

*Technical assistance for the elaboration of
the future Interreg Programme Romania-
Hungary 2021-2027 (including the
realisation of SEA)*

*Output and Results Indicators and
Performance framework
Methodology*

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Preamble

On the basis of art. 16 of the common Reg. (EU) 2021/1060, each Member State shall establish a performance framework to allow monitoring, reporting on and evaluating programme performance during implementation of the programme, and to contribute to measuring the overall performance of the Funds.

The performance framework shall consist of:

- (a) output and result indicators linked to specific objectives set out in the Fund-specific Regulations selected for the programme;
- (b) milestones to be achieved by the end of the year 2024 for output indicators; and
- (c) targets to be achieved by the end of the year 2029 for output and result indicators.

Additionally, the common Regulation art. 17 stipulates that the methodology to establish the performance framework shall include:

- (a) the criteria applied by the Member State to select indicators;
- (b) data or evidence used, data quality assurance and the calculation method;
- (c) factors that may influence the achievement of the milestones and targets and how they were taken into account.

Pursuing the requirements included in the EC regulation, this paper is thus divided in the following chapters:

1. The description of the programme intervention logics and how the performance framework reflects this logics
2. Selected common output indicators (Interreg specific), dedicated to the definition of selected output indicators
3. Selected common result indicators (Interreg specific), dedicated to the definition of selected result indicators
4. The overview on the performance framework, detailing:
 - 4.1. the general criteria applied for the quantification of milestones and targets
 - 4.2. the indicative timeline for Programme management, justifying the approach
 - 4.3. the methodology for selected output indicators related to 2024 milestones
 - 4.4. the methodology for selected output and results indicators related to 2029 targets, notably:
 - 4.4.1. the methodology for Output indicators 2029 targets
 - 4.4.2. the methodology for Result indicators 2029 targets
 - 4.5. the indicative performance framework, for each SO / ISO.

Additionally, at chapter 5, the paper includes two annexes, providing background information on the methodology applied in the establishment of the performance framework, notably:

- The Report on the survey on potential beneficiaries held in August-September 2021
- The Analysis of financial allocations' scenario, based on consultations and lessons learnt.

The performance framework builds on lessons learnt from the Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Programme, and reflects the future programme intervention logics, in particular as concerns:

