Accessibility of remote areas and areas affected by demographic change’ and ‘Environmentally friendly urban mobility’.</p> <p>Altogether 47 concept notes were submitted to this priority in the second call for applications. The highest number of concept notes (15) was received in specific objective ‘environmentally friendly urban mobility’. In specific objective ‘accessibility of remote areas and areas affected by demographic change’, a sufficient number of concept notes (6) was received. The concept notes were relatively equally distributed among three other specific objectives ‘interoperability of transport modes’ (7), ‘maritime safety’ (10) and ‘environmentally friendly shipping’ (9).</p> <p>The MC selected 18 concept notes and invited them to submit a full application in the second step. The distribution of the selected concept notes among five specific objectives of the priority was as follows: 4 addressed ‘interoperability of transport modes’, 1 addressed ‘accessibility of remote areas and areas affected by demographic change’, 3 addressed ‘maritime safety’, 3 addressed ‘environmentally friendly shipping’, and 7 addressed ‘environmentally friendly urban mobility’. The selection of the full applications was planned for May 2017.</p> <p>No significant problems were encountered in this priority.</p>
4	Institutional capacity for macro-regional cooperation	<p>The first call for seed money applications (specific objective 4.1) was launched in September 2016. The application procedure entailed pre-selection by the responsible EUSBSR PACs/HACs. It resulted in 36 applications covering ten Policy Areas and four Horizontal Actions. The pre-selected applications were invited to submit full applications by February 2017.</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 specific objective 4.2 eight of the contracted first call PAC/HAC support projects submitted their final reports at the end of 2016. The remaining three reports are expected in early 2017.</p> <p>In 2016, four calls for EUSBSR coordination support were carried out. The second call for PAC/HAC support involved all Policy Area/Horizontal Actions. All submitted 12 applications were approved, contracted and are currently implemented. In addition, two calls were organised for communication support and other targeted support to the EUSBSR implementation. The first call resulted in 'Let's communicate' project, which aimed to maintain and further develop the communications of the EUSBSR. The second call focusing on the PAC/HAC capacity building resulted in one application that was approved in early 2017.</p> <p>In 2016 support was also provided to the EUSBSR Forum organisation. The seventh EUSBSR Annual Forum in Stockholm in November was successfully implemented with Programme support. The project report is expected in 2017. The second call for EUSBSR Forum support resulted in one application, which was approved in September 2016. The project supports the implementation of the EUSBSR Annual Forum in Berlin 2017.</p> <p>No significant problems were encountered in this priority.</p>
5	Technical Assistance	<p>The total TA budget will be approximately EUR 21.6 million and cover all Programme management costs, including costs for the MA/JS and contribution to the Audit Authority for the period 2014-2023.</p> <p>In the year 2016 the overall spending of TA amounted to EUR 2,842,828, or 89% of the annual budget of EUR 3,213,750. Expenditure was incurred by Investitionsbank Schleswig-Holstein (IB.SH) and the State Regional Development Agency, Latvia, as well as by the Audit Authority in Kiel, Germany. All expenditure was subject to national first level control.</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
		No significant problems were encountered in this priority.

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

Priority axes other than technical assistance

Priority axis	1 - Capacity for innovation
Investment priority	1a - Enhancing research and innovation (R&I) infrastructure and capacities to develop R&I excellence, and promoting centres of competence, in particular those of European interest

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators

(I)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2016	Observations
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	63.00		
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	63.00	247.00	
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	60.00		
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	60.00	242.00	
F	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	Enterprises	50.00		
S	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	Enterprises	50.00	92.00	
F	CO27	Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects	EUR	1,846,815.00	0.00	
S	CO27	Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects	EUR	1,846,815.00	134,157.00	
F	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	7.00	0.00	
S	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	7.00	8.00	
F	PSO02	No. of documented newly developed market products and services	market products and services	4.00	0.00	
S	PSO02	No. of documented newly developed market products and services	market products and services	4.00	8.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2015	2014
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00
F	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	0.00	0.00
S	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	0.00	0.00
F	CO27	Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects	0.00	0.00
S	CO27	Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects	0.00	0.00
F	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	0.00	0.00
S	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	0.00	0.00
F	PSO02	No. of documented newly developed market products and services	0.00	0.00
S	PSO02	No. of documented newly developed market products and services	0.00	0.00

Priority axis	1 - Capacity for innovation
Investment priority	1a - Enhancing research and innovation (R&I) infrastructure and capacities to develop R&I excellence, and promoting centres of competence, in particular those of European interest
Specific objective	1.1 - 'Research and innovation infrastructures': To enhance market uptake of innovation based on improved capacity of research and innovation infrastructures and their users

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
1.1.1	Capacity of research and innovation infrastructures in the Programme area to implement measures to increase the market uptake of innovation	Qualitative analysis of the state and gaps of capacity	Slightly below medium (2,7)	2014	Medium to good (3,6), focus on more efficient use of human and technical resources			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
1.1.1	Capacity of research and innovation infrastructures in the Programme area to implement measures to increase the market uptake of innovation				

Priority axis	1 - Capacity for innovation
Investment priority	1b - Promoting business investment in R&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

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2016	Observations
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	207.00	0.00	
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	207.00	1,431.00	
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	200.00		
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	200.00	1,406.00	
F	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	Enterprises	170.00		
S	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	Enterprises	170.00	458.00	
F	CO27	Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects	EUR	6,595,766.00		
S	CO27	Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects	EUR	6,595,766.00	5,585,000.00	
F	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	25.00		
S	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	25.00	14.00	
F	PSO02	No. of documented newly developed market products and services	market products and services	6.00		
S	PSO02	No. of documented newly developed market products and services	market products and services	6.00	67.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2015	2014
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00
F	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	0.00	0.00
S	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	0.00	0.00
F	CO27	Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects	0.00	0.00
S	CO27	Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects	0.00	0.00
F	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	0.00	0.00
S	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	0.00	0.00
F	PSO02	No. of documented newly developed market products and services	0.00	0.00
S	PSO02	No. of documented newly developed market products and services	0.00	0.00

Priority axis	1 - Capacity for innovation
Investment priority	1b - Promoting business investment in R&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
Specific objective	1.2 - 'Smart specialisation': To enhance growth opportunities based on increased capacity of innovation actors to apply smart specialisation approach

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
1.2.1	Capacity (definition of capacity see section 1 Programme Strategy) of innovation actors (innovation intermediaries, authorities, research institutions, enterprises) in the Programme area to implement smart specialisation strategies	Qualitative analysis of the state and gaps of capacity	Slightly below medium (2,9)	2014	Slightly below good (3,8), focus on enhanced institutionalized knowledge and competence			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
1.2.1	Capacity (definition of capacity see section 1 Programme Strategy) of				

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
	innovation actors (innovation intermediaries, authorities, research institutions, enterprises) in the Programme area to implement smart specialisation strategies				

Priority axis	1 - Capacity for innovation
Investment priority	1b - Promoting business investment in R&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
Specific objective	1.3 - 'Non-technological innovation': To advance the Baltic Sea Region performance in non-technological innovation based on increased capacity of innovation actors

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
1.3.1	Capacity of innovation actors (innovation intermediaries, authorities, research institutions, enterprises) in the Programme area to implement measures to increase uptake of non-technological innovation	Qualitative analysis of the state and gaps of capacity	Slightly below medium (2,9)	2014	Medium to good (3,7), focus on enhanced institutionalised knowledge and competence			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
1.3.1	Capacity of innovation actors (innovation intermediaries, authorities, research institutions, enterprises) in the Programme area to				

