

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

IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

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

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

2018 was a crucial year during which the implementation of the majority of the contracted projects in 2017 realised implementation and started contributing to the EU2020 objectives on smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

The 5th call for project proposals was launched for the SMEs for the total amount of € 10,000,000.00 covering 49,42% of the budget available under Priority Axis 1 *A Competitive and Innovative Cross-Border Area*. Among the eligible activities SMEs productive improvements, exports and trade promotion, innovation, resource efficiency are included providing for **Smart Growth** in the cross-border region. This is alongside supported by a number of projects already being implemented under Priority Axis 2 *A Sustainable and Climate adaptable Cross-Border area* and Priority Axis 3 *A Better interconnected Cross-Border Area*. With the 21st written procedure of the Monitoring Committee of the INTERREG V-A Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020 Cooperation Programme, which closed on 20/08/2018, 14 projects from the reserve list of the 2nd Call were activated thus contributing to the utmost achievement of Priority Axis 2 and exhausting the available financial resources.

A major contribution to achieving **Sustainable Growth** objective have the 2 projects financed under the Investment Priority 5b *Promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems* within Priority Axis 2 with a total budget of € 15,982,517.86 thus fully exhausting the available budget for such interventions.

Inclusive Growth objective is being achieved predominantly through the implementation of the entire set of projects under Priority Axis 4 *A Socially Inclusive Cross-Border Area* with a total contracted budget € 19,630,202.15. The projects under Investment Priority 9c *Providing Support for social enterprises* aim at the raising of awareness and the promotion of social entrepreneurship in the cross border area with the establishment of social enterprises and of social structures by employing people from vulnerable social groups (marginalized, financially challenged, long-term unemployed or with special needs) and by providing support, training and skills for the integration of the target groups in the labour market, either through the establishment of social enterprises by them or their active involvement in social enterprises. With the contribution of Investment Priority 9a *Investing in health and social infrastructure which contributes to national, regional and local development, reducing inequalities in terms of health status, promoting social inclusion through improved access to social, cultural and recreational services and the transition from institutional to community-based services* the set targets are going to be fully achieved.

Total certified expenditure that was included in the 2 payment claims dated 30/11/2018 and 28/12/2018 amounts to € 4,871,169,72 (205, 52% of the N+3 financial plan for the Programme).

Total eligible amount of expenditure paid by the beneficiaries until 31/12/2018 is € 10,665,347.33 and is distributed among the Priority Axes as follows:

- Priority Axis 2: € 2,833,488.98 (**65.46%** of the Performance Framework Milestone for 2018);
- Priority Axis 3: € 5,557,339.70 (**64.60%** of the Performance Framework Milestone for 2018);

- Priority Axis 4: € 1,665,924.03 (**154.41%** of the Performance Framework Milestone for 2018);
- Priority Axis 5: € 608,594.62.

The Management Information System (MIS) for the Programme was fully developed and project financing, verifications and certifications started being performed through it. All data in the present report are based on the information available in the MIS.

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	A Competitive and Innovative Cross-Border Area	<p>The guidelines for the 6th call for proposals for indirect assistance to SMEs under the IP 3a Promoting entrepreneurship, aiming to facilitate the economic exploitation of new ideas and foster the creation of new firms. Potential beneficiaries are stakeholders providing support and promotion to entrepreneurship. The total budget is € 7,000,000.00 (ERDF € 5,950,000.00). The Call is expected to be officially launched in 2019. On 04/12/2018 the MC of the Programme during its 5th meeting approved the methodology and selection criteria of the 5th Call for direct assistance for SMEs under the IP 3d. The total budget of the call is € 10,000,000.00 (ERDF € 8,500,000.00). The aid intensity is 65% and combined with the private sources of funding the total budget of the Call is expected to reach € 15,384,615.38, which was launched on 21/12/2018. It aims to foster growth by supporting existing and new SMEs to expand their activities to new markets and products, preferably through joint actions oriented towards innovation. The targeted beneficiaries are enterprises in the priority sectors of the cross border area, namely (as specified by the NACE classification codes) agro-food industry, waste management for recycling, renewable energy, sustainable tourism, health, materials and technology, construction materials, textile industry. Being a first endeavor within the Programme as regards types of beneficiaries, combination of public and private co-financing and applying via the specialized Greek SMEs' MIS, many information days and clarification sessions were envisaged to avoid misunderstandings and targeting good project proposals for the benefit of the eligible region. Both Calls encompass 84% of total available budget of PA1.</p>
2	A Sustainable and Climate adaptable Cross-Border area	<p>IP 5b:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •two strategic projects: one - under implementation and one - activated •addressing floods management • Kerkini lake infrastructure procedures and at Krumovitsa and Dzeblska rivers works on-going • Struma protective facilities finalized • 11.06 % paid, - 0.45 % certified •Delays: 2018 floods - new study needing competent authorities' permits. <p>IP 6c:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •11 projects •for archaeological sites, information centres, museums, cave park, sports facilities, structures for disabled, ; ; standards for sustainable development, ; ; branding, youth sports programmes, ; festivals' web tourist applications •16.10 % paid; 1.54 % certified Infrastructure activities' time consuming procurements •10 reserve projects activated. Infrastructure documentation updates needed <p>IP 6d:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •8 projects for risk assessment in Natura 2000, conservation of vulnerable species/habitats, , database/ mapping of bats ,

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>experimental fields for local vines ,, control of dangerous pests; feeding stations for wild birds, flying surveillance equipment, expansion of Civil Protection Volunteers structures;; eco-labelling scheme training centre for local vines;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •17.03 % paid, - 4.65 % certified •Delays by restructuring of partnerships and changes of management •4 reserve projects activated. . Update of infrastructure needed needed to comply with the IP objectives and following national standards. <p>IP 6f:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •6 projects • for water processing and sanitation, network for urban water, labelling "best water use",reducing water consumption •14.35 % paid, - 0.85 % certified •Delays: 2 subsidy contracts signed with delay, complicated specific Greek legislation, and technical solutions' discussions. Amount of the subsidy contracts: 78.82% .
3	A Better interconnected Cross-Border Area	<p>Under Investment priority 7b Enhancing regional mobility by connecting secondary and tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure, including multimodal nodes the project "CrossBo" is being implemented. The project involves eligible activities as follows: construction of the new road Dimario-Greek/Bulgarian border, upgrade of road II-86 and bypass of Rudozem, construction of new border cross check point Rudozem-Xanthi. The contract for the construction of the new road Dimario-Greek/Bulgarian border was signed and works started as well as lots 1 and 2 upgrading the road II-86 and bypass of Rudozem. Lot 3 procurement procedure was launched. The bids for the new cross-border check point Rudozem-Xanthi were being evaluated. Upgrading of road II-59 Momchilgrad-Ivailovgrad was contracted and works started Until the 31/12/2018, based on the data in the MIS, 14.63 % of project's budget were paid by the beneficiaries while the certified amount was 9.38 % . 3.80 km out of the targeted in the Programme 8 km newly built road will be covered by the current project. The possibility of including additional new road construction activities financed from procurements' savings is under consideration.</p>
4	A Socially Inclusive Cross-Border Area	<p>IP 9a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 projects • for health prevention, primary and emergency health care, creation of web healthsocial care responsive system with medical filesfor the habitants of the area; observatory for socially significant diseases, upgrade of existing social health carepractices, (hospitals, health centres, emergency medical centres, day care centres for elderly people, etc.)in the area enabling immediate and effective response to emergency situations of patients with certain limitations in transportation or physical abilities,telemedicine tools, throughhealth centres' network, joint e-health database, personal real time biometrical data acquisition,modern medicalequipment and vehicles for examinations in remote areas , trainings and exchange of experience, first aid and prevention campaigns. • 15.94 % paid - 0.77 % certified <p>Delays: need of approvals on the medical equipment by the national authorised bodies in both countries (new Greek law, new requirements by the Bulgarian Health Ministry), appeals of applicants during the equipment public procurements,</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>replacement of project beneficiaries.</p> <p>IP 9c:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 projects for promotion of social entrepreneurship, establishment and operation of new social enterprises at regional and interregional level, responding to the needs of local societies. . • 22.30 % paid - 2.33 % certified • Delays: procurements late start . <p>The total amount of the subsidy contracts is 90.97% of the PA4 budget. To be exhausted with the envisaged new call/additional activities under IP 9a.</p>
5	Technical Assistance	<p>Under the Technical Assistance project for the Managing Authority of European Territorial Cooperation Programme , amounting to € 5,819,706.00, the 5th Monitoring Committee meeting in Xanthi was organized in 2018 as well as technical meetings with stakeholders and the participation in seminars to increase the institutional capacity of Joint Secretariat and Managing Authority members.</p> <p>By means of the Technical Assistance project for the National Authority – Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works of the Republic of Bulgaria, amounting to € 945,000.00, members of the National Authority participated in the 5th Monitoring Committee meeting in Xanthi, in technical meetings in Thessaloniki including in the evaluation committee for the Joint Secretariat staff candidates and meetings of the Programme Fraud Risk Assessment Group.</p> <p>Until the 31/12/2018, based on the data in the MIS, 14.22 % were paid by the beneficiaries while the certified amount was 6.06 %. The output indicators targets are subject to review by the external evaluator to properly reflect the actual achievement of the Priority Axis goal.</p> <p>The total amount of both projects covers 100% of the available budget of the Priority Axis 5.</p>

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

Priority axes other than technical assistance

Priority axis	1 - A Competitive and Innovative Cross-Border Area
Investment priority	3a - Promoting entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 1.3a

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2018	Observations
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	275.00	0.00	
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	275.00	0.00	Based on the draft of the Call to be launched in 2019 the target value is achievable.
F	CO05	Productive investment: Number of new enterprises supported	Enterprises	275.00	0.00	
S	CO05	Productive investment: Number of new enterprises supported	Enterprises	275.00	0.00	With a Programme modification request, planned in 2019, the indicator will be moved to Investment Priority 3d and reassessed as appropriate

(1)	ID	Indicator	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	CO05	Productive investment: Number of new enterprises supported	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO05	Productive investment: Number of new enterprises supported	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	1 - A Competitive and Innovative Cross-Border Area
Investment priority	3a - Promoting entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators
Specific objective	1 - To Improve entrepreneurship SME support systems

Table 1: Result indicators - 1.3a.1

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	Observations
R0201	Entrepreneurial business support environment	entrepreneurship barometer – composite index in 1-10 scale	5.34	2015	5.90	5.34		As no operations were selected till the end of 2018 there could be no contribution from the Programme to the target value of the indicator, therefore the reporting is postponed for 2019/2020.

ID	Indicator	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0201	Entrepreneurial business support environment	5.34		5.34		5.34		5.34	

Priority axis	1 - A Competitive and Innovative Cross-Border Area
Investment priority	3d - Supporting the capacity of SMEs to grow in regional, national and international markets, and to engage in innovation processes

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 1.3d

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2018	Observations
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	330.00	0.00	
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	330.00	0.00	With a Programme modification request, planned in 2019, the indicator will be reassessed according to the actual expectations of the launched 5th call.
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	330.00	0.00	
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	Enterprises	330.00	0.00	With a Programme modification request, planned in 2019, the indicator will be moved to Investment Priority 3a and reassessed as appropriate.
F	O0201	Number of clusters and other collaborative schemes composed of stakeholders/enterprises from both sides of border	collaborative schemes	4.00	0.00	
S	O0201	Number of clusters and other collaborative schemes composed of stakeholders/enterprises from both sides of border	collaborative schemes	4.00	0.00	With a Programme modification request, planned in 2019, the indicator will be eradicated as similar schemes are already active in Greece and Bulgaria.