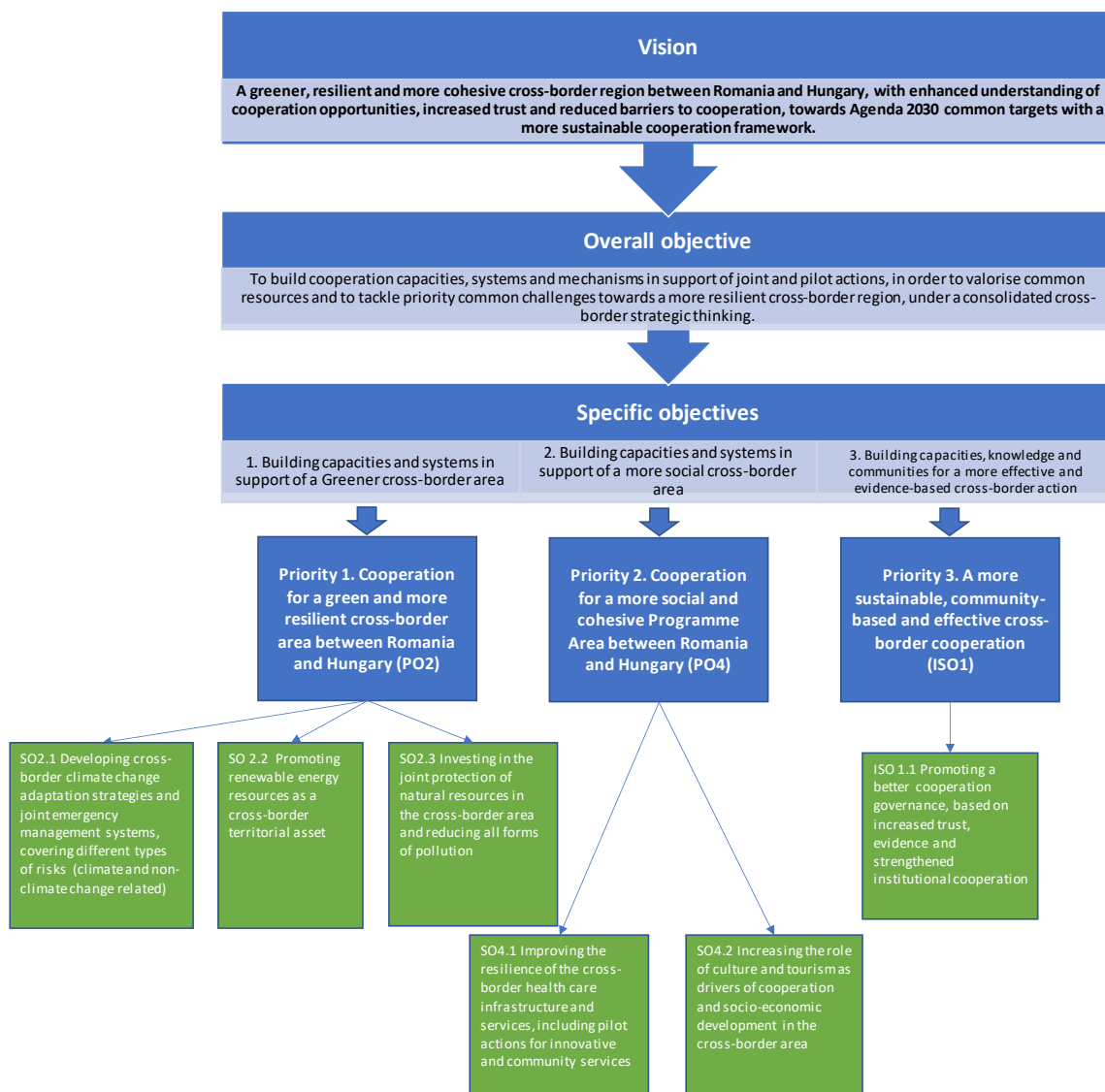
- The need to **simplify the programme performance framework**, in order to ensure that targets are realistic and attainable, starting from the assumption that beneficiaries fully understand the indicators and are able to quantify them properly since project formulation and upon projects' completion;
- The need to shift the programme rationale towards a stronger accent on the programme outputs and results in terms of **improved and long-lasting cooperation processes, in the meantime boosting cooperation added value, through joint and innovative solutions**.

When drafting the methodological document, it was ensured that the data underpinning the indicator milestones and targets were taken from a reliable source (e.g. the monitoring system). Whenever this was not the case (such as in the case of the survey on potential applicants and estimated financial allocations), the necessary steps were taken to ensure the quality of the data.

1. The intervention logics reflected in the performance framework

The vision for the future Interreg Programme between Romania and Hungary for the period 2021-2027 can be defined as follows: **A greener, resilient and more cohesive cross-border region between Romania and Hungary, with enhanced understanding of cooperation opportunities, increased trust and reduced barriers to cooperation, towards Agenda 2030 common targets with a more sustainable cooperation framework.**

The Programme strategy is articulated in a general objective and three specific objectives corresponding to the two selected POs and ISO underlying specific investment priorities, as illustrated in the graph below:



The guiding principles leading to the proposed strategy and Intervention Logics can be defined as follows:

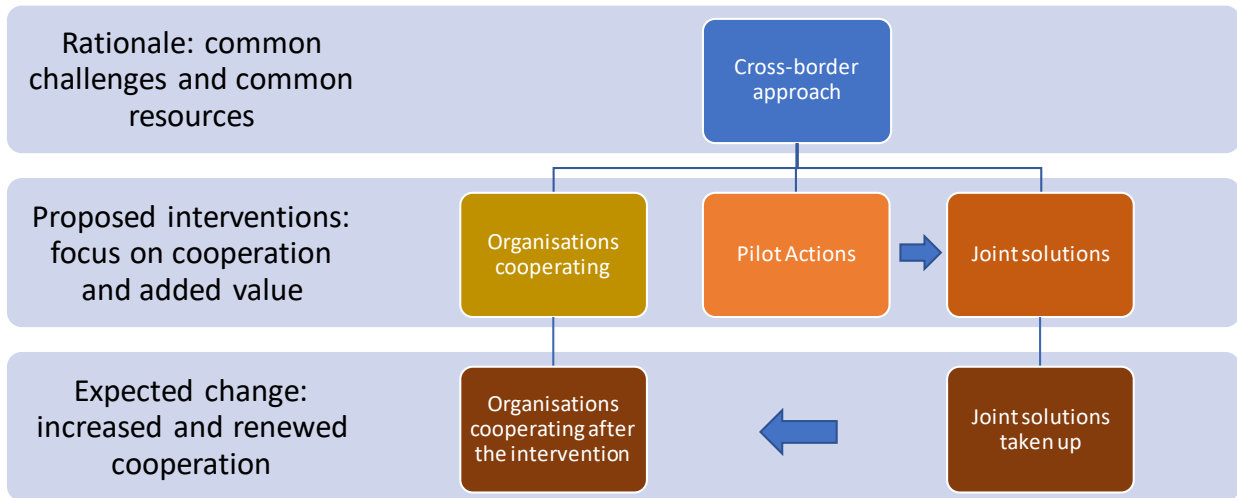
- maximising the **concentration of resources on interventions where cross-border cooperation brings added value and the Interreg programme represents the main option for funding;**
- promoting the **higher possible cross-border impact on territorial disparities and communities,** focussing on policy objectives with the possible higher and more direct impacts on the population

well-being (i.e. health, environmental protection and green infrastructure), safety (i.e. protection from natural disasters and climate change adaptation strategies) and equal opportunities (i.e. equal access to health services, tailor-made solutions for patients, involving youth, rural population and marginalised communities in cultural activities and in the valorisation of resources for the socio-economic development of the area);

- **bridging territories and communities based on common territorial and intangible assets**, which may create common socio-economic opportunities for the economic recovery (i.e. renewable energies and the opportunity of creating “renewable energy / green communities”, as well as culture and tourism, as fields of common interest capable of leveraging funds and partnerships under a common destination management vision for the PA);
- **promoting people-to-people interventions as foundation for more structured cooperation**, with a demonstrative value for building sustainable and inclusive communities and an open business environment, which may support in designing tailor-made solutions for future community-led local development initiatives and integrated socio-economic strategies at cross-border level, thus making people-to-people actions “laboratories” for the animation of local communities
- **building the knowledge basis, capacities, joint systems and joint working procedures** as a precondition for projects sustainability and effective results (i.e. soft measures across all selected POs and specific measures under ISO1 on other themes not related to selected POs).

The performance framework reflects the Programme intervention logics, as it underlines:

- The rationale of the programme, which is basically aimed at concentrating the territorial cooperation on tackling common problems and valorising common resources, which means to further strengthen and boost the cross-border approach. This is reflected in the choice of policy objectives and specific objectives.
- The expected outputs and the expected change in terms of increased cooperation, innovation and added value of the territorial cooperation, from the perspective of developing and implementing jointly shared solutions in fields of common strategic importance. This is reflected in the simplified performance framework, focussing on three main outcomes of improved cooperation, notably: the number of cooperating organisations, which is a cross-cutting purpose itself; pilot actions and jointly developed solutions, which have been selected as the most relevant and powerful indicators capable of grasping the added value of cooperation, in relation to the expected change (the joint solution of common problems or the joint valorisation of common resources).