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
	implement measures to increase uptake of non-technological innovation				

Priority axis	2 - Efficient management of natural resources
Investment priority	6b - Investing in the water sector to meet the requirements of the Union's environmental acquis and to address needs, identified by the Member States, for investment that goes beyond those requirements

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2016	Observations
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	12.00		
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	12.00	231.00	
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	10.00		
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	10.00	225.00	
F	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	12.00		
S	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	12.00	12.00	
F	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	Amount in EUR	9,497,904.00		
S	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	Amount in EUR	9,497,904.00	119,010.00	
F	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	48.00		
S	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	48.00	19.00	
F	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	19.00		
S	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	19.00	4.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2015	2014
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(1)	ID	Indicator	2015	2014
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00
F	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	0.00	0.00
S	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	0.00	0.00
F	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	0.00	0.00
S	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	0.00	0.00
F	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00
S	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00
F	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00
S	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00

Priority axis	2 - Efficient management of natural resources
Investment priority	6b - Investing in the water sector to meet the requirements of the Union's environmental acquis and to address needs, identified by the Member States, for investment that goes beyond those requirements
Specific objective	2.1 - 'Clear waters': To increase efficiency of water management for reduced nutrient inflows and decreased discharges of hazardous substances to the Baltic Sea and the regional waters based on enhanced capacity of public and private actors dealing with water quality issues

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
2.1.1	Capacity of public authorities / practitioners (from water management, agricultural, forestry, fisheries etc. sectors) in the Programme area to implement measures to reduce nutrient inflows and decrease discharges of hazardous substances	Qualitative analysis of the state and gaps of capacity	Slightly below medium (2,7)	2014	Medium to good (3,6), focus on better ability to attract new financial resources			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
2.1.1	Capacity of public authorities / practitioners (from water management, agricultural, forestry, fisheries etc. sectors) in the Programme area to implement measures to reduce nutrient				

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
	inflows and decrease discharges of hazardous substances				

Priority axis	2 - Efficient management of natural resources
Investment priority	6g - Supporting industrial transition towards a resource-efficient economy, promoting green growth, eco-innovation and environmental performance management in the public and private sectors

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2016	Observations
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	83.00		
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	83.00	115.00	
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	80.00		
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	80.00	92.00	
F	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	20.00		
S	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	20.00	14.00	
F	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	Amount in EUR	15,829,839.00		
S	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	Amount in EUR	15,829,839.00		
F	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	80.00		
S	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	80.00	17.00	
F	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	32.00		
S	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	32.00	6.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2015	2014
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(1)	ID	Indicator	2015	2014
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00
F	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	0.00	0.00
S	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	0.00	0.00
F	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	0.00	0.00
S	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	0.00	0.00
F	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00
S	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00
F	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00
S	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00

Priority axis	2 - Efficient management of natural resources
Investment priority	6g - Supporting industrial transition towards a resource-efficient economy, promoting green growth, eco-innovation and environmental performance management in the public and private sectors
Specific objective	2.2 - 'Renewable energy': To increase production of sustainable renewable energy based on enhanced capacity of public and private actors involved in energy planning and supply

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
2.2.1	Capacity of public/private actors in energy planning and supply (authorities, agencies, enterprises, NGOs in energy, waste, forestry and agricultural sector) in the Programme area to implement measures to increase the use of sustainable renewable energy	Qualitative analysis of the state and gaps of capacity	Basic to medium (2,4)	2014	Medium to good (3,5), focus on increased capability to work in transnational environment			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
2.2.1	Capacity of public/private actors in energy planning and supply (authorities, agencies, enterprises, NGOs in energy, waste,				

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
	forestry and agricultural sector) in the Programme area to implement measures to increase the use of sustainable renewable energy				

Priority axis	2 - Efficient management of natural resources
Investment priority	6g - Supporting industrial transition towards a resource-efficient economy, promoting green growth, eco-innovation and environmental performance management in the public and private sectors
Specific objective	2.3 - 'Energy efficiency': To increase energy efficiency based on enhanced capacity of public and private actors involved in energy planning

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
2.3.1	Capacity of public and private actors involved in energy planning (public authorities, energy agencies, enterprises, NGOs) in the Programme area to implement measures to increase energy efficiency	Qualitative analysis of the state and gaps of capacity	Basic to medium (2,6)	2014	Medium to good (3,5), focus on better ability to attract new financial resources			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
2.3.1	Capacity of public and private actors involved in energy planning (public authorities, energy agencies, enterprises, NGOs) in the Programme area to implement measures to increase energy efficiency				

Priority axis	2 - Efficient management of natural resources
Investment priority	6g - Supporting industrial transition towards a resource-efficient economy, promoting green growth, eco-innovation and environmental performance management in the public and private sectors
Specific objective	2.4 - 'Resource-efficient blue growth': To advance sustainable and resource-efficient blue growth based on increased capacity of public authorities and practitioners within the blue economy sectors

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
2.4.1	Capacity of public authorities, enterprises, and NGOs in the Programme area to implement measures to advance sustainable business opportunities for blue growth	Qualitative analysis of the state and gaps of capacity	Slightly below medium (2,8)	2014	Medium to good (3,6), focus on more efficient use of human and technical resources			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
2.4.1	Capacity of public authorities, enterprises, and NGOs in the Programme area to implement measures to advance sustainable business opportunities for blue growth				

Priority axis	3 - Sustainable transport
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

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2016	Observations
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	42.00		
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	42.00	80.00	
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	40.00		
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	40.00	73.00	
F	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	13.00		
S	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	13.00	12.00	
F	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	Amount in EUR	9,893,650.00		
S	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	Amount in EUR	9,893,650.00	3,000,000.00	
F	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	52.00		
S	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	52.00	45.00	
F	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	21.00		
S	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	21.00	7.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2015	2014
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00

(1)	ID	Indicator	2015	2014
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00
F	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	0.00	0.00
S	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	0.00	0.00
F	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	0.00	0.00
S	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	0.00	0.00
F	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00
S	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00
F	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00
S	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00

Priority axis	3 - Sustainable transport
Investment priority	7b - Enhancing regional mobility by connecting secondary and tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure, including multimodal nodes
Specific objective	3.1 - 'Interoperability of transport modes': To increase interoperability in transporting goods and persons in north-south and east-west connections based on increased capacity of transport actors

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
3.1.1	Capacity of public and private transport actors (public authorities, logistic and transport operators, ports, intergovernmental and research org.) in the Programme area to implement measures increasing interoperability between transport modes and systems	Qualitative analysis of the state and gaps of capacity	Basic to medium (2,3)	2014	Slightly below medium (2,9), focus on improved governance structures and organizational set-up			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
3.1.1	Capacity of public and private transport actors (public authorities, logistic and transport operators, ports, intergovernmental and research org.) in the Programme area to implement measures increasing				

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
	interoperability between transport modes and systems				

Priority axis	3 - Sustainable transport
Investment priority	7b - Enhancing regional mobility by connecting secondary and tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure, including multimodal nodes
Specific objective	3.2 - ‘Accessibility of remote areas and areas affected by demographic change’: To improve the accessibility of the most remote areas and regions whose accessibility is affected by demographic change based on increased capacity of transport actors