(1)	ID	Indicator	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO04	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	O0201	Number of clusters and other collaborative schemes composed of stakeholders/enterprises from both sides of border	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0201	Number of clusters and other collaborative schemes composed of stakeholders/enterprises from both sides of border	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	1 - A Competitive and Innovative Cross-Border Area
Investment priority	3d - Supporting the capacity of SMEs to grow in regional, national and international markets, and to engage in innovation processes
Specific objective	2 - To improve SME capacity to expand beyond local markets

Table 1: Result indicators - 1.3d.2

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	Observations
R0202	Total Value of Annual CB Area Exports	meuros	4,407.47	2013	4,540.00	4,407.47		As no operations were selected till the end of 2018 there could be no contribution from the Programme to the target value of the indicator, therefore the reporting is postponed for 2019/2020.

ID	Indicator	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0202	Total Value of Annual CB Area Exports	4,407.47		4,407.47		4,407.47		4,407.47	

Priority axis	2 - A Sustainable and Climate adaptable Cross-Border area
Investment priority	5b - Promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 2.5b

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2018	Observations
F	CO20	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from flood protection measures	Persons	747,000.00	0.00	The achievement will be measured with the completion of the projects in 2020/2021
S	CO20	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from flood protection measures	Persons	747,000.00	572,000.00	In 2018 cell the target value as per the selected operations is entered. The target refers only to the «Flood Protection» project, as the «Flood Guard» project had not started its implementation in 2018.

(1)	ID	Indicator	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO20	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from flood protection measures	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO20	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from flood protection measures	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	2 - A Sustainable and Climate adaptable Cross-Border area
Investment priority	5b - Promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems
Specific objective	3 - To improve CB cooperation on flood risk management plans at river basin level.

Table 1: Result indicators - 2.5b.3

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	Observations
R0203	Number of international river basin districts with jointly coordinated flood risks management plans in compliance with Directive 2007/60/EC	number	0.00	2014	3.00			As no operations were finalized till the end of 2018 there could be no contribution from the Programme to the target value of the indicator, therefore the reporting is postponed for 2019/2020.

ID	Indicator	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0203	Number of international river basin districts with jointly coordinated flood risks management plans in compliance with Directive 2007/60/EC	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	

Priority axis	2 - A Sustainable and Climate adaptable Cross-Border area
Investment priority	6c - Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage

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

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2018	Observations
F	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	Visits/year	140,000.00	0.00	The achievement of the target will be reported at projects' end in 2019/2020
S	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	Visits/year	140,000.00	89,250.00	In 2018 cell the target value as per the selected operations is entered. With the 10 activated projects from the 2nd call reserve list the Programme target is expected to be fully covered.
F	O0202	Number of cultural and/or natural assets rehabilitated/protected	number	10.00	0.00	The achievement of the target will be reported at projects' end in 2019/2020.
S	O0202	Number of cultural and/or natural assets rehabilitated/protected	number	10.00	10.00	In 2018 cell the target value as per the selected operations is entered. With the 10 activated projects from the 2nd call reserve list the Programme target is expected to be significantly overreached. Reassessment of the methodology of calculating the indicator value is being performed by the external evaluator and may be included in the Programme modification request, planned in 2019, as appropriate.

(1)	ID	Indicator	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	O0202	Number of cultural and/or natural assets rehabilitated/protected	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0202	Number of cultural and/or natural assets rehabilitated/protected	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	2 - A Sustainable and Climate adaptable Cross-Border area
Investment priority	6c - Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage
Specific objective	4 - To valorise CB area cultural and natural heritage for tourist purposes

Table 1: Result indicators - 2.6c.4

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	Observations
R0204	Annual tourist overnight stays at accommodation establishments	Millions	5.80	2013	7.40	5.80		As no operations were finalized till the end of 2018 there could be no contribution from the Programme to the target value of the indicator, therefore the reporting is postponed for 2019/2020.

ID	Indicator	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0204	Annual tourist overnight stays at accommodation establishments	5.80		5.80		5.80		5.80	

Priority axis	2 - A Sustainable and Climate adaptable Cross-Border area
Investment priority	6d - Protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure

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

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2018	Observations
F	CO23	Nature and biodiversity: Surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status	Hectares	356,000.00	9,287.15	
S	CO23	Nature and biodiversity: Surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status	Hectares	356,000.00	315,667.72	In 2018 cell the target value as per the selected operations is entered. With the 4 activated projects from the 2nd call reserve list the Programme target is expected to be fully covered.

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

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

Priority axis	2 - A Sustainable and Climate adaptable Cross-Border area
Investment priority	6d - Protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure
Specific objective	5 - To enhance the effectiveness of biodiversity protection activities

Table 1: Result indicators - 2.6d.5

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	Observations
R0205	% of Natura areas reporting excellent or good degree of conservation	%	54.00	2015	60.00	54.00		As no operations were finalized till the end of 2018 there could be no contribution from the Programme to the target value of the indicator, therefore the reporting is postponed for 2019/2020.

ID	Indicator	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0205	% of Natura areas reporting excellent or good degree of conservation	54.00		54.00		54.00		54.00	

Priority axis	2 - A Sustainable and Climate adaptable Cross-Border area
Investment priority	6f - Promoting innovative technologies to improve environmental protection and resource efficiency in the waste sector, water sector and with regard to soil, or to reduce air pollution

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 2.6f

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2018	Observations
F	O0203	Surface water resources under joint monitoring	hm3	7,500.00	0.00	The achievement of the target will be reported at projects' end in 2019/2020.
S	O0203	Surface water resources under joint monitoring	hm3	7,500.00	6,059.45	In 2018 cell the target value as per the selected operations is entered. Reassessment of the appropriateness of the indicator is being performed by the external evaluator and may be included in the Programme modification request, planned in 2019, as appropriate.

(1)	ID	Indicator	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	O0203	Surface water resources under joint monitoring	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0203	Surface water resources under joint monitoring	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	2 - A Sustainable and Climate adaptable Cross-Border area
Investment priority	6f - Promoting innovative technologies to improve environmental protection and resource efficiency in the waste sector, water sector and with regard to soil, or to reduce air pollution
Specific objective	6 - To enhance water management

Table 1: Result indicators - 2.6f.6

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	Observations
R0206	% of characterized surface water bodies in GES	%	43.88	2014	55.00	43.88		As no operations were finalized till the end of 2018 there could be no contribution from the Programme to the target value of the indicator, therefore the reporting is postponed for 2019/2020.

ID	Indicator	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0206	% of characterized surface water bodies in GES	43.88		43.88		43.88		43.88	

Priority axis	3 - A Better interconnected Cross-Border Area
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 - 3.7b

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2018	Observations
F	CO13a	Roads: Total length of newly built roads, of which: TEN-T	km	8.00	0.00	The achievement of the target will be reported at project end in 2019.
S	CO13a	Roads: Total length of newly built roads, of which: TEN-T	km	8.00	3.80	The value to be achieved by the funds of the Programme is 3.8 km in the present AF of the CrossBo Strategic Project. Assessment is being made on the possibility to build additional km of new roads by using project's savings.

(1)	ID	Indicator	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO13a	Roads: Total length of newly built roads, of which: TEN-T	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO13a	Roads: Total length of newly built roads, of which: TEN-T	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	3 - A Better interconnected Cross-Border Area
Investment priority	7b - Enhancing regional mobility by connecting secondary and tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure, including multimodal nodes
Specific objective	7 - Improve cross-border accessibility

Table 1: Result indicators - 3.7b.7

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	Observations
R0207	Number of operating border crossings	number	6.00	2014	7.00	6.00		As the cross-border check point to be constructed by Programmes funds was not operational till the end of 2018 there could be no contribution from the Programme to the target value of the indicator, therefore the reporting is postponed for 2019/2020.

ID	Indicator	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0207	Number of operating border crossings	6.00		6.00		6.00		6.00	

Priority axis	4 - A Socially Inclusive Cross-Border Area
Investment priority	9a - Investing in health and social infrastructure which contributes to national, regional and local development, reducing inequalities in terms of health status, promoting social inclusion through improved access to social, cultural and recreational services and the transition from institutional to community-based services

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 4.9a

(I)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2018	Observations
F	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	Persons	632,000.00	847.00	
S	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	Persons	632,000.00	607,644.00	In 2018 cell the target value as per the selected operations is entered. With the new call in 2019 the Programme target is expected to be fully covered.
F	O0204	Number of health care institutions reorganized, modernized or reequipped	number	12.00	0.00	The achievement of the target will be reported at projects' end in 2019/2020.
S	O0204	Number of health care institutions reorganized, modernized or reequipped	number	12.00	12.00	In 2018 cell the target value as per the selected operations is entered.
F	O0205	Number of health ICT systems developed	Number	3.00	0.00	The achievement of the target will be reported at projects' end in 2019/2020.
S	O0205	Number of health ICT systems developed	Number	3.00	3.00	In 2018 cell the target value as per the selected operations is entered.

(I)	ID	Indicator	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	O0204	Number of health care institutions reorganized, modernized or reequipped	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0204	Number of health care institutions reorganized, modernized or reequipped	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	O0205	Number of health ICT systems developed	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0205	Number of health ICT systems developed	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	4 - A Socially Inclusive Cross-Border Area
Investment priority	9a - Investing in health and social infrastructure which contributes to national, regional and local development, reducing inequalities in terms of health status, promoting social inclusion through improved access to social, cultural and recreational services and the transition from institutional to community-based services
Specific objective	8 - To improve access to primary and emergency health care (at isolated and deprived communities) in the CB area

Table 1: Result indicators - 4.9a.8

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	Observations
R0208	Annual visits to primary healthcare	visits	1,123,561.00	2013	1,235,917.00	1,123,561.00		As none of the operations were finalized till the end of 2018 there could be no contribution from the Programme to the target value of the indicator, therefore the reporting is postponed for 2019/2020. External expertise will be contracted in 2019 to review the baseline value and elaborate a methodology for measuring the value.
R0209	Annual visits to secondary/tertiary healthcare	visits	477,275.00	2013	421,097.00	477,275.00		As none of the operations were finalized till the end of 2018 there could be no contribution from the Programme to the target value of the indicator, therefore the reporting is postponed for 2019/2020. External expertise will be contracted in 2019 to review the baseline value and elaborate a methodology for measuring the value.