2. Selected common output indicators (Interreg specific)

Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1.	Indicator code	RCO84
2.	Indicator name	Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects
2b	Indicator code and short name (open data name)	RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly
3.	Measurement unit	Pilot actions
4.	Type of indicator	Output
5.	Baseline	0
6.	Milestone 2024	0 <i>As it is anticipated that no pilot action can be finalised by end 2024, the indicator's target for the milestone is set at zero. However, the annual reporting will allow to assess progress towards the 2029 targets, based on the communication of contracted / selected projects and related forecast for indicators</i>
7.	Target 2029	64
8.	Policy objective	PO 2: 26 PO 4: 36 ISO 1: 2
9.	Specific objective	All, when relevant
10.	Definition and concepts	<p>The indicator counts the pilot actions developed jointly and implemented by supported projects. The scope of a jointly developed pilot action could be to test procedures, new instruments, tools, experimentation or the transfer of practices. Pilot actions can be both exclusively soft, or they can include the need to realise infrastructural works or to acquire modern / new equipment, in order to allow the effective piloting of the envisaged action. In both cases, the expected output of the action is focussed on the cooperation component, where partners work together to test new ways of cooperating in order to solve common problems or to valorise common resources. In this respect, except for P2P actions, it is expected that the majority of operations implemented will include pilot actions. The contribution of each PO and ISO 1 to this indicator will be proportional with the allocated budget and expected number of projects, in line with the calculation method described in the following sections of the methodology.</p> <p>In order to be counted by this indicator, - the pilot action needs not only to be developed, but also implemented within the project and - the implementation of the pilot action should be finalised by the end of the project. Jointly developed pilot action in a cross-border context implies the involvement of organizations from the two participating countries in its implementation, or at least the involvement of an entity having members from both sides of the border (i.e. EGTC, microregions). Pilot actions shall lead to a joint solution developed (RCO116) and taken up (RCR104), in order to ensure further replicability and scaling up of results.</p>

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11.	Data collection	MA monitoring system
12.	Time measurement achieved	Upon project finalisation
13.	Aggregation issues	RCO84 will be used together with RCO 116, as in the Programme rationale, the joint solutions developed are directly correlated with the implementation of the pilot action..
14.	Reporting	Reporting by specific objective. Forecast for selected projects and achieved values, both cumulative to date (CPR Annex VII, Table 3).
15.	References	
16.	Corresponding corporate indicator	Not applicable
17.	Notes	RCO 84 will be used together with RCO 116 and the common result indicator to be used will be RCR 104.

Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1.	Indicator code	RCO87
2.	Indicator name	Organisations cooperating across borders
2b	Indicator code and short name (open data name)	RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders
3.	Measurement unit	Number of organisations
4.	Type of indicator	Output
5.	Baseline	0
6.	Milestone 2024	0 <i>As it is anticipated that no operation can be finalised by end 2024, the indicator's target for the milestone is set at zero. However, the annual reporting will allow to assess progress towards the 2029 targets, based on the communication of contracted / selected projects.</i>
7.	Target 2029	233
8.	Policy objective	PO 2: 65 PO4: 88 ISO 1: 80
9.	Specific objective	All, when relevant
10.	Definition and concepts	The indicator counts the organisations cooperating formally in supported projects. The organisations counted in this indicator are the legal entities including project partners and associated organizations, as mentioned in the financing agreement of the application. Organisations cooperating formally in small-scale projects are also counted. The contribution of each PO and ISO 1 to this indicator will be proportional with the allocated budget, the expected number of projects, and the average number of partners, in line with the calculation method described in the following sections of the methodology.
11.	Data collection	MA monitoring system
12.	Time measurement achieved	Upon project finalisation. As it is anticipated that no projects will be finalised by 2024, the milestone for 2024 has been set to zero. However, once with the annual transmission of data by 31 st

		January 2025, it will be possible to provide information on selected and contracted operations, including forecasted number of organisations cooperating, based on the financial agreement.
13.	Aggregation issues	At programme level, double counting should be avoided at the level of project partners and associated organizations.
14.	Reporting	Reporting by specific objective. Forecast for selected projects and achieved values, both cumulative to date (CPR Annex VII, Table 3).
15.	References	
16.	Corresponding corporate indicator	Not applicable
17.	Notes	In terms of links with common result indicators, RCO 87 is intended be used together with RCR 84.

Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1.	Indicator code	RCO116
2.	Indicator name	Jointly developed solutions
2b	Indicator code and short name (open data name)	RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions
3.	Measurement unit	Solutions
4.	Type of indicator	Output
5.	Baseline	0
6.	Milestone 2024	0 <i>As it is anticipated that no pilot action can be finalised by end 2024, so that no solution can be counted as “developed”, the indicator’s target for the milestone is set at zero. However, the annual reporting will allow to assess progress towards the 2029 targets, based on the communication of contracted / selected projects and related forecast for indicators</i>
7.	Target 2029	64
8.	Policy objective	PO 2: 26 PO 4: 36 ISO 1: 2
9.	Specific objective	All, when relevant
10.	Definition and concepts	<p>The indicator counts the number of jointly developed solutions from joint pilot actions implemented by supported projects. In order to be counted in the indicator, an identified solution should include indications of the actions needed for it to be taken up or to be upscaled.</p> <p>These actions shall be further reflected in a joint agreement / protocol / strategy / plan for future joint action, which will be used to demonstrate the stakeholders’ engagement underlying RCR 104.</p> <p>A jointly developed solution implies the involvement of organizations from at least two participating countries in the drafting and design process of the solution, or at least the involvement of an entity having members from both sides of the border (i.e. EGTC, microregions).</p> <p>The solutions jointly developed and tested during the pilot action shall be “taken up” (RCR 104), in order to ensure further replicability and scaling up of the pilot action.</p>

		The contribution of each PO and ISO 1 to this indicator will be proportional with the allocated budget and expected number of projects, in line with the calculation method described in the following sections of the methodology.
11.	Data collection	MA monitoring system
12.	Time measurement achieved	Upon project finalisation
13.	Aggregation issues	Exclude overlap with RCO117. Aggregation at the level of specific objective.
14.	Reporting	Reporting by specific objective. Forecast for selected projects and achieved values, both cumulative to date (CPR Annex VII, Table 3).
15.	References	
16.	Corresponding corporate indicator	Not applicable
17.	Notes	In order to avoid double counting, the solutions relevant for this indicator (i.e. RCO116) should not have the main topics linked to administrative or legal frameworks, as these are counted in indicator RCO117. For all other topics of the solutions, the indicator used for counting is RCO116. RCO116 will be used together with RCO84, and the common result indicators which will be used is RCR104.

3. Selected common result indicators (Interreg specific)

Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1.	Indicator code	RCR84
2.	Indicator name	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion
2b	Indicator code and short name (open data name)	RCR84 Interreg: Organisations cooperating post-project
3.	Measurement unit	Number of organisations
4.	Type of indicator	Result
5.	Baseline	0
6.	Milestone 2024	Not required
7.	Target 2029	192
8.	Policy objective	PO 2: 58 PO4: 70 ISO 1: 64
9.	Specific objective	All, when relevant
10.	Definition and concepts	The indicator counts the organisations cooperating across borders after the completion of the supported projects. The organisations are legal entities involved in project implementation, counted within RCO87. The cooperation concept should be interpreted as having a statement that the entities have a formal agreement to continue cooperation, after the end of the supported project. The cooperation agreements may be established during the implementation of the project or within one year after the project completion. The sustained cooperation does not have to cover the same topic as addressed by the completed project. It is anticipated that all organisations cooperating in pilot actions and developing joint solutions shall demonstrate their commitment for joint solutions taken up / uptake after project implementation. For projects not having pilot actions (P2P actions), it is assumed that 80% of organisations will continue to cooperate after project closure. The contribution of each PO and ISO 1 to this indicator will be proportional with the allocated budget, the expected number of projects, and the average number of partners, in line with the calculation method described in the following sections of the methodology.
11.	Data collection	Programme monitoring system / Survey
12.	Time measurement achieved	During project implementation / Up to one year after project completion
13.	Aggregation issues	At programme level, double counting should be avoided at the level of project partners and associated organizations.
14.	Reporting	Reporting by specific objective. Forecast for selected projects and achieved values, both cumulative to date (CPR Annex VII, Table 3).
15.	References	
16.	Corresponding corporate indicator	Not applicable