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
3.2.1	Capacity of public / private transport actors (public authorities, logistic and transport operators) in the Programme area to implement economically efficient solutions to improve the accessibility of remote regions/regions affected by demographic change	Qualitative analysis of the state and gaps of capacity	Slightly below medium (2,8)	2014	Slightly below good (3,8), focus on enhanced institutionalized knowledge and competence			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
3.2.1	Capacity of public / private transport actors (public authorities, logistic and transport operators) in the Programme area to implement economically				

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
	efficient solutions to improve the accessibility of remote regions/regions affected by demographic change				

Priority axis	3 - Sustainable transport
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

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2016	Observations
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	42.00		
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	42.00	232.00	
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	40.00		
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	40.00	215.00	
F	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	13.00		
S	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	13.00	5.00	
F	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	Amount in EUR	9,893,650.00		
S	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	Amount in EUR	9,893,650.00		
F	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	52.00		
S	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	52.00	8.00	
F	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	21.00		
S	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	authorities/institutions	21.00	10.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2015	2014
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(1)	ID	Indicator	2015	2014
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00
F	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	0.00	0.00
S	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	0.00	0.00
F	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	0.00	0.00
S	PSO03	Amount of documented planned investments to be realised with other than the Programme funding	0.00	0.00
F	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00
S	PSO04	No. of local/regional public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00
F	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00
S	PSO05	No. of national public authorities/institutions involved	0.00	0.00

Priority axis	3 - Sustainable transport
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	3.3 - 'Maritime safety': To increase maritime safety and security based on advanced capacity of maritime actors

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
3.3.1	Capacity of maritime actors (maritime admin., rescue services, authorities, shipping operators, ports, research and intergovernmental org.) in the Programme area to implement measures to increase maritime safety and security	Qualitative analysis of the state and gaps of capacity	Basic to medium (2,5)	2014	Medium to good (3,4), focus on more efficient use of human and technical resources			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
3.3.1	Capacity of maritime actors (maritime admin., rescue services, authorities, shipping operators, ports, research and intergovernmental org.) in the Programme area to implement measures to increase maritime				

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
	safety and security				

Priority axis	3 - Sustainable transport
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	3.4 - 'Environmentally friendly shipping': To enhance clean shipping based on increased capacity of maritime actors

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
3.4.1	Capacity of maritime actors (maritime admin., rescue services, authorities, shipping operators, ports, research and intergovernmental org.) in the Programme area to implement measures to reduce negative effects of shipping on the marine environment	Qualitative analysis of the state and gaps of capacity	Slightly below medium (2,9)	2014	Medium to good (3,7), focus on better ability to attract new financial resources			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
3.4.1	Capacity of maritime actors (maritime admin., rescue services, authorities, shipping operators, ports, research and intergovernmental org.) in the Programme area to				

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
	implement measures to reduce negative effects of shipping on the marine environment				

Priority axis	3 - Sustainable transport
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	3.5 - 'Environmentally friendly urban mobility': To enhance environmentally friendly transport systems in urban areas based on increased capacity of urban transport actors

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
3.5.1	Capacity of urban transport actors (public authorities, ports, infrastructure providers and operators) in the Programme area to implement environmentally friendly transport solutions in urban areas	Qualitative analysis of the state and gaps of capacity	Basic to medium (2,7)	2014	Medium to good (3,5), focus on increased capability to work in transnational environment			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
3.5.1	Capacity of urban transport actors (public authorities, ports, infrastructure providers and operators) in the Programme area to implement environmentally friendly transport solutions in urban areas				

Priority axis	4 - Institutional capacity for macro-regional cooperation
Investment priority	11c - Developing and coordinating macro-regional and sea-basin strategies (ETC-TN)

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators

(I)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2016	Observations
F	PSO06	No of project plans for a main project including information on possible financial sources	project plans	50.00		
S	PSO06	No of project plans for a main project including information on possible financial sources	project plans	50.00		
F	PSO07	No of project plans contributing to joint priorities with the partner countries	project plans	10.00		
S	PSO07	No of project plans contributing to joint priorities with the partner countries	project plans	10.00		
F	PSO08	No of transnational meetings held to facilitate implementation of the EUSBSR targets	meetings	60.00	46.00	
S	PSO08	No of transnational meetings held to facilitate implementation of the EUSBSR targets	meetings	60.00	164.00	
F	PSO09	No of transnational meetings held to facilitate joint work on common priorities with the partner countries	meetings	12.00	16.00	
S	PSO09	No of transnational meetings held to facilitate joint work on common priorities with the partner countries	meetings	12.00	45.00	
F	PSO10	No of strategic policy documents supporting the implementation of the EUSBSR targets and/or common priorities with the partner countries	documents	10.00	11.00	
S	PSO10	No of strategic policy documents supporting the implementation of the EUSBSR targets and/or common priorities with the partner countries	documents	10.00	20.00	
F	PSO11	No of support measures provided to the EUSBSR	measures	14.00	18.00	
S	PSO11	No of support measures provided to the EUSBSR	measures	14.00	36.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2015	2014
F	PSO06	No of project plans for a main project including information on possible financial sources	0.00	0.00
S	PSO06	No of project plans for a main project including information on possible financial sources	0.00	0.00
F	PSO07	No of project plans contributing to joint priorities with the partner countries	0.00	0.00
S	PSO07	No of project plans contributing to joint priorities with the partner countries	0.00	0.00
F	PSO08	No of transnational meetings held to facilitate implementation of the EUSBSR targets	0.00	0.00
S	PSO08	No of transnational meetings held to facilitate implementation of the EUSBSR targets	64.00	0.00
F	PSO09	No of transnational meetings held to facilitate joint work on common priorities with the partner countries	0.00	0.00
S	PSO09	No of transnational meetings held to facilitate joint work on common priorities with the partner countries	25.00	0.00
F	PSO10	No of strategic policy documents supporting the implementation of the EUSBSR targets and/or common priorities with the partner countries	0.00	0.00
S	PSO10	No of strategic policy documents supporting the implementation of the EUSBSR targets and/or common priorities with the partner countries	10.00	0.00
F	PSO11	No of support measures provided to the EUSBSR	0.00	0.00
S	PSO11	No of support measures provided to the EUSBSR	16.00	0.00

Priority axis	4 - Institutional capacity for macro-regional cooperation
Investment priority	11c - Developing and coordinating macro-regional and sea-basin strategies (ETC-TN)
Specific objective	4.1 - ‘Seed Money’: To increase capacity for transnational cooperation implementing the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and working on common policies with the partner countries

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
4.1.1	Amount of funding for projects implementing the EUSBSR resulting from seed money projects	Million Euro	0.00	2014	108.00			
4.1.2	Number of organisations from the partner countries working on joint projects resulting from seed money projects	Number of organisations	0.00	2014	9.00			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
4.1.1	Amount of funding for projects implementing the EUSBSR resulting from seed money projects				
4.1.2	Number of organisations from the partner countries working on joint projects resulting				

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
	from seed money projects				

Priority axis	4 - Institutional capacity for macro-regional cooperation
Investment priority	11c - Developing and coordinating macro-regional and sea-basin strategies (ETC-TN)
Specific objective	4.2 - 'Coordination of macro-regional cooperation': To increase capacity of public administrations and pan-Baltic organisations for transnational coordination in implementing the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and facilitating the implementation of common policies with the partner countries