ID	Indicator	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0208	Annual visits to primary healthcare	1,123,561.00		1,123,561.00		1,123,561.00		1,123,561.00	
R0209	Annual visits to secondary/tertiary healthcare	477,275.00		477,275.00		477,275.00		477,275.00	

Priority axis	4 - A Socially Inclusive Cross-Border Area
Investment priority	9c - Providing support for social enterprises

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 4.9c

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2018	Observations
F	O0206	Number of participants in social entrepreneurship projects promoting gender equality, equal opportunities and social inclusion across borders.	number	50.00	0.00	The achievement of the target will be reported at projects' end in 2019/2020.
S	O0206	Number of participants in social entrepreneurship projects promoting gender equality, equal opportunities and social inclusion across borders.	number	50.00	50.00	In 2018 cell the target value as per the selected operations is entered

(1)	ID	Indicator	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	O0206	Number of participants in social entrepreneurship projects promoting gender equality, equal opportunities and social inclusion across borders.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0206	Number of participants in social entrepreneurship projects promoting gender equality, equal opportunities and social inclusion across borders.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	4 - A Socially Inclusive Cross-Border Area
Investment priority	9c - Providing support for social enterprises
Specific objective	9 - To expand social entrepreneurship in the CB area

Table 1: Result indicators - 4.9c.9

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2018 Total	2018 Qualitative	Observations
R0210	Social enterprise employees in the CB area	employees	954.00	2014	1,004.00	954.00		As none of the operations were finalized till the end of 2018 there could be no contribution from the Programme to the target value of the indicator, therefore the reporting is postponed for 2019/2020.

ID	Indicator	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0210	Social enterprise employees in the CB area	954.00		954.00		954.00		954.00	

Priority axes for technical assistance

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

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2018	Observations
F	O0207	Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	employees	12.00	15.00	11 Joint Secretariat employees (staff), 2 InfoPoints with the National Authority (externals) and 2 National Authority employees that are half paid by the Technical Assistance funds.
S	O0207	Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	employees	12.00	15.00	In 2018 cell the target value as per the selected operations is entered.
F	O0208	Number of publicity and outreach events organized	Events	15.00	8.00	The number of events is cumulative. The EC day initiative as the major 2018 event was added to the events calculated since Programme's start.
S	O0208	Number of publicity and outreach events organized	Events	15.00	50.00	In 2018 cell the target value as per the selected operations is entered. Methodology for the readjustment of target values in the selected operations or in the Programme Document is being discussed with the external evaluator.

(1)	ID	Indicator	2017	2016	2015	2014
F	O0207	Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	9.00	12.00	11.00	11.00
S	O0207	Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	12.00	12.00	11.00	11.00
F	O0208	Number of publicity and outreach events organized	7.00	5.00	3.00	0.00
S	O0208	Number of publicity and outreach events organized	7.00	5.00	3.00	0.00

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

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

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone for 2018 total	Final target (2023) total	2018	Observations
1	O	CO05	Productive investment: Number of new enterprises supported	Enterprises	0	275.00	0.00	The value of the indicator will be reassessed as per the priorities set up in the 5th Call and included in the Programme modification request planned for 2019
1	F	F0201	Eligible verified (certified) Expenditure of the Axis	Euro	1,011,765	20,235,295.00	0.00	€ 17,000,000.00 will be committed with the 5th (launched in 2018) and the 6th (to be launched in 2019) calls.
1	I	K0201	Selection of enterprises	Number	6	9.00	0.00	The indicator final target is likely to be fully achieved with the 5th Call projects to be approved in 2019.
2	O	CO20	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from flood protection measures	Persons	0	747,000.00	0.00	The indicator final target will be fully achieved with the implementation of the 2 strategic projects under Investment Priority 5d.
2	F	F0202	Eligible verified (certified) Expenditure of the Axis	Euro	4,328,824	42,882,353.00	2,833,488.98	In cell 2018 the total amount of eligible costs, paid till 31/12/2018 and declared in MIS, is included.
2	I	K0202	Selected projects CO20 (Decision of approval)	Projects	2	3.00	2.00	No 3rd flood related project is foreseen. With the signing of the SC of the « Flood Guard » project, the final value in 2023 will be 2. However, the CO20 target will be fully covered by these 2 projects and no 3rd project will be necessary.
2	O	O0202	Number of cultural and/or natural assets rehabilitated/protected	number	3	10.00	0.00	The indicator final target is to be achieved with the finalisation of the selected operations in 2019/2020.
3	O	CO13a	Roads: Total length of newly built roads, of which: TEN-T	km	0	8.00	0.00	The value to be achieved by the funds of the Programme is 3.8. Extension of project activities are under review for the construction of additional kms new roads, funded from project's savings.
3	F	F0203	Eligible verified (certified) Expenditure of the Axis	Euro	8,602,941.00	38,802,558.00	5,557,339.70	In cell 2018 the total amount of eligible costs, paid till 31/12/2018 and declared in MIS, is included.
3	I	K0203	Projects with at least one signed Contract of technical - construction works sub-projects	number	2	4.00	1.00	The Contract for Sub-project 1 "Construction of the new road Dimario-Gr/Bg borders" within CrossBo project was signed on 18/05/2018.
4	F	F0204	Eligible verified (certified) Expenditure of the Axis	Euro	1,078,896	21,577,923.00	1,665,924.03	In cell 2018 the total amount of eligible costs, paid till 31/12/2018 and declared in MIS, is included.
4	I	K0204	Projects with at least one signed Contract of (technical - construction works or other) sub-projects	Number	8	12.00	8.00	3 works contracts and 8 medical equipment contracts were concluded in 8 projects.
4	O	O0204	Number of health care institutions reorganized, modernized or reequipped	number	0	12.00	0.00	12 projects will modernize health care institutions and the target will be fully achieved at projects' end in 2019/2020

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	2017	2016	2015	2014
1	O	CO05	Productive investment: Number of new enterprises supported	Enterprises	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1	F	F0201	Eligible verified (certified) Expenditure of the Axis	Euro	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1	I	K0201	Selection of enterprises	Number	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	O	CO20	Risk prevention and management: Population benefiting from flood protection measures	Persons	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	F	F0202	Eligible verified (certified) Expenditure of the Axis	Euro	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	I	K0202	Selected projects CO20 (Decision of approval)	Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	O	O0202	Number of cultural and/or natural assets rehabilitated/protected	number	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	O	CO13a	Roads: Total length of newly built roads, of which: TEN-T	km	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	F	F0203	Eligible verified (certified) Expenditure of the Axis	Euro	192,885.36	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	I	K0203	Projects with at least one signed Contract of technical - construction works sub-projects	number	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	F	F0204	Eligible verified (certified) Expenditure of the Axis	Euro	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	I	K0204	Projects with at least one signed Contract of (technical - construction works or other) sub-projects	Number	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	O	O0204	Number of health care institutions reorganized, modernized or reequipped	number	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

3.4. Financial data

Table 4: Financial information at priority axis and programme level

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

Priority axis	Fund	Calculation basis	Total funding	Co-financing rate	Total eligible cost of operations selected for support	Proportion of the total allocation covered with selected operations	Public eligible cost of operations selected for support	Total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the managing authority	Proportion of the total allocation covered by eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries	Number of operations selected	Total eligible expenditure incurred by beneficiaries and paid by 31/12/2018 and certified to the Commission
1	ERDF	Public	20,235,295.00	85.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0	0.00
2	ERDF	Public	42,882,353.00	85.00	33,801,649.69	78.82%	33,801,649.69	658,408.27	1.54%	26	2,833,488.98
3	ERDF	Public	38,802,558.00	85.00	38,802,558.00	100.00%	38,802,558.00	3,641,985.06	9.39%	1	5,557,339.70
4	ERDF	Public	21,577,923.00	85.00	19,630,202.15	90.97%	19,630,202.15	338,262.72	1.57%	24	1,665,924.03
5	ERDF	Public	6,764,706.00	85.00	6,764,706.00	100.00%	6,764,706.00	430,454.10	6.36%	2	
Total	ERDF		130,262,835.00	85.00	98,999,115.84	76.00%	98,999,115.84	5,069,110.15	3.89%	53	10,056,752.71
Grand total			130,262,835.00	85.00	98,999,115.84	76.00%	98,999,115.84	5,069,110.15	3.89%	53	10,056,752.71

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)

Non Applicable

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	066	01	07	07	03		24	EL122	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
2	ERDF	021	01	01	07	06		24	BG413	582,995.79	582,995.79	196,167.47	3
2	ERDF	021	01	01	07	06		24	BG424	70,916.99	70,916.99	0.00	1
2	ERDF	021	01	01	07	06		24	BG425	147,492.53	147,492.53	0.00	1
2	ERDF	021	01	01	07	06		24	EL113	265,928.71	265,928.71	0.00	1
2	ERDF	021	01	01	07	06		24	EL114	170,189.65	170,189.65	5,399.88	1
2	ERDF	021	01	01	07	06		24	EL122	605,305.82	605,305.82	8,686.76	3
2	ERDF	021	01	01	07	06		24	EL126	102,879.57	102,879.57	0.00	1
2	ERDF	021	01	02	07	06		24	BG413	360,843.54	360,843.54	0.00	2
2	ERDF	021	01	02	07	06		24	BG422	242,475.18	242,475.18	0.00	1
2	ERDF	021	01	02	07	06		24	BG424	47,277.99	47,277.99	0.00	1
2	ERDF	021	01	02	07	06		24	EL111	233,537.47	233,537.47	0.00	1
2	ERDF	021	01	02	07	06		24	EL112	136,519.97	136,519.97	0.00	1
2	ERDF	021	01	02	07	06		24	EL113	56,263.20	56,263.20	0.00	1
2	ERDF	021	01	02	07	06		24	EL122	505,895.23	505,895.23	0.00	2
2	ERDF	021	01	02	07	06		24	EL126	68,586.38	68,586.38	0.00	1
2	ERDF	021	01	07	07	06		24	BG413	298,230.11	298,230.11	5,527.02	1
2	ERDF	021	01	07	07	06		24	EL115	43,643.43	43,643.43	808.83	1
2	ERDF	021	01	07	07	06		24	EL122	320,051.82	320,051.82	5,931.43	1
2	ERDF	021	01	07	07	06		24	EL126	65,465.15	65,465.15	1,213.25	1
2	ERDF	085	01	01	07	06		24	BG413	738,423.56	738,423.56	1,458.89	2
2	ERDF	085	01	01	07	06		24	BG422	107,858.59	107,858.59	93.62	1
2	ERDF	085	01	01	07	06		24	BG424	72,732.11	72,732.11	93.62	1
2	ERDF	085	01	01	07	06		24	BG425	9,863.53	9,863.53	709.96	2
2	ERDF	085	01	01	07	06		24	EL111	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	085	01	01	07	06		24	EL112	465,668.57	465,668.57	93.62	1
2	ERDF	085	01	01	07	06		24	EL113	96,462.71	96,462.71	709.96	2
2	ERDF	085	01	01	07	06		24	EL114	277,879.72	277,879.72	93.62	1
2	ERDF	085	01	01	07	06		24	EL115	125,232.45	125,232.45	93.62	1
2	ERDF	085	01	01	07	06		24	EL122	671,485.74	671,485.74	803.58	2
2	ERDF	085	01	01	07	06		24	EL126	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06		24	BG413	151,552.82	151,552.82	7,232.21	2
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06		24	BG422	58,905.99	58,905.99	187.23	2
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06		24	BG424	26,825.92	26,825.92	187.23	1
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06		24	BG425	39,942.12	39,942.12	5,734.36	2
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06		24	EL111	35,082.86	35,082.86	187.23	2
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06		24	EL112	44,232.23	44,232.23	187.23	1
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06		24	EL113	61,591.92	61,591.92	5,734.36	2
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06		24	EL114	13,951.34	13,951.34	187.23	1
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06		24	EL115	13,951.34	13,951.34	187.23	1
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06		24	EL122	123,999.09	123,999.09	5,921.59	2
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06		24	EL126	13,951.34	13,951.34	187.23	1
2	ERDF	085	01	03	07	06		24	BG413	178,295.62	178,295.62	25,496.46	2
2	ERDF	085	01	03	07	06		24	BG422	202,509.15	202,509.15	93.62	3
2	ERDF	085	01	03	07	06		24	BG424	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	085	01	03	07	06		24	BG425	306,351.07	306,351.07	24,747.53	3
2	ERDF	085	01	03	07	06		24	EL111	301,776.94	301,776.94	93.62	3
2	ERDF	085	01	03	07	06		24	EL112	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	085	01	03	07	06		24	EL113	122,490.27	122,490.27	24,747.53	2
2	ERDF	085	01	03	07	06		24	EL114	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	085	01	03	07	06		24	EL115	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	085	01	03	07	06		24	EL122	129,465.94	129,465.94	24,841.15	2