17.	Notes	In terms of links with common output indicator, the value reported for RCR 84 will be lower to the value of RCO 87, as the requirement to establish a formal cooperation framework for further actions will be compulsory only for pilot actions. However, all projects will be required to explain the extent to which their cooperation will be sustainable after project closure.
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Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1.	Indicator code	RCR104
2.	Indicator name	Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations
2b	Indicator code and short name (open data name)	RCR104 Interreg: Solutions taken up or up-scaled
3.	Measurement unit	Solutions
4.	Type of indicator	Result
5.	Baseline	0
6.	Milestone 2024	0
7.	Target 2029	64
8.	Policy objective	PO 2: 26 PO 4: 36 ISO 1: 2
9.	Specific objective	All, when relevant
10.	Definition and concepts	The indicator counts the number of solutions, other than legal or administrative solutions, that are developed by supported projects and are taken up or upscaled during the implementation of the project or within one year after project completion. The organisation adopting the solutions developed by the project may or may not be a participant in the project. The uptake / up-scaling should be documented by the adopting organisations in, for instance, strategies, action plans, MoU, protocols, agreements, decisions of the management board / representative etc. The contribution of each PO and ISO 1 to this indicator will be proportional with the allocated budget and expected number of projects, in line with the calculation method described in the following sections of the methodology.
11.	Data collection	MA monitoring system / survey
12.	Time measurement achieved	During project implementation / up to one year after project completion
13.	Aggregation issues	Exclude overlap with RCO117. Aggregation at the level of specific objective.
14.	Reporting	Reporting by specific objective. Forecast for selected projects and achieved values, both cumulative to date (CPR Annex VII, Table 3).
15.	References	
16.	Corresponding corporate indicator	Not applicable
17.	Notes	RCR104 will be used together with RCO116 and RCO84.

4. Overview on the performance framework

4.1. General criteria

The performance framework has been defined based of the following general criteria:

- **The estimation of projects under implementation by 2024 and related indicative outputs that can be attained for mid-term progress review.** The estimation of projects under implementation by 2024 has been done based on the allocated budget and the indicative timeline of Programme launch and related management procedures (calls for strategic / normal / small scale projects) agreed with Programme structures. From this estimation it emerges that no project will be finalised by 2024, so that the milestones for 2024 shall be set at zero for all output indicators. However, for RCO 84, RCO 87 and RCO 116 it will be possible to transmit data on forecasted values by 31st January 2025, based on the selected / contracted projects. In this respect, considering the timing for launching the first call for proposals for normal projects (1st quarter of 2023) and strategic projects (4th quarter 2022) and realising the projects' evaluation and selection procedures (2nd and 3rd quarter of 2023 for normal projects and end 2024 for strategic projects), it is reasonable to estimate that by 2024 30% of projects will be contracted or at least selected.
- **Results indicators, are considered only for targets to 2029**, taking into account the timing for launching the calls for proposals, contracting and implementing projects (with an indicative minimum duration of 18-24 months and an indicative duration of 36 months for OSI), which means that realistically there will be no finalised projects (consequently no finalised investments / finalised pilot actions / solutions developed, with tangible results obtained) by 2024. Additionally, the estimated target for 2029 has been established based on the estimated number and coverage of projects, taking into account the allocated budget / SO, historic data from the previous programme and the outcomes of the consultation held with potential beneficiaries on the intervention logics (including questions related to specific measures, number of partners, expected results and indicative budget).
- The factors that may influence the achievement of targets have been taken into account in the intervention logics and in the future management procedures and guidelines. In particular, in order to limit the incidence of these factors, **specific awareness raising and consultation activities** will be organised before and after the programme approval, **and specific requirements will be introduced in the calls for proposals**, concerning: the definition and rationale of programme indicators; the minimum / maximum project budget; specific activities planned and their “framework timing and methodology”, as well as the follow up and sustainability of cooperation; all possible measures to reduce the administrative burden on potential applicants and programme structures will be also taken and integrated in the operational strategy of the programme (i.e. avoiding two steps procedure for projects' selection), based on lessons learnt.