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
4.2.1	Percentage of EUSBSR priority areas and horizontal actions reaching the identified targets	Number of EUSBSR PA and HA in relation to their total number	0.00	2014	80.00			
4.2.2	Percentage of EUSBSR priority areas and horizontal actions facilitating the implementation of joint priorities with the partner countries	Number of EUSBSR PA and HA in relation to their total number	50.00	2014	60.00			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
4.2.1	Percentage of EUSBSR priority areas and horizontal actions reaching the identified targets				
4.2.2	Percentage of EUSBSR priority areas and horizontal actions facilitating				

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
	the implementation of joint priorities with the partner countries				

Priority axes for technical assistance

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

(I)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2016	Observations
F	TA01	Number of (potential) applicants advised	Number	415.00	551.00	200 (Priority 1-3, step 1) + 73 (Priority 1-3, step 2) + 13 (Priority 4, PACs/HACs + Strategy Forum)
S	TA01	Number of (potential) applicants advised	Number	415.00		
F	TA02	Number of applications received and assessed	Number	260.00	601.00	282 (Priority 1-3, step 1), 78 (Priority 1-3, step 2), 13 (Priority 4, 12 PACs/HACs, of which 2 applications merged into 1 + Strategy Forum)
S	TA02	Number of applications received and assessed	Number	260.00		
F	TA03	Number of reports checked and paid out	Number	630.00	0.00	
S	TA03	Number of reports checked and paid out	Number	630.00		
F	TA04	Number of news items published on the programme's website	Number	168.00	120.00	
S	TA04	Number of news items published on the programme's website	Number	168.00		
F	TA05	Number of own events carried out	Number	14.00	12.00	Excluding MC meetings
S	TA05	Number of own events carried out	Number	14.00		
F	TA06	Number of participants at programme events	Number	1,580.00	633.00	Excluding Strategy Forum events
S	TA06	Number of participants at programme events	Number	1,580.00		
F	TA07	Number of other events attended by MA/JS staff	Number	700.00	133.00	Excluding IBSR/IB.SH events/meetings
S	TA07	Number of other events attended by MA/JS staff	Number	700.00		
F	TA08	Number of employees (full-time equivalents) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	Number	186.00	57.00	
S	TA08	Number of employees (full-time equivalents) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	Number	186.00		

(1)	ID	Indicator	2015	2014
F	TA01	Number of (potential) applicants advised	286.00	0.00
S	TA01	Number of (potential) applicants advised	0.00	0.00
F	TA02	Number of applications received and assessed	373.00	0.00
S	TA02	Number of applications received and assessed	0.00	0.00
F	TA03	Number of reports checked and paid out	0.00	0.00
S	TA03	Number of reports checked and paid out	0.00	0.00
F	TA04	Number of news items published on the programme's website	64.00	18.00
S	TA04	Number of news items published on the programme's website	0.00	0.00
F	TA05	Number of own events carried out	3.00	2.00
S	TA05	Number of own events carried out	0.00	0.00
F	TA06	Number of participants at programme events	241.00	163.00
S	TA06	Number of participants at programme events	0.00	0.00
F	TA07	Number of other events attended by MA/JS staff	60.00	13.00
S	TA07	Number of other events attended by MA/JS staff	0.00	0.00
F	TA08	Number of employees (full-time equivalents) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	30.00	28.00
S	TA08	Number of employees (full-time equivalents) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	0.00	0.00

Priority axis	5 - Technical Assistance
Specific objective	5.1 - 'Technical Assistance': To provide sufficient financing to ensure a professional and efficient programme management

Table 1: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	Observations
5.1.1	Share of programme funding allocated to projects	Percentage of funds allocated to projects	0.00	2014	100.00			
5.1.2	N+3 targets fulfilled	Number of annual spending targets fulfilled	0.00	2014	7.00			
5.1.3	Visitors on programme's website	Number of unique visitors	0.00	2014	350,000.00			

ID	Indicator	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
5.1.1	Share of programme funding allocated to projects				
5.1.2	N+3 targets fulfilled				
5.1.3	Visitors on programme's website				

3.3 Table 3: Information on the milestones and targets defined in the performance framework

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measure ment unit	Milestone for 2018 total	2016 Final target (2023) total	2016	Observations
1	F	FI01	Certified Expenditure	Euros	20,591,661.00	102,958,307.00	219,450.00	
1	I	KIS01	No. of documented learning experiences of selected operations (forecast provided by beneficiaries)	learning experiences	32	32.00	22.00	
1	O	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	0	32.00	0.00	
2	F	FI01	Certified Expenditure	Euros	20,591,661.00	102,958,307.00	139,000.00	
2	I	KIS01	No. of documented learning experiences of selected operations (forecast provided by beneficiaries)	learning experiences	32	32.00	26.00	
2	O	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	0	32.00	0.00	
3	F	FI01	Certified Expenditure	Euros	16,087,235	80,436,178.00	100,000.00	
3	I	KIS01	No. of documented learning experiences of selected operations (forecast provided by beneficiaries)	learning experiences	26	26.00	17.00	
3	O	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences	0	26.00	0.00	
4	F	FI01	Certified Expenditure	Euros	3,103,890	15,519,446.00	0.00	
4	O	PSO08	No of transnational meetings held to facilitate implementation of the EUSBSR targets	meetings	30	60.00	100.00	

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measure ment unit	2015	2014
1	F	FI01	Certified Expenditure	Euros		
1	I	KIS01	No. of documented learning experiences of selected operations (forecast provided by beneficiaries)	learning experiences		
1	O	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences		
2	F	FI01	Certified Expenditure	Euros		
2	I	KIS01	No. of documented learning experiences of selected operations (forecast provided by beneficiaries)	learning experiences		
2	O	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences		
3	F	FI01	Certified Expenditure	Euros		
3	I	KIS01	No. of documented learning experiences of selected operations (forecast provided by beneficiaries)	learning experiences		
3	O	PSO01	No. of documented learning experiences	learning experiences		
4	F	FI01	Certified Expenditure	Euros		
4	O	PSO08	No of transnational meetings held to facilitate implementation of the EUSBSR targets	meetings	64.00	

3.4. Financial data

Table 4: Financial information at priority axis and programme level

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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
1	ERDF	Total	102,958,307.00	82.00	35,083,924.00	34.08%	34,238,042.00	219,450.00	0.21%	12
1	ENI	Total	3,520,000.00	85.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0
2	ERDF	Total	102,958,307.00	82.00	49,319,400.00	47.90%	46,721,184.00	139,000.00	0.14%	13
2	ENI	Total	3,520,000.00	85.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0
3	ERDF	Total	80,436,178.00	82.00	33,405,832.00	41.53%	32,203,924.00	100,000.00	0.12%	10
3	ENI	Total	2,588,236.00	85.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0
4	ERDF	Total	15,519,446.00	85.00	7,859,663.20	50.64%	7,859,663.20	0.00	0.00%	27
4	ENI	Total	103,530.00	85.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0
5	ERDF	Public	21,106,452.00	75.00	21,106,452.00	100.00%	15,829,839.00	209,655.00	0.99%	1
5	ENI	Public	704,000.00	75.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0
Total	ERDF		322,978,690.00	81.69	146,775,271.20	45.44%	136,852,652.20	668,105.00	0.21%	63
Total	ENI		10,435,766.00	84.33	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0
Grand total			333,414,456.00	81.77	146,775,271.20	44.02%	136,852,652.20	668,105.00	0.20%	63

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)

ENI funding is available in the Programme subject to the signature of the Financing Agreements between the European Commission and Russia and Belarus respectively. Financial data on ENI are included in table 4 above.