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	085	01	03	07	06		24	EL126	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	01	07	06		24	BG413	62,781.02	62,781.02	842.54	1
2	ERDF	086	01	01	07	06		24	BG422	267,623.62	267,623.62	12,828.17	2
2	ERDF	086	01	01	07	06		24	BG424	136,937.30	136,937.30	6,443.19	2
2	ERDF	086	01	01	07	06		24	BG425	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	01	07	06		24	EL111	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	01	07	06		24	EL112	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	01	07	06		24	EL113	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	01	07	06		24	EL114	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	01	07	06		24	EL115	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	01	07	06		24	EL122	831,163.59	831,163.59	40,114.01	2
2	ERDF	086	01	01	07	06		24	EL126	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	02	07	06		24	BG413	125,562.04	125,562.04	1,685.08	1
2	ERDF	086	01	02	07	06		24	BG422	55,885.92	55,885.92	187.23	2
2	ERDF	086	01	02	07	06		24	BG424	13,951.34	13,951.34	187.23	1
2	ERDF	086	01	02	07	06		24	BG425	13,951.34	13,951.34	187.23	1
2	ERDF	086	01	02	07	06		24	EL111	58,855.81	58,855.81	187.23	2
2	ERDF	086	01	02	07	06		24	EL112	13,951.34	13,951.34	187.23	1
2	ERDF	086	01	02	07	06		24	EL113	13,951.34	13,951.34	187.23	1
2	ERDF	086	01	02	07	06		24	EL114	13,951.34	13,951.34	187.23	1
2	ERDF	086	01	02	07	06		24	EL115	13,951.34	13,951.34	187.23	1
2	ERDF	086	01	02	07	06		24	EL122	27,902.68	27,902.68	374.46	1
2	ERDF	086	01	02	07	06		24	EL126	13,951.34	13,951.34	187.23	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06		24	BG413	62,781.02	62,781.02	842.54	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06		24	BG422	227,132.22	227,132.22	93.62	2
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06		24	BG424	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06		24	BG425	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06		24	EL111	242,724.17	242,724.17	93.62	2
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06		24	EL112	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06		24	EL113	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06		24	EL114	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06		24	EL115	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06		24	EL122	13,951.34	13,951.34	187.23	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06		24	EL126	6,975.67	6,975.67	93.62	1
2	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		24	BG413	803,847.20	803,847.20	3,652.75	1
2	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		24	BG422	1,041,896.38	1,041,896.38	4,734.47	1
2	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		24	BG424	1,304,095.46	1,304,095.46	5,925.92	1
2	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		24	BG425	1,103,996.16	1,103,996.16	5,016.65	1
2	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		24	EL111	3,287,838.56	3,287,838.56	14,940.22	1
2	ERDF	087	01	07	07	05		24	EL126	3,958,286.23	3,958,286.23	17,986.79	1
2	ERDF	090	01	02	07	06		24	BG413	45,654.83	45,654.83	0.00	1
2	ERDF	090	01	02	07	06		24	BG424	31,045.28	31,045.28	0.00	1
2	ERDF	090	01	02	07	06		24	EL112	14,609.54	14,609.54	0.00	1
2	ERDF	090	01	02	07	06		24	EL114	91,309.65	91,309.65	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	01	07	06		24	BG413	21,676.81	21,676.81	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	01	07	06		24	BG422	29,235.71	29,235.71	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	01	07	06		24	BG424	7,119.86	7,119.86	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	01	07	06		24	BG425	14,785.28	14,785.28	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	01	07	06		24	EL111	6,691.91	6,691.91	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	01	07	06		24	EL114	40,851.10	40,851.10	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	01	07	06		24	EL115	12,397.87	12,397.87	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	01	07	06		24	EL122	68,033.98	68,033.98	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	01	07	06		24	EL126	12,230.66	12,230.66	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	02	07	06		24	BG413	21,039.26	21,039.26	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	02	07	06		24	BG422	48,436.95	48,436.95	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	02	07	06		24	BG424	6,910.46	6,910.46	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	02	07	06		24	BG425	20,285.88	20,285.88	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	02	07	06		24	EL111	20,075.72	20,075.72	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	02	07	06		24	EL114	39,649.59	39,649.59	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	02	07	06		24	EL115	37,193.61	37,193.61	0.00	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	091	01	02	07	06		24	EL122	75,955.28	75,955.28	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	02	07	06		24	EL126	11,870.93	11,870.93	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	03	07	06		24	BG413	307,798.46	307,798.46	11,566.15	2
2	ERDF	091	01	03	07	06		24	BG422	78,092.51	78,092.51	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	03	07	06		24	BG424	6,910.46	6,910.46	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	03	07	06		24	BG425	29,060.04	29,060.04	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	03	07	06		24	EL111	40,151.44	40,151.44	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	03	07	06		24	EL114	39,649.59	39,649.59	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	03	07	06		24	EL115	474,147.54	474,147.54	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	03	07	06		24	EL122	90,623.03	90,623.03	0.00	1
2	ERDF	091	01	03	07	06		24	EL126	11,870.93	11,870.93	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	01	07	06		24	BG413	1,389,262.81	1,389,262.81	14,418.50	2
2	ERDF	094	01	01	07	06		24	BG422	379,998.20	379,998.20	405.63	3
2	ERDF	094	01	01	07	06		24	BG424	10,679.79	10,679.79	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	01	07	06		24	BG425	1,129,437.74	1,129,437.74	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	01	07	06		24	EL111	36,125.00	36,125.00	435.31	2
2	ERDF	094	01	01	07	06		24	EL112	18,213.59	18,213.59	425.88	1
2	ERDF	094	01	01	07	06		24	EL113	614,069.00	614,069.00	148.40	2
2	ERDF	094	01	01	07	06		24	EL114	61,276.65	61,276.65	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	01	07	06		24	EL115	12,397.87	12,397.87	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	01	07	06		24	EL122	565,309.47	565,309.47	9,867.90	3
2	ERDF	094	01	01	07	06		24	EL126	1,355,798.92	1,355,798.92	9,091.80	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	BG413	243,148.05	243,148.05	3,633.77	2
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	BG422	167,532.82	167,532.82	1,622.53	2
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	BG424	82,804.67	82,804.67	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	BG425	177,231.13	177,231.13	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	EL111	137,808.11	137,808.11	1,741.26	2
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	EL112	34,088.94	34,088.94	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	EL113	58,346.53	58,346.53	593.61	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	EL114	272,530.24	272,530.24	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	EL115	37,193.61	37,193.61	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	EL122	718,151.59	718,151.59	3,633.77	2
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	EL126	17,806.40	17,806.40	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06		24	BG413	66,579.30	66,579.30	1,211.26	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06		24	BG422	87,483.20	87,483.20	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06		24	BG424	10,365.68	10,365.68	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06		24	BG425	34,815.91	34,815.91	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06		24	EL111	40,151.44	40,151.44	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06		24	EL114	59,474.39	59,474.39	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06		24	EL115	74,387.23	74,387.23	0.00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06		24	EL126	17,806.40	17,806.40	0.00	1
2	ERDF	095	01	01	07	06		24	BG413	350,204.10	350,204.10	7,267.55	1
2	ERDF	095	01	02	07	06		24	BG424	566,665.32	566,665.32	55,617.10	1
2	ERDF	095	01	02	07	06		24	EL114	646,750.79	646,750.79	63,477.33	1
3	ERDF	029	01	03	07	07		24	BG422	3,134,826.44	3,134,826.44	261,130.33	1
3	ERDF	029	01	03	07	07		24	BG424	9,343,269.34	9,343,269.34	778,292.21	1
3	ERDF	029	01	03	07	07		24	BG425	8,070,975.76	8,070,975.76	672,310.44	1
3	ERDF	029	01	03	07	07		24	EL112	18,253,486.46	18,253,486.46	1,930,252.08	1
4	ERDF	053	01	01	07	09		24	BG413	1,153,277.83	1,153,277.83	129,126.22	4
4	ERDF	053	01	01	07	09		24	BG422	50,878.65	50,878.65	1,700.28	1
4	ERDF	053	01	01	07	09		24	BG424	70,935.42	70,935.42	0.00	1
4	ERDF	053	01	01	07	09		24	BG425	218,144.69	218,144.69	2,427.58	2
4	ERDF	053	01	01	07	09		24	EL113	371,190.56	371,190.56	0.00	2
4	ERDF	053	01	01	07	09		24	EL114	52,742.69	52,742.69	1,762.57	1
4	ERDF	053	01	01	07	09		24	EL115	473,846.24	473,846.24	2,668.09	2
4	ERDF	053	01	01	07	09		24	EL122	1,013,854.22	1,013,854.22	0.00	3
4	ERDF	053	01	02	07	09		24	BG413	351,007.70	351,007.70	0.00	3
4	ERDF	053	01	02	07	09		24	BG422	212,079.17	212,079.17	0.00	1
4	ERDF	053	01	02	07	09		24	BG424	165,432.61	165,432.61	0.00	3
4	ERDF	053	01	02	07	09		24	BG425	722,464.04	722,464.04	3,641.37	3

Priority axis	Fund	Intervention field	Form of finance	Territorial dimension	Territorial delivery mechanism	Thematic objective dimension	ESF secondary theme	Economic dimension	Location dimension	Total eligible cost of operations selected for support	Public eligible cost of operations selected for support	The total eligible expenditure declared by eneficiaries to the managing authority	Number of operations selected
4	ERDF	053	01	02	07	09		24	EL112	84,122.63	84,122.63	0.00	1
4	ERDF	053	01	02	07	09		24	EL113	428,988.65	428,988.65	0.00	3
4	ERDF	053	01	02	07	09		24	EL114	175,603.84	175,603.84	5,868.39	1
4	ERDF	053	01	02	07	09		24	EL115	281,915.06	281,915.06	4,002.14	2
4	ERDF	053	01	02	07	09		24	EL122	708,367.24	708,367.24	0.00	4
4	ERDF	053	01	03	07	09		24	BG413	609,762.48	609,762.48	0.00	3
4	ERDF	053	01	03	07	09		24	BG422	952,371.72	952,371.72	13,233.28	2
4	ERDF	053	01	03	07	09		24	BG425	337,345.59	337,345.59	6,068.95	1
4	ERDF	053	01	03	07	09		24	EL111	284,411.24	284,411.24	2,370.48	2
4	ERDF	053	01	03	07	09		24	EL114	401,855.59	401,855.59	7,410.64	1
4	ERDF	053	01	03	07	09		24	EL115	291,416.49	291,416.49	6,670.23	1
4	ERDF	053	01	03	07	09		24	EL122	375,178.19	375,178.19	0.00	2
4	ERDF	053	01	07	07	09		24	BG425	668,203.97	668,203.97	5,934.54	1
4	ERDF	053	01	07	07	09		24	EL113	668,203.97	668,203.97	5,934.54	1
4	ERDF	081	01	01	07	09		24	BG413	238,119.87	238,119.87	0.00	2
4	ERDF	081	01	01	07	09		24	BG424	17,733.85	17,733.85	0.00	1
4	ERDF	081	01	01	07	09		24	BG425	39,815.06	39,815.06	606.89	2
4	ERDF	081	01	01	07	09		24	EL113	201,091.88	201,091.88	0.00	2
4	ERDF	081	01	01	07	09		24	EL115	118,461.56	118,461.56	667.02	2
4	ERDF	081	01	01	07	09		24	EL122	113,708.95	113,708.95	0.00	1
4	ERDF	081	01	02	07	09		24	BG413	165,587.14	165,587.14	0.00	2
4	ERDF	081	01	02	07	09		24	BG422	10,670.39	10,670.39	0.00	1
4	ERDF	081	01	02	07	09		24	BG424	184,749.00	184,749.00	0.00	3
4	ERDF	081	01	02	07	09		24	BG425	131,602.88	131,602.88	910.34	3
4	ERDF	081	01	02	07	09		24	EL112	126,183.94	126,183.94	0.00	1
4	ERDF	081	01	02	07	09		24	EL113	179,443.32	179,443.32	0.00	3
4	ERDF	081	01	02	07	09		24	EL115	204,310.22	204,310.22	1,000.54	2
4	ERDF	081	01	02	07	09		24	EL122	173,750.90	173,750.90	0.00	3
4	ERDF	081	01	03	07	09		24	BG413	162,321.24	162,321.24	0.00	1
4	ERDF	081	01	03	07	09		24	BG422	66,902.22	66,902.22	1,470.36	1
4	ERDF	081	01	03	07	09		24	BG425	66,286.68	66,286.68	1,517.24	1
4	ERDF	081	01	03	07	09		24	EL111	11,984.22	11,984.22	263.39	1
4	ERDF	081	01	03	07	09		24	EL114	37,465.24	37,465.24	823.40	1
4	ERDF	081	01	03	07	09		24	EL115	72,854.12	72,854.12	1,667.56	1
4	ERDF	081	01	03	07	09		24	EL122	162,321.24	162,321.24	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	01	07	09		24	BG413	493,530.05	493,530.05	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	01	07	09		24	BG422	139,658.86	139,658.86	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	01	07	09		24	BG424	278,208.36	278,208.36	8,665.45	1
4	ERDF	113	01	01	07	09		24	BG425	69,810.84	69,810.84	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	01	07	09		24	EL112	278,646.17	278,646.17	7,899.73	1
4	ERDF	113	01	01	07	09		24	EL113	498,071.01	498,071.01	10,684.66	1
4	ERDF	113	01	01	07	09		24	EL115	55,090.07	55,090.07	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	01	07	09		24	EL122	944,537.64	944,537.64	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	02	07	09		24	BG413	671,238.01	671,238.01	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	02	07	09		24	BG422	239,114.39	239,114.39	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	02	07	09		24	BG424	197,626.66	197,626.66	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	02	07	09		24	EL111	169,517.23	169,517.23	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	02	07	09		24	EL112	60,134.96	60,134.96	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	02	07	09		24	EL113	97,275.48	97,275.48	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	02	07	09		24	EL114	62,051.16	62,051.16	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	02	07	09		24	EL115	299,138.58	299,138.58	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	02	07	09		24	EL122	783,638.11	783,638.11	0.00	2
4	ERDF	113	01	02	07	09		24	EL126	129,649.54	129,649.54	12,385.72	1
4	ERDF	113	01	03	07	09		24	BG413	17,658.76	17,658.76	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	03	07	09		24	BG422	5,504.97	5,504.97	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	03	07	09		24	BG425	303,139.09	303,139.09	55,255.72	1
4	ERDF	113	01	03	07	09		24	EL112	195,444.94	195,444.94	35,625.40	1
4	ERDF	113	01	03	07	09		24	EL115	11,018.01	11,018.01	0.00	1
4	ERDF	113	01	03	07	09		24	EL122	21,534.86	21,534.86	0.00	1
5	ERDF	121	02	07	07			24	BG413	229,989.38	229,989.38	15,413.46	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
5	ERDF	121	02	07	07			24	BG422	229,989.38	229,989.38	15,413.46	1
5	ERDF	121	02	07	07			24	BG424	229,989.38	229,989.38	15,413.46	1
5	ERDF	121	02	07	07			24	BG425	229,989.32	229,989.32	15,413.46	1
5	ERDF	121	02	07	07			24	EL111	578,818.65	578,818.65	36,513.36	1
5	ERDF	121	02	07	07			24	EL112	578,818.65	578,818.65	36,513.36	1
5	ERDF	121	02	07	07			24	EL113	578,818.65	578,818.65	36,513.36	1
5	ERDF	121	02	07	07			24	EL114	578,818.65	578,818.65	36,513.36	1
5	ERDF	121	02	07	07			24	EL115	578,413.60	578,413.60	36,487.81	1
5	ERDF	121	02	07	07			24	EL122	578,413.60	578,413.60	36,487.81	1
5	ERDF	121	02	07	07			24	EL126	578,413.60	578,413.60	36,487.81	1
5	ERDF	122	02	07	07			24	BG413	1,252.13	1,252.13	83.92	1
5	ERDF	122	02	07	07			24	BG422	1,252.13	1,252.13	83.92	1
5	ERDF	122	02	07	07			24	BG424	1,252.13	1,252.13	83.92	1
5	ERDF	122	02	07	07			24	BG425	1,252.13	1,252.13	83.92	1
5	ERDF	122	02	07	07			24	EL111	72,352.33	72,352.33	4,564.17	1
5	ERDF	122	02	07	07			24	EL112	72,352.33	72,352.33	4,564.17	1
5	ERDF	122	02	07	07			24	EL113	72,352.33	72,352.33	4,564.17	1
5	ERDF	122	02	07	07			24	EL114	72,352.33	72,352.33	4,564.17	1
5	ERDF	122	02	07	07			24	EL115	72,301.70	72,301.70	4,560.98	1
5	ERDF	122	02	07	07			24	EL122	72,301.70	72,301.70	4,560.98	1
5	ERDF	122	02	07	07			24	EL126	72,301.70	72,301.70	4,560.98	1
5	ERDF	123	02	07	07			24	BG413	5,008.50	5,008.50	335.66	1
5	ERDF	123	02	07	07			24	BG422	5,008.50	5,008.50	335.66	1
5	ERDF	123	02	07	07			24	BG424	5,008.50	5,008.50	335.66	1
5	ERDF	123	02	07	07			24	BG425	5,008.50	5,008.50	335.66	1
5	ERDF	123	02	07	07			24	EL111	180,465.01	180,465.01	11,384.19	1
5	ERDF	123	02	07	07			24	EL112	180,465.01	180,465.01	11,384.19	1
5	ERDF	123	02	07	07			24	EL113	180,465.01	180,465.01	11,384.19	1
5	ERDF	123	02	07	07			24	EL114	180,465.01	180,465.01	11,384.19	1
5	ERDF	123	02	07	07			24	EL115	180,338.72	180,338.72	11,376.23	1
5	ERDF	123	02	07	07			24	EL122	180,338.72	180,338.72	11,376.23	1
5	ERDF	123	02	07	07			24	EL126	180,338.72	180,338.72	11,376.23	1

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

1. Operation (2)	2. The amount of 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)
Access2Heritage	76,478.75	0.07%	0.00	
Destinations for All	21,802.50	0.02%	0.00	
E-Tourist	19,592.50	0.02%	155.55	0.00%
Green Pump	18,786.25	0.02%	0.00	
SoSEDEE	9,716.61	0.01%	0.00	
Social Crafts	22,886.25	0.02%	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

In accordance with Articles 56 and 114 of the Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, the Managing Authority has drafted the Evaluation Plan. The Evaluation Plan was approved by the Monitoring Committee and submitted to the European Commission through the SFC portal.

In 2018 the contract for the first evaluation of the Programme was concluded and the external evaluator elaborated 2 reports. The on-going findings and conclusions were presented during the 5th meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Programme held on 4/12/2018. The evaluation exercise is going to be finalized in June 2019 and evaluator considerations for readjustment, replacement or removal of several output indicators and their target values will be reviewed and eventually included in a Programme modification request in 2019 so that the achievement of the Programme Objectives by means of the selected operations are correctly measured.

Nevertheless, following the approved by MC evaluation plan, a mid-term review of the Programme was to be produced in 2018. An external contract was signed with subject “1st Evaluation of the Implementation Progress and the Impact of the Cooperation Programme “Interreg V-a Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020” on 4/10/2018 with a duration till 30/6/2019 and covering Programme progress till 31/12/2018. The draft final report of the evaluator considers a highly satisfactory level of Programme budget decided (included in calls) and contracted amount (subsidy contracts). Level of payments was considered low due to procedural delays and specific challenges, however it is noted that the advancement for 2018 was significant. The overall implementation progress of the Programme is considered satisfactory both as concerns projects’ implementation, policy interventions and scope of the Programme. The Programme is expected to contribute significantly in the cross border area, tackling the particular needs of the population, supporting the development, and lifting the barriers that border areas face. The implementation progress of the Communication Strategy is considered very satisfactory with a balanced geographical allocation of the activities and special communication actions for disabled people.

Name	Fund	From month	From year	To month	To year	Type of evaluation	Thematic objective	Topic	Findings
1st Evaluation of the Implementation Progress and the impact of the Cooperation Programme "Interreg V-A Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020	ERDF	10	2018	6	2019	Mixed	03 05 06 07 09	Impact assessment	Need of readjustment, replacement or removal of several output indicators and their target values

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

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

The main issues encountered, even though, they do not pose an imminent threat of Programme implementation, are the following:

Joint Secretariat staffing

Almost the whole of 2018 the Joint Secretariat continued performing its obligations being understaffed with 4 positions unoccupied and 3 officers on long term parental leaves. This strongly reflected on the burden of the high responsibilities during the year. However, with the support of the Managing Authority and strong personal commitment of the Joint Secretariat members, no crucial deadlines were delayed. Moreover, on 1/11/2018 the vacant positions of 2 project officers, 1 financial officer and 1 communication and technical assistance officer were filled with the appointment of the selected persons. To add to the Joint Secretariat efficiency an update of the computers configuration is urgently needed to comply with new applications, information systems, etc. and avoid delays due to slow connection, impossibility of opening files and entering databases.