National Norwegian funding is also available, amounting to EUR 11,278,198.00. This funding is envisaged to finance the participation of Norwegian organisations in Interreg Baltic Sea Region projects.

In 2016 an amount of 2,956,074.50 Euro are the total eligible costs of operations selected for support in all five priority axis. This includes 2,856,074.50 Euro public eligible cost of operations selected for support. The total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries from Norway to the MA in 2016 amounted to 1,550.00 Euro. This is a proportion of 0.5 percent of the total allocation covered by eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries.

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 beneficiaries to the managing authority	Number of operations selected
1	ERDF	058	01	04	07	01		24	DE6	4,177,014.00	4,140,879.00	20,000.00	1
1	ERDF	060	01	04	07	01		20	DE6	3,628,292.00	3,525,159.00	20,000.00	1
1	ERDF	062	01	04	07	01		07	PL418	2,411,666.00	2,449,166.00	20,000.00	1
1	ERDF	066	01	04	07	01		04	FI1D5	2,458,870.00	2,373,799.00	20,000.00	1
1	ERDF	067	01	04	07	01		24	DE803	3,071,841.00	3,053,093.00	20,000.00	1
1	ERDF	067	01	04	07	01		24	FI197	2,915,192.00	2,915,192.00		1
1	ERDF	069	01	04	07	01		03	LV009	1,520,013.00	1,477,517.00	20,000.00	1
1	ERDF	069	01	04	07	01		22	DEE01	2,201,877.00	1,987,395.00	20,000.00	1
1	ERDF	073	01	04	07	01		21	DEF0B	4,880,664.00	4,606,457.00	20,000.00	1
1	ERDF	077	01	04	07	01		23	EE001	2,947,950.00	2,852,340.00	19,450.00	1
1	ERDF	119	01	04	07	01		19	DE6	3,014,500.00	3,001,000.00	20,000.00	1
1	ERDF	119	01	04	07	01		22	DEF02	1,856,045.00	1,856,045.00	20,000.00	1
1	ENI												
2	ERDF	012	01	04	07	06		10	DE3	3,968,961.00	3,738,230.00		1
2	ERDF	012	01	04	07	06		10	DE804	2,712,343.00	2,693,493.00	20,000.00	1
2	ERDF	019	01	04	07	06		22	PL633	4,759,783.00	4,709,296.00	19,000.00	1
2	ERDF	021	01	04	07	06		01	SE232	2,950,965.00	2,872,230.00	20,000.00	1
2	ERDF	022	01	04	07	06		11	FI1C2	3,027,536.00	2,975,488.00		1
2	ERDF	062	01	04	07	06		02	SE123	4,671,847.00	4,417,014.00		1
2	ERDF	062	01	04	07	06		24	DEF02	3,411,229.00	3,040,486.00	20,000.00	1
2	ERDF	065	01	04	07	06		10	DK032	3,119,982.00	2,813,062.00		1

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
2	ERDF	069	01	04	07	06		01	SE121	5,291,116.00	4,731,980.00	20,000.00	1
2	ERDF	119	01	04	07	06		11	FI1C1	4,642,035.00	4,486,944.00		1
2	ERDF	119	01	04	07	06		12	DE6	3,429,458.00	3,380,693.00	20,000.00	1
2	ERDF	119	01	04	07	06		22	SE110	3,561,797.00	3,350,067.00		1
2	ERDF	119	01	04	07	06		22	SE224	3,772,348.00	3,512,201.00	20,000.00	1
2	ENI												
3	ERDF	026	01	04	07	07		12	FI1B	3,327,648.00	3,285,148.00		1
3	ERDF	036	01	04	07	07		12	DE404	3,642,496.00	3,558,090.00	20,000.00	1
3	ERDF	036	01	04	07	07		12	SE221	3,770,821.00	3,744,646.00	20,000.00	1
3	ERDF	040	01	04	07	07		12	FI1C1	4,363,649.00	4,045,461.00		1
3	ERDF	040	01	04	07	07		22	DE6	2,781,750.00	2,659,555.00		1
3	ERDF	042	01	04	07	07		12	DE6	4,435,127.00	4,327,993.00		1
3	ERDF	044	01	04	07	07		12	LT003	3,073,764.00	2,728,066.00	20,000.00	1
3	ERDF	083	01	04	07	07		12	FI1C1	3,242,539.00	3,158,636.00		1
3	ERDF	088	01	04	07	07		24	SE221	2,266,915.00	2,195,206.00	20,000.00	1
3	ERDF	119	01	04	07	07		12	FI1C1	2,501,123.00	2,501,123.00	20,000.00	1
3	ENI												
4	ERDF	119	01	04	07	11		18	DE3	320,000.00	320,000.00		1
4	ERDF	119	01	04	07	11		18	DEF02	392,937.80	392,937.80		2
4	ERDF	119	01	04	07	11		18	DK011	1,406,725.20	1,406,725.20		4
4	ERDF	119	01	04	07	11		18	FI1B	485,294.00	485,294.00		1
4	ERDF	119	01	04	07	11		18	FI1C1	916,577.20	916,577.20		3
4	ERDF	119	01	04	07	11		18	LV006	1,021,478.70	1,021,478.70		4
4	ERDF	119	01	04	07	11		18	SE110	3,316,650.30	3,316,650.30		12
4	ENI												
5	ERDF	121	01	04	07			24	DEF02	21,106,452.00	15,829,839.00	209,655.00	1
5	ENI												

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)
All or part of an operation outside the Union part of the programme area	2,005,452.00	0.76%	0.00	

(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

One evaluation of the Programme was carried out for the calendar year 2016 to evaluate management structures and processes and financial performance. It was conducted internally by the MA/JS. According to the Programme's Evaluation Plan, an evaluation of Programme delivery was not applicable for 2016.

Management structures on the project level

In 2016 the main project related processes included contracting of projects, advice to applicants as well as assessment of concept notes and projects for EUSBSR coordination support. The operational evaluation included an evaluation of whether the support given to applicants was sufficient, whether the admissibility and assessment procedures as well as the contracting procedure were adequate, and whether the support given to the approved projects was sufficient. In addition, the performance and availability of the online monitoring system BAMOS was assessed.

Based on the number of consulted applicants, the division of lead partners and partners among the Programme countries, and the overall number of concept notes with sufficient quality, it can be concluded that the support to the applicants was sufficient. A few specific objectives did not receive many qualified applications and it could be considered to carry out special support measures for attracting applications to these topics. Both the admissibility check and assessment were assessed as adequate. The resources used for the assessment were high, but the process was well manageable for the staff. The MC followed the quality assessment outcomes in project selection. The contracting process was long for several reasons, including ongoing development of the e-monitoring system BAMOS, clarification of private partner capacity and clarification of State aid activities. It can be expected, however, that the contracting will be faster for the second call projects as the online monitoring system will be fully available from the beginning, the MA/JS will be better prepared for challenges related to private partner involvement and because the know how to handle State aid cases has increased and the procedures are improved since the first call. As there were no major challenges with running projects and the feedback to the events organised – such as the lead partner seminar, financial seminar and communication seminar – was very positive, the support provided to the projects was assessed as sufficient.