Operation of the Monitoring and Information System (MIS)

The new, updated MIS system began its operation early in 2018. Many technical difficulties had to be overcome, in order to finetune its smooth operation. Furthermore, several manuals and guidelines were issued by the Joint Secretariat, Managing Authority and the MIS Service with the Greek Ministry of Economy and Development for the facilitation of the beneficiaries and other programme bodies involved for the proper use of the MIS and the accompanying procedures. Two information seminars were held, where beneficiaries and programme authorities were invited to attend and be informed on the new MIS. The first seminar was held in Athens, Greece on the 30/10/2018 and the second in Thessaloniki, Greece on the 27/11/2018. Still, a significant amount of time has been consumed on resolving technical problems on the MIS system and on steering the beneficiaries and controllers towards to right direction for using the MIS properly and for following closely the procedures. The transition from verifications on paper to MIS verifications appears to be a rather complicated process. Understanding and efficiency is needed both on behalf of the beneficiaries and the controllers. The Joint Secretariat and the Managing Authority provide continuous daily guidance on this, especially on the use of the MIS to solely cover the verification process.

Greek Public Investment Programme

The introduction of the new electronic platform of the Greek Public Investment Programme (ePDE) caused delays on the approval and/or transfer of funding to the Greek beneficiaries due to the new procedures set in force. It was finalized and the procedure is expected to go smoothly for 2019.

Bulgarian verification procedures

Following the national requirements the Bulgarian controllers did not verify the total amount of payments under a certain contract in the cases of doubts for ineligible expenditure until the National Authority takes a decision on them. This lead to certain delays in verification and the consequent ERDF reimbursement to the Bulgarian

beneficiaries. Discussions have taken place between the Managing and the National Authorities on this issue and it was agreed that the procedure will be optimized in mid-January 2019.

National Legislation Requirements

Traditionally the procedures on procurements allowing for appeals on two levels caused certain substantial delays in starting of construction works and deliveries of specific equipment. This led to necessity of redrafting projects' procurement plans and requests for extension of projects' duration. The performed pre-tender checks by the Managing Authority on certain substantial procurements of Greek beneficiaries contributed to the correct and efficient launch of the procedures minimising possible appeals and financial corrections due to discrepancies of procurements' provisions.

The new Greek legislation prohibiting the purchase of mobile units for health checks by non-medical institutions, introduced in December 2017, led to the necessity of modifying certain project activities. All Investment Priority 9a projects had to get the consent of the relevant Greek national authority for the approved activities. The Joint Secretariat and the Managing Authority organized clarification meeting with the 4th Health Authority and the Greek beneficiaries to agree upon the necessary steps. Similarly, the Bulgarian beneficiaries, according to newly introduced requirements, should get the approval of the Ministry of Health for all procurements above certain ceiling. All these caused certain delays in the start of implementation.

Project Beneficiaries

There are cases of insufficient capacity and lack of commitment of project beneficiaries due to the shortage of experienced in project management staff with organizations and institutions operating in the cross border area. Moreover, the public beneficiaries in both countries face various procedural and financial restrictions. Often a change in the management (legal representative, project team) leads to modification requests, new concepts, and even withdrawal from the project. The Joint Secretariat and the Managing Authority do their best efforts to address this by continuous support through communication, targeted visits, technical meetings, etc.

(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.

Priority Axis 1 with a total budget € 20,235,294.00 has no selected operations in 2018. The announced call in 2018 and the one envisaged for 2019 amount to € 17,000,000.00. The Priority Axis targets are subject to reassessment by the external evaluator according to both country's actual current concepts and eligible area needs as covered by the calls.

Priority Axis 2 budget is € 42,882,352.00 and the contracted budget of the 26 implementing projects amounts to € 33,773,999.69. It is expected that with the contracting of the second strategic project under Investment Priority 5b and the 2nd call 14 reserve list projects under Investment Priorities 6c and 6d in 2019, the targets of the Priority Axis will be fully achieved.

Priority Axis 3 budget € 38,802,558.00 has been committed by 100% with the contracted budget of the implementing strategic project CrossBo. The Priority Axis targets are expected to be fully achieved by extending the financed activities using savings from project's contracts.

The Priority Axis 4 budget is € 21,577,922.00 and the contracted budget of the 24 implementing projects amounts to € 19,630,202.15. It is planned that in 2019 the remaining available budget and savings from contracts will be utilized either in a new call for proposals under Investment Priority 9a, or for additional activities in already implementing projects. Thus the Priority Axis targets will be fully achieved.

The Priority Axis 5 budget € 6,764,706.00 has been committed by 100% with the two projects with beneficiaries the Managing and the National Authorities. The Priority Axis targets are expected to be fully achieved and the methodology on their correct reporting is being reviewed by the external evaluator.

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

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

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

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

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

8.1. Major projects

Table 7: Major projects

Project	CCI	Status of MP	Total investments	Total eligible costs	Planned notification/submission date	Date of tacit agreement/ approval by Commission	Planned start of implementation	Planned completion date	Priority Axis/ Investment priorities	Current state of realisation — financial progress (% of expenditure certified to Commission compared to total eligible cost)	Current state of realisation — physical progress Main implementation stage of the project	Main outputs	Date of signature of first works contract (1)	Observations
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(1) In the case of operations implemented under PPP structures the signing of the PPP contract between the public body and the private sector body (Article 102(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013).

Significant problems encountered in implementing major projects and measures taken to overcome them

Not applicable in the Greece-Bulgaria Programme.

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

Not applicable in the Greece-Bulgaria Programme.

8.2. Joint action plans

Progress in the implementation of different stages of joint action plans

Not applicable in the Greece-Bulgaria Programme (the CP does not foresee implementation of Joint Action Plans).

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

Not applicable in the Greece-Bulgaria Programme.

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 - A Competitive and Innovative Cross-Border Area
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Investment Priority 3a Promoting entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators

SO1 : To improve entrepreneurship SME support systems.

Output indicator: *CO01 Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support*

Based on the draft 6th Call to be launched in 2019 addressed to entities providing support and promotion to entrepreneurship the target value of the indicator is achievable thus fully contributing to the *SO1*.

Output indicator: *CO05 Productive investment: Number of new enterprises supported*

As suggested by the on-going evaluation exercise, based on the nature of the calls under the Priority Axis, the indicator will be proposed to be moved to Investment Priority 3d with the target value reassessed as appropriate and replaced with *CO04* thus better measuring the achievement of the *SO1*.

Investment Priority 3d Supporting the capacity of SMEs to grow in regional, national and international markets, and to engage in innovation processes

SO2 : To improve SME capacity to expand beyond local markets.

Output indicator: *CO01 Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support*

As suggested by the on-going evaluation exercise, considering the scope of the launched call under the Investment Priority, a reassessment of the target value will be performed reflecting the realistic contribution to the achievement of the *SO2*.

Output indicator: *CO04 Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support*

As suggested by the on-going evaluation exercise, the scope of the indicator remains but it will be moved to Investment Priority 3a as appropriate. Moreover, 2 additional indicators will be added *CO02 Number of enterprises receiving support* and *CO05* will be moved from Investment Priority 3a and reassessed as

appropriate. These readjustments will provide for the accurate measurement of the achievement of the Specific Objectives under the Priority Axis by means of the actual targeted support provided to SMEs.

Output indicator: *O0201 Number of clusters and other collaborative schemes composed of stakeholders/enterprises from both sides of border*

As suggested by the on-going evaluation exercise, this indicator will be removed because clusters and collaborative schemes were already co-financed by national schemes in both countries and it is not politically justified to have such also in the Programme.

Performance framework indicator *FO202 Eligible verified (certified) expenditure of the Axis*

No projects were approved under the Priority Axis till the end of 2018. Based on the timing and expectations from the 5th and 6th calls for proposals the milestone for 2018 will be achieved by 2020-2021 not affecting the final target in 2023.

Priority axis	2 - A Sustainable and Climate adaptable Cross-Border area
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Investment Priority 5b Promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems

SO 3: To improve CB cooperation on flood risk management plans at river basin level.

Output indicator *CO20 Population benefitting from flood protection measures*

The final target of the indicator in the programming document, solely measuring the achievement of the SO, will be fully covered with the successful implementation of the two strategic projects *Flood Protection and Flood Guard* by 2022.

Investment Priority 6c Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage

SO 4: To valorize CB area cultural and natural heritage for tourist purposes

Output indicator *CO09 Sustainable tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions*

The implementing projects' indicator total target value covers 64% of the final target in the programming document. The target value is going to be fully achieved with the implementation of the 10 reserve list projects that were activated in 2018.

Output indicator O0202 *Number of cultural and/or natural assets rehabilitated/protected*

The implementing projects' indicator total target value covers 100% of the final target value in the programming document. Since 10 more projects from the reserve list were activated in 2018, most of them having assets to be rehabilitated, the methodology and/or target of the Programme output indicator is under reassessment by the external evaluator.

It is expected that the *SO* of the Investment Priority will be adequately supported with the successful implementation of the selected projects.

Investment Priority 6d Protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including NATURA 2000 and green infrastructure

SO 5: To enhance the effectiveness of biodiversity protection activities.

Output indicator CO23 *Nature and biodiversity: Surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status (hectares)*

The selected operations' indicator total target value covers 89% of the final target in the programming document. The target value is going to be fully covered with the implementation of the 4 reserve list projects that were activated in 2018 and the *SO* adequately supported.

Investment Priority **6f** Promoting innovative technologies to improve environmental protection and resource efficiency in the waste sector, water sector, soil protection or to reduce air pollution

SO 6: To enhance water management.se

Output indicator O0203 *Surface water resources under joint monitoring (hm3)*

The selected operations' indicator total target value covers 81% of the final target in the programming document. However, as needed, the methodology for calculating the value of the indicator is reviewed by the external evaluator to correctly reflect the level of contribution to the achievement of the *SO*. Moreover, a new more appropriate indicator will be suggested.

Performance framework indicator FO202 *Eligible verified (certified) expenditure of the Axis*

The total eligible paid amount till 31/12/2018 inserted in the MIS is € 2,833,488.98 which comprises **65.46%** of the milestone for 2018 and provides for the full absorption of the Priority Axis budget in 2023

Priority axis	3 - A Better interconnected Cross-Border Area
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Investment Priority 7b Enhancing regional mobility by connecting secondary and tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure, including multimodal nodes.

SO7: Improve cross-border accessibility.

Output indicator *CO13a Roads: Total length of newly built roads, of which TEN-T (km)*

The selected operation's indicator total target value covers 47,50% of the final target in the programming document. However, financing additional activities for newly built roads from contracts' savings are under consideration aiming at full achievement of indicator's target and contributing to the achievement of SO.

Performance framework indicator *FO202 Eligible verified (certified) expenditure of the Axis*

The total eligible paid amount in 2018 inserted in the MIS is € 5,557,339.70 which comprises **64.60%** of the milestone for 2018. However, based on the amount of the subsidy contract signed and the commitments to utilize it, the full absorption of the Priority Axis budget is expected in 2023.