The development of BAMOS was slightly behind the planned schedule but in time to support work processes. The system is regarded as secure and user-friendly. Due to the high level of complexity, the investments in terms of time and money were high. The investments should pay off mainly on the side of the lead applicants and partners as they need to produce almost no hard copies anymore when applying and reporting to the Programme.

Management structures on the Programme level

Programme-level management structures in 2016 were also assessed. These covered the management tasks of the MA/JS, financial management, tasks of the certifying authority, the Audit Authority (AA) and Group of Auditors (GoA), the Monitoring Committee, and communication and public relations. The structures and processes related to Programme management were found to be sound, sufficient and timely, although there were some delays in the preparation of the sample method, checklists and reports by the AA due to staff changes. The sampling method, the audit manual as well

as reporting and checklist templates for the second level audit (SLA) needs to be finalised by the time the first SLAs take place in early 2017.

Financial performance

The most important financial data are continuously processed via regular reporting duties, mainly to the European Commission and to members of the MC.

Based on the experience of the first call for regular applications, the financial assessment procedure was slightly adjusted for the second call, mainly regarding State aid assessment. Support provided by the MA/JS to projects was important in reducing financial errors and ineligible expenditure, in particular in the initial stage of projects. Problems such as challenges related to staff costs were identified and appropriate measures were taken.

Spending rates and measures undertaken to avoid de-commitment were also evaluated in order to assess whether new measures were needed. The main measure is a de-commitment simulation for the MC, which shows the dependency between timely commitments and the de-commitment risk. The MC took note of the simulation and, from the pool of projects of good quality, selected a sufficient number in the first call for applications (priorities 1-3) to reach the commitment targets. The actual spending of projects is continuously observed during the monitoring procedure. As the first round of progress reports from projects were received only at the end of the year, there are as yet no conclusions to be drawn.

5. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND MEASURES TAKEN

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

Efforts to involve Russia in the Programme with ENI funding continued in 2016. Russia intended to allocate national funding amounting to EUR 4.4 million for participation of Russian project partners in the Programme, outlined in a declaration by Russia to the Managing Authority which was concluded and signed by November 2016. In parallel, during the second call for priorities 1-3 lead applicants were encouraged to involve Russian organisations in their projects. Discussions on the Financing Agreement between the European Commission and Russia continued in 2016 with the aim to have the agreement ready in time for the selection of second call projects for priorities 1-3 in May 2017 so that Russian partners could take part in these projects with both national and ENI funds.

During the programming period, the Programme's participating countries agreed to allow involvement of partners from outside the Programme area provided that any such country on whose territory these partners are located accepts the Programme provisions for management, financing and control (MCS) by signing an agreement outlining such provisions. As a result, seven applications in the first call had an initial total of nine partners located in seven countries outside the Programme area. Of these, three projects were selected for funding, which involved three project partners in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. By September 2016, both countries had signed MCS agreements with the MA/JS that allowed project partners from their countries to participate in the Programme.

(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	Ma

(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

Any change planned in the list of major projects in the cooperation programme

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	1 - Capacity for innovation
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Twelve projects were approved in priority 1 ‘Capacity for innovation’. Within this priority, the specific objective of smart specialisation was less widely targeted by the projects. The call for applications that was launched in February 2016 therefore particularly encouraged applications that addressed this topic, among others. This specific objective was addressed by five of the 75 concept notes that were selected by the Monitoring Committee (MC) in September 2016.

No evaluation of result indicators had yet been carried out as of the end of 2016.

Priority axis	2 - Efficient management of natural resources
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Thirteen projects were approved in priority 2 ‘Management of natural resources’. Within this priority, the specific objectives of renewable energy, energy efficiency and blue growth were less widely targeted by the projects. The call for applications that was launched in February 2016 therefore particularly encouraged applications that addressed these topics, among others. These specific objective were addressed by 18 of the 75 concept notes that were selected by the Monitoring Committee (MC) in September 2016.

No evaluation of result indicators had yet been carried out as of the end of 2016.

Priority axis	3 - Sustainable transport
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Ten projects were approved in priority 3 ‘Sustainable transport’. Within this priority, the specific objectives of accessibility of remote areas and areas affected by democratic change and environmentally friendly urban mobility were less widely targeted by the projects. The call for applications that was launched in February 2016 therefore particularly encouraged applications that addressed this topic, among others. This specific objective was addressed by nine of the 75 concept notes that were selected by the Monitoring Committee (MC) in September 2016.

No evaluation of result indicators had yet been carried out as of the end of 2016.

Priority axis

4 - Institutional capacity for macro-regional cooperation

Fourteen projects were approved in priority 4 'Institutional capacity for macro-regional cooperation' within the specific objective of coordination of macro-regional cooperation in 2016. These included twelve projects providing support to the coordination of all 13 Policy Areas and four Horizontal Actions of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR), support to the organisation of the EUSBSR Forum 2017 and the implementation of the EUSBSR communication activities. In addition to this twelve projects were selected in 2015 already and have been implementing their activities in 2016.

Within this priority, the first call for seed money applications was launched in September 2016. The call resulted in 36 pre-selected project ideas which were invited to present full applications.

No evaluation of result indicators had yet been carried out as of the end of 2016.

Priority axis

5 - Technical Assistance

All Programme bodies have been set-up in due time and the designation of the Managing Authority (MA) was finalised in summer 2016. During 2016, the MA/JS was fully staffed, including staff for carrying out Certifying Authority functions.

In general, MA/JS activities were implemented in 2016 according to the work plan and planned budget. Some delays were encountered in contracting (signature of subsidy contracts) due to high intensity of need for clarifications after the project selection by the MC in November 2015.

The programme implementation work carried out by the MA/JS in 2016 was reviewed in detail in an internal operational evaluation carried out in spring 2017. As part of the operational evaluation the functioning of the management structures was checked as well as services provided to applicants and projects and the financial performance of the Programme. Detailed evaluation results can be obtained from the MA/JS.

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

Following the Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 all applicants were requested to promote the equality between men and women as well as equal opportunities and non-discrimination in their projects. The applicants were guided to either integrate these horizontal principles in their activities, or at least, to consider the project's influence on these principles. To demonstrate that, the projects should describe in the application form what contribution the project activities will have towards equality between men and women as well as equal opportunities and non-discrimination. The project impact on these horizontal principles should be also reflected in the description of project activities/outputs.

All submitted applications are assessed for their planned actions and impacts on fostering equality between men and women as well as equal opportunities and on prevention of discrimination, including accessibility for disabled people. The contribution to these horizontal principles is regarded as a positive factor in the project selection for funding.

None of the projects approved in the first call for applications negatively affected either equal opportunities and non-discrimination or equality between men and women. The majority of projects stated a neutral contribution to these horizontal principles. Six out of 35 projects, approved in priority 1-3, indicated a positive contribution to equal opportunities and non-discrimination.

As an example of a project promoting equal opportunities and non-discrimination the project BEA-APP can be given. It deals with renewable energy planning on regional level. The project develops, among others, innovative stakeholder involvement modes and financing systems as ways to increase social acceptance and local ownership of renewable energy projects. In this context, the project will involve groups which are normally under-represented in energy planning processes, in particular, elderly people in rural areas with limited mobility and low income.

One project has indicated a positive contribution to equality between men and women. The project BSN develops transnational strategies, incentives and programmes to support higher education, research and innovation in the BSR. The project will ensure that specific needs of female and male R&I infrastructure users are equally reflected in the project outputs, like mobility tools and funding instruments.

The projects' contribution to the horizontal principles will be followed up during the

monitoring of the project implementation and reported further in the Annual Implementation Reports.

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

Sustainable development of the region is an integral part of the Programme, and it is covered by all Programme priorities. Following the Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 applicants are requested to promote sustainable development in the BSR both via the approach they apply and the outputs they develop. Applicants should consider economical, ecological and social impacts of their projects. Furthermore, projects should consider environmental impacts when making decisions on investments and their location.

Applicants should describe in the application form what contribution the project activities will have towards sustainable development. Activities to promote sustainable development should be described in the project work plan as well.

All applications submitted in the first call for applications were assessed for their planned actions and impacts on sustainable development. Promoting sustainable development was regarded as a positive factor in the project selection for funding.

None of the projects, approved in the first call for applications, is negatively contributing to sustainable development. Five out of 35 approved projects in priority 1-3 indicated a neutral impact on sustainable development, whereas 30 projects actively promote sustainable development through their activities and outputs.

For instance, the project WAMBAF dealing with improvement of riparian forest management will promote sustainable use of forest resources, which will also have a positive impact on maintenance of biodiversity in riparian forests and water ecosystems. The project will provide knowledge, and tools for minimizing the leaching of nutrients and hazardous substances to regional and coastal waters at forestry operations and beaver management.

Another good example is the project Baltic LINes that deals with improvement of institutional capacities of maritime spatial planning (MSP) bodies to help developing the most appropriate framework conditions for blue growth activities. When developing integrated planning criteria and MSP solutions, the project will follow an ecosystem approach as well as will take into account environmental protection objectives.

The project SEMPRES promotes sustainable development through empowerment in social service provisions in rural areas in the Baltic Sea Region. The project aims, in particular, at building the capacity of professionals and organisations in the social sector and service users to create synergies which will help the social sector to adapt to changing socio-economic preconditions and contribute to the long-term sustainability of welfare systems and provision.

The promotion of sustainable development by the projects will be followed up during the monitoring of the project implementation, and reported further in the Annual Implementation Reports.



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 (%)
1	1,220,779.92	1.40%
2	10,740,457.12	12.29%
3	9,393,196.44	13.78%
Total	21,354,433.48	7.83%

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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

The Monitoring Committee is composed of representatives of both national and regional levels from the participating countries. In addition, national sub-committees have been established by all participating countries in order to ensure broader involvement of regional and local levels as well as civil society through economic, research and social partners and non-governmental organisations. In total, 119 members of national sub-committees are representatives of regional levels, 7 of the international level, and 8 from associations and civil society. These figures exclude the national sub-committees of Belarus, for which there is no information, and Estonia, which is in the process of revising their national sub-committee's membership.

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

The MA/JS together with the Evaluation Steering Group (ESG), consisting of one MC member from each participating country, developed an evaluation plan for the Programme. The first version of the plan was approved by the Monitoring Committee in November 2015. A revision was completed in 2016 in order to address feedback received from the European Commission.

The Programme bodies conducted an internal operational evaluation in the first quarter of 2017 to measure, assess and analyse the progress in Programme implementation in 2016 in order to ensure appropriate functioning of the Programme bodies. The levels addressed by this evaluation were management structures at project and Programme levels and financial performance. (For details, please see Chapter 4 *Synthesis of evaluations*.)

The previous operational evaluation of management structures at the project level conducted for 2015 showed that all the required procedures related to the support of applicants and the assessment of applications were in place, functioning properly, and according to the legal framework. However, the evaluation concluded from the experience of the first call for priorities 1-3 that the workload related to assessing concept notes and full applications was high. The MA/JS therefore sought options for simplification in this area for the second call. Follow-up measures for simplification in 2016 included simplifying the standardised templates used in assessment to avoid repetition. The internal process remained the same.

Furthermore, experience from the first call clearly indicated a positive influence of prior consultation on the quality of applications. The internal operational evaluation from 2015 thus set as an aim for the second call to consult every applicant. The corresponding follow-up measure resulted in 77% of applicants having consultations at the concept note stage and 99% of applicants invited to submit a full application having consultations in the full application stage.

In priority 4, the evaluation found that more individual support and guidance of applicants could have been implemented due to the smaller number of applicants for the call in specific objective 4.2 'Coordination of macro-regional cooperation'. As a result, follow-up measures in 2016 not only included individual consultations but also two lead applicant seminars in February and October to support applicants interested in EUSBSR targeted support, which drew representatives from seven project ideas. As the group of applicants had rather limited experience with ERDF project management, individual support provided during the first calls was continued in 2016.

10.2 The results of the information and publicity measures of the Funds carried out under the communication strategy

1. Attracting applicants

Attracting applicants was in focus during the first half of 2016. The second call in priorities 1-3 was **opened on 13 March 2016** and was actively promoted along with accompanying events.

Through the **Programme newsletter** more than 10.000 individuals were directly targeted of whom almost 2200 opened the newsletter. Through the Programme's social media channels on Facebook and LinkedIn, more than 1300 people were reached. An **online forum for partner search and exchange of project ideas** attracted 1500 members by end of 2016 (during second call: appr. 30 ideas posted).

Events to receive information and to get in touch with the MA/JS staff attracted numerous participants. For example, almost 200 potential applicants participated in a programme information seminar about funding opportunities (16-17 March 2017, Riga) and 280 in a joint seminar for applicants of Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE and Baltic Sea Region (23 February 2017, Katowice). 188 individual project consultations were carried out to provide targeted feed-back to each lead applicant.

These information and publicity measures contributed to the submission of 212 admissible concept notes with almost 2000 organisations involved for the second call for project applications.

Newcomers to the Programme: The Programme succeeded in attracting a high number of newcomers: 35 % (first call) and 40 % (second call) of participants at the project development events had never participated in an Interreg project before (own statement upon registration to the event). The share of participants with experience as lead partners in Interreg BSR dropped from 22 % in the first call to 9 % in the second call. The share of participants with experience as project partners in Interreg BSR remained on the same level (28 % and 29 % for first and second call).

2. Supporting projects

Throughout 2016, the MA/JS supported 35 lead partners (projects approved in first call) and more than 80 project lead applicants who developed applications for the second call.

First call: In order to help lead and project partners understand the rules and requirements, project management tools were developed. Three events were implemented targeting different members of the project coordination team: a lead partner seminar for project coordinators (9-10 March 2016, Rostock, 100 participants), a financial seminar for finance managers (1-2 June 2016, Hamburg), and a communication seminar for communication managers (28-29 September 2016, Berlin, 45 participants). The overall feedback collected after these events was positive, with more than 90 % of participants stating that the amount of information was absolutely adequate (response rates: 73 to 82 %).

Second call: Two project development workshops on 12 and 19 October 2016 in Berlin and Riga, respectively, were held to explain the application requirements to applicants,

including a section on the planned communication strategy of the project. Of 145 participants (at both events), 81 - 89 % stated that the event fulfilled their expectations completely, approx. 90 % were satisfied with the amount of information received (response rates: 73 %). In addition to the events, 74 applicants were consulted individually. These activities led to 78 admissible project applications, covering all the Programme's priorities and partners from all Programme countries including Russia (yet without Belarus).

3. Making achievements visible

The **annual event** was the Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region on 8-9 November 2016 in Stockholm. It brought together about 1000 stakeholders of the Strategy and the Programme. Projects from Interreg Baltic Sea Region were well represented, and a workshop focusing on clustering of projects related to Blue Growth was organised by the Programme.