Priority axis	4 - A Socially Inclusive Cross-Border Area
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Investment Priority 9a Investing in health and social infrastructure which contributes to national, regional and local development, reducing inequalities in terms of health status, promoting social inclusion through improved access to social, cultural and recreational services and the transition from institutional to community-based services

SO 8: To improve access to primary and emergency health care (at isolated and deprived communities) in the CB area

Output indicator *CO36 Population covered by improved health services (persons)*

The selected operations' indicator total target value covers 96,15% of the final target

in the Programme. It is planned that the target value is fully covered with the launch of a Call for proposals or additional activities to be co-financed under the Investment Priority in 2019.

Output indicator *O0204 Number of health care institutions reorganized, modernized or reequipped*

(number)

The selected operations' indicator total target value covers 100% of the final target in the Programme.

Output indicator *O0205 Number of health ICT systems developed (number)*

The selected operations' indicator total target value covers 100% of the final target in the Programme.

Based on the activities included in the already selected operations and their indicators target values, the specific objective will be adequately supported with the implementation of the projects.

Investment Priority **9c** Providing support for social enterprises

SO9: To expand social entrepreneurship in the cross-border area

Output indicator *O0206 Number of participants in social entrepreneurship projects promoting gender equality, equal opportunities and social inclusion across borders (number)*

The selected operations' indicator total target value covers 100% of the final target value in the programming document providing for the adequate support to the specific objective.

Performance framework indicator *FO204 Eligible verified (certified) expenditure of the Axis*

The total eligible paid amount in 2018 inserted in the MIS is € 1,665,924.03 which comprises **154.41%** of the milestone for 2018. Based on the amount of the subsidy contracts signed and the commitments for additional call or activities, the full absorption of the Priority Axis budget is expected in 2019/2020.

Priority axis	5 - Technical Assistance
<i>SO 10: To manage and implement the Cooperation Programme effectively and efficiently</i>	

Output indicator **O0207** *Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance (employees)*

The indicator total value is overachieved at the end of 2018 being 15 (target 12) and comprising 11 Joint Secretariat employees (staff costs), 2 info points with the National Authority (externals) and 2 employees from the National Authority (staff costs) half paid by the Programme.

Output indicator **O0208** *Number of publicity and outreach events organized (events)*

The target value of the indicator will be fully achieved. The external evaluator is reviewing the methodology of considering the scale of events that should be considered as indicator's achievements since a lot of publicity activities are being performed.

Both projects being implemented effectively contribute to the achievement of the *SO10*.

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

Combating all forms of discrimination and promoting equal opportunities are leading principles in the Programme document as well as in its implementation. The measures being taken for the promotion of equality and non-discrimination include:

- Participation of the National Confederation of People with Disabilities of Greece and the Bulgarian Commission for Protection against Discrimination in the Monitoring Committee, where they actively contribute in all matters of equality and non-discrimination of vulnerable social groups;
- On the basis of selecting projects for implementation, it is a set criterion in the evaluation sheets of the Programme that submitted projects are in line with the Programme's horizontal principles that regard equal opportunities and non-discrimination (including provision of accessibility for persons with disabilities) and equality between men and women. Projects failing to be in line with the above are to be excluded from the evaluation procedure. So far, no such case has been had and all implementing projects are in line with these principles. In compliance with this, the Project Application Guidelines of the 5th call for project proposals for SMEs, launched in 2018, explicitly state that 'the aid recipient must comply with EU and national legislation.....in particular with respect to.....equality between men and women, non-discrimination and accessibility for people with disabilities'.
- Promotion of the Programme and its activities in a manner that outmost access is safeguarded. Most of the venues selected to host Monitoring Committee meetings and Info days, are accessible based on specific requirements and access needs.
- All of the selected operations have a positive approach towards equality, accessibility and integration of vulnerable groups and a lot include specific relevant actions. Moreover, the Association of Cancer Patients and Friends of Evros Prefecture, the Association for People with Mobility Problems and Friends in the Prefecture of Rhodope, National Confederation of Disabled People-Brunch of Northern Greece and the Bulgarian Paralympic Association are beneficiaries in some of the approved projects.
- The involvement of municipalities and their relevant structures in most of the *Investment Priority 9a* projects is a positive tendency as the municipalities are aware and responsible for the social status of the local population.
- All *Investment Priority 9c* projects are targeted at social inclusion, with an emphasis on providing improved or new services in various social aspects, as well as actively involving people from vulnerable groups, such as people with disabilities or socially excluded.

Random examples of targeted actions already contracted and being implemented in 2018 towards the

integration of vulnerable groups are:

- *Bio2Care* - approximately € 30,000.00 were contracted for the construction of pathways for recreational purposes and birdwatching for handicapped and disabled people as well as for a specialized website and social media campaign ;
- Around € 10,000.00 were spent within *VieSOS* for the information brochure with pages in Braille (English, Greek and Bulgarian) as people with visual impairment are among the target groups to be trained on growing and preservation of old local sorts of vines;
- *Access2Heritage* already spent more than € 100,000.00 for activities enabling senior and accessible tourism, focusing on persons with disabilities and with chronic diseases, elderly and their families ;

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

Consistence with Programme's horizontal principle for sustainable development was an obligatory evaluation criterion in all calls for proposals under the Programme and also was addressed in the 5th call that was launched in 2018. An accent was put that ERDF contributes to strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion by reducing the main regional imbalances in the Union by supporting the sustainable development and structural adjustment of regional economies, therefore the aid recipient has to comply with the sustainable development requirements when implementing the investment plan.

Local environment protection authorities broadly participate as project beneficiaries in the already selected operations. Such are the Regional Forest Directorate – Kardjali, the Management Body of Dadia – Lefkimi – Soufli Forest National Park, the Management body of the Nestos Delta and Lakes Vistonida – Ismarida, the Management Body of Rodopi Mountain-Range National Park – Paranesti, the National Park “Rila”, the Hellenic Ornithological Society, the Network for the operational Support and Education of the volunteers' Associations in the field of Civil Protection against natural disasters, the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water – Blagoevgrad as well as the Economic and Environment related Departments of the biggest universities in the region – Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and South-West University “Neofit Rilski”, Blagoevgrad.

The projects within Investment Priorities 5b, 6c, 6d and 6f started implementing the sustainable development measures such as environment protection and resource efficiency actions, climate change mitigation, biodiversity and ecosystems preservation, disaster resilience, risk prevention and management. Such are: *Flood Protection*, *Fire Detection*, *ForPro*, *Bats Conserve*, *E-Outland*, *Water Rescue*, *LYSIS*, *CB Water Geo park*, *BestU*.

Random examples of targeted actions contributing to the sustainable development of the region that were contracted and started being implemented in 2018 are:

- *Flood Protection* enhances the resilience of the ecosystem in the implementation areas with respect of the environmental legislation of the two countries, increases protection against flood risk and reduces the economic downsides of floods and will facilitate growth in a socio-economic perspective. The project beneficiaries will follow a sustainability plan for the preservation and management of the interventions implemented ;
- Under *Wild Life Forever* € 117,000.00 were contracted for the purchase and operation of a flying surveillance system to monitor the biodiversity of the region providing for sustainable environment ;

- The transformation of the existing cultural facilities that started under *Cultural Dipole* implies energy efficiency using new “green” trends and techniques. The concept being applied is based on the promotion of environmental, social and financial sustainability ;
- The subsidy contract of *Green Pump* was signed in 2018 for € 727,390.50 aiming at the conservation of potable water, through its substitution with row ground water of quality that is suitable for secondary uses (toilet flushing, cleaning, irrigation), and reduction of need for chlorination, which has adverse environmental effects when fed back in rivers (lightly treated waste water) and substitution of fossil fuels by shallow geothermal energy (open loop ground water heat pumps), installed in areas of high water table;

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 (%)
2	13,694,818.80	37.57%
Total	13,694,818.80	12.37%

Both strategic projects under the Investment Priority 5d have main contribution addressing climate change mitigation. *Flood Protection* increases the level of protection against floods in the cross border area of Greece and Bulgaria and especially in areas with high probability of flood events across the two international river basins of Struma/Strymon and Evros/Maritsa. The contract amounting to m€ 1,061 for strengthening of Easter Kerkini lake dikes to protect local housing in the Region of Central Macedonia is being implemented as well as the construction and protection works on Struma river in Blagoevgrad Region amounting to almost m€ 6.

Flood Guard was approved by the Monitoring Committee of the Programme in 2018 and its implementation is starting 2019. The project contributes to the cross border area adaptation to climate change, by reducing natural and man-made risks and enhancing the response capabilities of local stakeholders. Its actions are directly oriented to joint coordination of flood risk management plans for international rivers Strymon/Struma, Nestos/Mesta, Ardas/Arda and Evros/Maritsa, awareness raising and capacity building of the responsible civil protection authorities and local population.

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 members of the Monitoring Committee were selected in accordance with the requirements of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The objectives of the Programme, as well as the main functions of the Monitoring Committee such as supervision of the Programme implementation, approval of the methodology and the criteria for selection of operations, approval of the annual and final implementation reports and selection of operations, were taken into consideration in both countries when establishing the members' list. Representation of a wide range of partners was ensured following the main principles of partnership, coordination and multilevel governance. Representatives of the respective Ministries associated with the Thematic Objectives of the Programme (related to environment, economy, regional development, science and education, labour and social policy, tourism, internal affairs, finance, health and culture) participate in the Monitoring Committee as well as the regional governors of the cross border area, the central unions of municipalities, non-governmental organizations of disabled people and environment protection, social-economic partners, academic institutions which responsibilities and activities concern the Programme eligible area. The Monitoring Committee performs its activities according to Rules of Procedures and following the principles of partnership, transparency and impartiality.

The preparation of the 5th Call for proposals for SMEs in 2018 involved a wide participation of employers' organizations to identify and agree upon the actual current common needs of the business in the cross border region as well as the most effective forms of cooperation between the companies from both countries. Chambers and Associations of industry and commerce actively supported the process of dissemination of information on the call to their member companies.

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 Evaluation Plan was approved by the Monitoring Committee during its 2nd meeting, held in Komotini on 18/10/2016. The plan sets out the evaluation strategy for the entire implementation period of the Programme, taking into account lessons learned from evaluations made in previous programming periods and the budgetary framework. It sets out the framework to properly plan and implement quality Programme evaluations with the aim to secure the Programme's effectiveness, efficiency and impact.

Following the evaluation plan, a mid-term review of the Programme was to be produced in 2018. An external contract was signed with subject "1st Evaluation of the Implementation Progress and the Impact of the Cooperation Programme "Interreg V-a Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020" on 4/10/2018 with a duration till 30/6/2019 and covering Programme progress till 31/12/2018. The draft final report of the evaluator considers a highly satisfactory level of Programme budget decided (included in calls) and contracted amount (subsidy contracts). Level of payments was considered low due to procedural delays and specific challenges, however it is noted that the advancement for 2018 was significant. The overall implementation progress of the Programme is considered satisfactory both as concerns projects' implementation, policy interventions and scope of the Programme. The Programme is expected to contribute significantly in the cross border area, tackling the particular needs of the population, supporting the development, and lifting the barriers that border areas face. The implementation progress of the Communication Strategy is considered very satisfactory with a balanced geographical allocation of the activities and special communication actions for disabled people.