In order to **explain the added value of transnational cooperation**, the Programme produces few but high quality stories. Programme messages were developed and added to the communication strategy. Staff of the MA/JS was trained in interviewing project representatives and in communicating the added value of transnational cooperation. Throughout 2016, the MA/JS published on average one major project story per month. The next development step was initiated: an online project library searchable for projects, project stories and project outputs. The project stories in place can be found by priority here: interreg-baltic.eu/news-innovation.html | interreg-baltic.eu/news-natural-resources.html | interreg-baltic.eu/news-transport.html.

The Programme's social media strategy was revised and content adapted to the character of each channel. Twitter has been identified and is developed as the currently most important social media channel. The review led to steady increases of users throughout 2016:

- **Twitter** for media and decision makers: from 1200 to >2000 connections;
- **Linked In** for thematic experts: from <1000 to >2400 followers;
- **Facebook** for the general public: from >1400 to >1600 page likes.

In order to ensure **good project communications** and to promote **the joint Interreg brand**, a project design guide with project logos, office templates and poster templates were developed. A survey among communication managers carried out six months after project approval (34 entries) showed that a large share of projects – but not all - understood the relevance of reaching out to the specific target groups of the projects. The most demanded seminar topics were “communication strategy & planning” (59 %) as well as “target groups & audience research” (56 %). Mere technical topics such as project website (32 %) or photography (32 %) rated much lower. In a survey, the majority of communication managers rated the support measures of the MA/JS as “fully satisfying” or “mainly satisfying“, 97 % did so when rating the visibility support measures and 77 % for the response of the MA/JS communication officers to their requests (35 entries).

Further activities included the development of an exhibition stand and a print product on the first call projects. The print product consists of project postcards that can be used individually or combined in a postcard deck. They are distributed during events in a postcards stand, and spread from person to person by Monitoring Committee Members,

MA/JS staff and project lead partners and presented online.

4. Facilitating administration

The INTERACT Programme provides platforms for cooperation among Interreg programmes, which the MA/JS frequently participates in. In addition, Interreg Baltic Sea Region promotes direct cooperation with other programmes. Results of this cooperation are, e.g. a Joint applicant seminar of Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE and Baltic Sea Region (23 February 2017, Katowice) and a conference organised jointly with Interreg South and Central Baltic on 23 and 24 May 2016 in Gdansk.

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 implementation of the integrated approach to territorial development, including sustainable urban development, and community-led local development under the cooperation programme

The Programme applies the integrated approach to territorial development by building on territorial assets of the region. Project proposals should, as far as possible, address territorial challenges and consider relevant territorial development policies as well as regional conditions of envisaged actions. They should also take into account their implications and impacts on other sectors in the given territories.

Project applications are assessed for their relevance in terms of their contribution to policies or strategies relevant to the Programme area, e.g. Europe 2020, the EUSBSR, Socio-economic Development Strategy of the Russian Federation (Russian North-West Strategy). Furthermore, project partnerships are assessed on their cross-sectoral approach and whether organisations from relevant sectors are involved and whether the partnership allows for a multidisciplinary approach.

In addition, the Programme continued its support of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (see Chapter 11.3 for details).

Community-led development, integrated actions for sustainable urban development and Integrated Territorial Investments are not applicable to the Programme.

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:

The Programme contributes significantly to the implementation of the EUSBSR. It co-finances flagship projects of the Strategy. EUR 13.2 million ERDF were also allocated to the Programme's priority 4. This supports Strategy implementation and governance structures. Seed money is available for the preparation of flagship and other projects important for the Strategy. In addition, the Programme's specific objective 4.2 'Coordination of macro-regional cooperation' provides co-financing to Strategy coordination and communication activities.

Of the 35 projects approved in the first call for applications in priorities 1-3, 25 are EUSBSR flagships. EUR 66.6 million ERDF funding was committed to them - 74% of total ERDF commitment in the first call. The number of Programme-funded flagships is highest in PA Innovation (6) and PA Transport (4).

The first call for seed money projects was opened in fall 2016. These projects are expected to prepare project proposals with strategic importance to one of the EUSBSR PAs or Horizontal Actions (HA). Around EUR 1 million was planned to be allocated in this call. PA and HA Coordinators (PACs/HACs) were asked to pre-select maximum three applications relevant to their topics to be submitted for the call to the Programme. Due to their broad focus, PAs Innovation and Bio-economy were allowed to name five applications. All in all PACs/HACs selected 36 draft applications, which were invited to submit a full application to the Programme by February 2017.

Through the first call for support to PACs/HACs under specific objective 4.2, was opened in December 2014, 13 out of 17 PAs and all HAs received coordination support. Due to EUSBSR restructuring, PAC/HAC support was initially provided for one year. A new call was run in 2016 where all PAs/HAs receive coordination support for a two-year period. In these two calls EUR 5.2 million ERDF were allocated.

Despite the high administrative efforts in ERDF funding provided by the Programme, it seems to be essential for the coordination work of PACs/HACs. In the final reports of the first year period they stressed that the support helped them mobilise resources and make improvements that otherwise would not have been possible. The support ensured sufficient staff resources for coordination, communication and regional collaboration with experts and stakeholders. Moreover, Programme funding was used for certain core topics. The effects of the support were not observed to the same extent for all PAs/HAs, however. This was the case in areas where strong transnational cooperation already existed, supported by pan-Baltic organisations or networks.

Under specific objective 4.2 the Programme allocated funding for the organisation of two EUSBSR Forums: the 7th Strategy Forum (Stockholm 2016) and 8th Strategy Forum Berlin 2017. Forum organisers perceived administrative efforts related to the funding as high. Nonetheless, without co-financing it would be difficult to organise the Forums at the current scope and scale, with up to 800 participants. Programme support also enabled the preparation of the study 'Looking towards 2030: Preparing the Baltic

Sea Region for the Future’ for the Forum in 2016.

There were two calls for communication and other targeted support for EUSBSR. The first call resulted in the ‘Let’s communicate’ project to maintain and develop Strategy communication activities. The second call focusing on PAC/HAC capacity building had one application, approved in 2017.

- ☐ 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)

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

Several projects from the first call for applications under priorities 1-3 implement actions that promote socially innovative solutions in the Baltic Sea region. For example, SEMPRE is a project under specific objective ‘non-technological innovation’ that aims to promote empowerment in social service provisions in rural areas in the region. Outward migration and economic downturn has led to a deterioration of the quality of life in many rural areas in the region, specifically regarding social service infrastructure. Competences that are needed to renew services and stimulate social innovation and entrepreneurship are missing, while regional disparities increase. Demographic changes and financial austerity further add to these challenges. The project aims to improve social service infrastructure by empowering end users such as single parents, elderly members of the community or migrants to participate in the design and delivery of services.

Another example of social innovation can be found in the project BaltSe@nioR, which seeks to support enterprises’ product development in furniture with the aim of raising the comfort and safety of seniors living at home in the region. Due to changing demographics and an aging population in the region, there is a need for products adapted to the specific needs of the elderly. The project involves those working in various fields such as design, robotics, information technology and social sciences to provide furniture companies with IT tools, applications and databases to enhance their ability to create smart products suited to the elderly.

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
Citizens' summary	Citizens' summary	09-Jun-2017		Ares(2017)31896 76	Citizens' summary 2016	26-Jun-2017	ndittrgu