Status	Name	Fund	Year of finalizing evaluation	Type of evaluation	Thematic objective	Topic	Findings (in case of execution)	Follow up (in case of execution)
Planned	1st Evaluation of the Implementation Progress and the Impact of the Cooperation Programme "Interreg V-a Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020	ERDF	2019	Mixed	03 05 06 07 09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Priority Axis commitments • 2nd Priority Axis contracting (subsidy contracts) – 78.8% • 4th Priority Axis level of verifications 		
Executed	1st Evaluation of the Implementation Progress and the Impact of the Cooperation Programme "Interreg V-a Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020	ERDF	2018	Process	03 05 06 07 09	Performance Framework	A number of indicators lagging behind due to delays since the beginning of the programming period. Some output indicators and/or their targets need readjustments	Readjustments of indicators and targets will be included in a request for Programme's modification in 2019

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

The achievement of the goals of the Communication Strategy is assessed quantitatively and throughout the fulfilment of the related Output Indicator recording the number of publicity actions. The Output indicator 00208 as per the programming document targets at 15 publicity and outreach events organized.

Based on the target values of the indicator in both approved Technical Assistance projects it is expected that the real achieved number at the end of the Programme will be substantially exceeding the planned target.

Corporate identity

The Programme has opted to join the Joint Branding initiative of Interreg Programmes under one single brand name and logo. The Programme's logo and visual identity is aligned to the one commonly applied throughout EU. The initiative is extended to projects as well, as all approved projects are required to follow the same branding instructions, thus creating a homogenized visual identity.

Target audiences

Potential project beneficiaries were well informed about the opportunities offered by the Programme throughout the ordinary channels (announcements on the web site, on the Programme Facebook web-page, electronic correspondence, etc.). To address the general public the following events and initiatives were performed in 2018:

- The 1st Forum for Innovative Young CBC Entrepreneurs hosted by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Drama, on 25 – 28/06/2018 and was organized by the Association of European Border Regions in cooperation with Interreg;
- In the context of the celebration of the EC Day 2018, the Managing Authority of the European Territorial Cooperation Programmes of the Interreg V-A "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020" and "Balkan-Mediterranean 2014-2020 ", in cooperation with the Bulgarian National Authority of the Programmes, organized an event with educational and cultural activities entitled "Weaving the Future - Colouring Silky Memories" in Soufli on 26/09/2018. The event included a specially designed cocoon-based educational action, in the form of Creative Design Lab for pupils from local schools; a sightseeing visit combined with a training programme at the PIOP Silk Museum (Private Museum of Pireus Bank) for students from the town of Svilengrad; exhibition of the results of the educational workshop (arts and constructions of children) combined with parallel actions: Live Performance "The nest - One route to freedom" - a dance performance with combined experiential action and participation of children. The basic idea was to discover together the symbolic meaning of the cocoon; a symbol of a man's spirit: the cocoon is soft, water-impermeable, light-permeable, the cocoon helps protect the butterfly which prepares and releases, leading it to the world of interaction and cooperation;
- Participation in the International Fair of Thessaloniki, in autumn 2018, with a stand organized by the Managing Authority of European Territorial Cooperation Programmes where information about the Programme objectives was provided.

Website

The website of the Programme hosts very substantial content and frequent updates concerning news and events

at Project and Programme level. In terms of information, networking and communicating opportunities the website in 2018 proved to be a very useful resource for project beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries, as well as the media and the general public.

It contains 8 main sections and provides information regarding:

- the role of European Territorial Cooperation and ERDF;
- the Interreg Programme and the INTERREG VA “Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020” CP;
- EU funding opportunities (Calls for project proposals and relevant documentation);
- the projects approved for financing;
- the project beneficiaries;
- project implementation electronic templates and manuals;
- MIS users’ manuals (for applicants, beneficiaries and controllers);
- procedures for the first level controls and the project implementation;
- eligibility of expenditures;
- EU visibility requirements including: the Programme’s logo, the Project’s logo and the Programme’s Publicity and Visibility Guidelines;
- a list of useful links;
- a contact form;
- a glossary;
- legal framework including all relevant EU regulations and a government gazette stating the Greek Management and Control System.

The site is user friendly for search. It is in line with the modern trends in web design and conforms to WCAG, 2.0, Level AA standards in order to address the accessibility needs of people with visual impairment.

According to the website statistics, in 2018 the website was visited by 2,249 users; of which 20.8% were returning visitors and 79.2% were new visitors. The majority of the visitors were from Greece (46.39 %) and Bulgaria (30.73%).

Facebook

The Facebook webpage of the Programme was launched in June 2018 in an attempt to establish a more direct communication with the beneficiaries (existing and potential-new ones) and to achieve greater visibility of the Programme to larger audiences. The Facebook webpage is - along with the website - the Programme’s major communication channel, to promote the Programme and the projects, through the publication of short announcements concerning news and events at Project and Programme level, as well as the publication of articles concerning the EU and the EC and could be useful to the followers, such as EU events /awards etc.

According to the Facebook statistics, by the end of 2018 the Programme webpage had 196 Likes and 204 followers; most of the webpage’s fans are from Greece (163) and Bulgaria (63); whereas 56% of them are women and 43% are men.

11. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE ADDED DEPENDING ON THE CONTENT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 14(4), SUBPARAGRAPH 2 (A), (B), (C) AND (F), OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1299/2013)

11.1. Progress in the implementation of the integrated approach to territorial development, including integrated territorial investments, sustainable urban development, and community led local development under the cooperation programme

Though no integrated territorial development tools are envisaged in the Programme, the challenges addressed have an important territorial dimension.

Good examples for integrated approach to territorial development are the following implementing projects:

- *CrossBo* makes interventions which complete territorially a specific transport network thus increasing the mobility between both countries. The project ensures the connection of the Greek and Bulgarian road infrastructure networks in the specific region. The geographically targeted actions being implemented involve the completion of Rudozem –Xanthi road and construction of a new border cross-check point, as well as upgrading of the Bulgarian road section that connects to the existing Makaza - Komothini and Ivailovgrad - Kiprinos border cross-check points;
- *Ara-CC* implements of an integrated approach to cultural assets in the area of Kardzhali-Maroneia-Sapes attracting more tourists to the region;

Following Commission recommendation 2008/594/EC Investment priority 9a projects as *Smart_Med, E-Health Monitoring, RemoteCare, etc.* aim at cross-border interoperability of electronic health record systems focusing particularly on technologies for remote provision of healthcare diagnosis, treatment and monitoring and applying an integrated cross-border approach.

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

During 2018 all members of the Joint Secretariat and the Managing Authority representatives participated in a number of events organised by EC, Interract and national bodies reinforcing capacity on capitalisation of projects results, communication networks, dimensions of cooperation, Keep.eu information platform, indicators post 2020, AIR and Performance Framework, public procurements, etc.

During 2018 the following was done to enhance the capacity of the project beneficiaries:

- Two MIS seminars in Athens and Thessaloniki;
- The 1st Forum for Innovative Young CBC Entrepreneurs in Drama hosted by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Drama and organized by the Association of European Border Regions (AEBR) in cooperation with the MA;
- All documents including guidance materials (i.e. MIS users' manuals) were made available for project beneficiaries' use on the web-site of the Programme in a separate section 'Library' as soon as approved by the relevant authorities.

The Joint Secretariat and Managing Authority competent staff provided guidance to the project beneficiaries on a daily basis at technical meetings, by electronic and phone communication on project implementation procedures, reporting, funds allocations, MIS.

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:

Not applicable in Greece-Bulgaria Programme.

- 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

It is one of the aims of the Programme to effectively address social inclusion by using innovation tools.

- *Social Plate* is creating an NGO in Greece and its franchise in Bulgaria (**social franchising**), providing vocational training to unemployed women and young people enabling them to pursue a career in Social Entrepreneurship. The project innovatively interconnects key stakeholders from different regions and countries and encourages the development of regional Social Enterprises Champions;

SoSEDEE enhances employment of individuals belonging to vulnerable social groups and residing in the cross border area of the Programme, through a Training Course for gaining the appropriate knowledge and the necessary skills for the establishment and operation of efficient Social Enterprises. An innovative end-product is the development of an **academically recognized distance learning programme in "Social Entrepreneurship"** that will target long-term unemployed, vulnerable or sensitive social groups, existing social entrepreneurs and individuals who are willing to engage in social entrepreneurship.

13. SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

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

The Programme directly addresses the EU2020 objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. All implementing projects are positive towards these and involve specific actions contributing to the all in one growth of the the region.

- *E-Outland* enhances the existing Civil Protection Volunteers supporting structures providing for better protection conditions of NATURA 2000 and other protected areas against disasters (fires/floods);
- *Wrestle* is designing and implementing a Joint System in the region for the sustainable management of the CB water resources also protecting water quality/quantity and adapting Water Framework Directive requirements in the field of environmental objectives and efficient use;
- *Water Rescue* contributes to sustainable cross-border drinking water supply management aiming at water resources efficiency and conservative use with a special accent on “green behavior”, water saving and reducing water consumption through public awareness campaigns;
- *E-Tourist* promotes gastronomy and wines in Haskovo-Evros region for tourist purposes through smart application, digitalized sites with videos for the sites ;

Access2Heritage supports the sustainable development tourism improving the accessibility to cultural and natural heritage assets in the region. A joint strategic planning study is being developed towards the cross-border area branding as an international tourist destination for elderly and disabled, of high quality at low to medium cost.

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).

Due to the late launch of the 5th call for SMEs the 2018 milestone for eligible verified expenditure of the **1st Priority Axis** was not met. However, with the amounts included in the 5th and the envisaged in 2019 6th Call the final target will be fully covered. Moreover, the indicators and their targets were reviewed and several readjustments to them will be requested in 2019 to correctly reflect the actual performance of the Priority Axis interventions in compliance with the region actual needs.

The paid eligible expenditure in 2018 under the **2nd Priority Axis** comprises 65.46% of the 2018 milestone. The indicators 2018 milestones were achieved, with the condition that number of cultural/natural assets rehabilitated will be reported when fully realized, at projects end in 2019/2020.

The paid eligible expenditure in 2018 under the **3rd Priority Axis** comprises 64.60% of the 2018 milestone. However the final target will be achieved with the finalization of the project in 2020. Measures are being discussed on new roads construction indicator's final target achievement by extending the activities using savings from the contracts signed.

The paid eligible expenditure in 2018 under the **4th Priority Axis** exceeds the 2018 milestone by 54.41%. Final targets will be fully achieved with a new call or additional activities to approved projects that will be decided in 2019.

DOCUMENTS

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent By
Citizen's Summary of the 2018 Greece - Bulgaria Annual Implementation Report	Citizens' summary	25-Jun-2019		Ares(2019)4047828	Citizen's_Summary_14.6.2019	26-Jun-2019	nlogotge

LATEST VALIDATION RESULTS

Severity	Code	Message
Info		Implementation report version has been validated
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 125.00% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 5, investment priority: -, indicator: O0207, year: 2018. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 333.33% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 5, investment priority: -, indicator: O0208, year: 2018. Please check.
Warning	2.53.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 125.00% of the total target value for "F", priority axis: 5, investment priority: -, indicator: O0207, year: 2018. Please check.