4.2. Indicative timeline for Programme management

An indicative timeline for Programme management processes is presented in the table below:

Step	2022	2023	2024*	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Programme approval by the EC	3 rd quarter							
Launching the call for strategic projects	4 th quarter							
Evaluation and contracting strategic projects			4 th quarter					
Strategic projects' implementation			Output forecast: 30%			Majority of OSI ending		100% all indicators
Launching calls for proposals (1 st call)		1 st quarter						
Evaluation and contracting normal projects / P2P (1 st call)		2 nd – 3 rd quarter						
Implementation of normal projects / P2P (1 st call)		4 th quarter	Output forecast: 30%	1 st round of normal and P2P projects ending				100% all indicators
Launching calls for proposals (2 nd call)				4 th quarter				
Evaluation and contracting normal / P2P projects (2 nd call)					2 nd quarter			
Implementation of normal projects / P2P (2 nd call)							2 nd round of normal and P2P projects ending	100% all indicators

* target set to zero because projects will not be finalised. However, it is anticipated that 30% of projects will be selected / contracted by 31st January 2025 data transmission.

4.3. Methodology for selected output indicators related to 2024 milestones

Selected output indicators	Policy objective	Criteria applied for the selection	Data or evidence, quality assurance and calculation method	Factors that may influence the attainment of 2024 milestones	Strategy to deal with factors that may influence the attainment of 2024 milestones
<p>RCO 84 Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects</p> <p>RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders</p> <p>RCO 116 Jointly developed solutions</p>	<p>PO 2 PO 4 ISO 1</p>	<p><i>No output indicator has been selected to be considered for 2024 target, as milestone.</i></p> <p>The milestone for 2024 has been set to zero, considering the estimated calendar for the programme implementation, as it is estimated that no project will be finalised by 2024. However, for RCO 84, RCO 87 and RCO 116 it will be possible to transmit data on forecasted values by 31st January 2025, based on the selected / contracted projects.</p>	<p>Taking into account the timing for launching the first call for proposals (1st quarter of 2023) and realising the projects' evaluation and selection procedures (2nd and 3rd quarter of 2023), it is reasonable to estimate that by 2024 30% of projects will be contracted or at least selected.</p> <p>Considering all the above, the milestones set for these indicators to zero, look realistic.</p>	<p>Delays in launching the calls for proposals</p> <p>Delays in projects' contracting</p>	<p>As concerns possible delays in launching the calls for proposals: the programme structures have started to prepare the guidelines for applicants during the programming phase. All critical issues, such as the use of SCOs, state aid rules and other topics that may encompass negotiations and consultations at MS level or with third parties are being assessed in due time. Additionally, the programme will avoid two steps' procedure for strategic projects' selection, in order to avoid delays and administrative burden on both programme structures and potential applicants. As concerns, possible delays in the contracting phase: the programme indicative calendar for launching calls for proposals takes in due account the need to speed up the process. Additionally, all possible measures to reduce the administrative burden on potential applicants will be taken by the programme structures, being included in the guidelines for applicants.</p>

4.4. Methodology for selected output and results indicators related to 2029 targets

4.4.1. Methodology for Output indicators 2029 targets

Selected output indicators	Policy objective	Criteria applied for the selection	Data or evidence, quality assurance and calculation method	Factors that may influence the attainment of targets	Strategy to deal with factors that may influence the attainment of 2029 targets
RCO84 Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects	PO 2 PO 4 ISO 1	<p>Pilot actions have a strong demonstrative value and a potential leverage effect on other organisations, sectors and territories. The programme area needs to innovate the way cooperation is planned and put into practice, going beyond the current state of the art, piloting new joint solutions, properly monitored and evaluated at the end of the intervention. Indicator RCO84 thus perfectly represents the expected changes on cooperation patterns, which are able to generate a strong cooperation added value.</p> <p>Additionally, the indicator covers a wide range of actions that can be implemented jointly, which allows to avoid the hyper-fragmentation of the performance framework, whilst</p>	<p>The indicator is based on the estimated number of contracted projects, deriving from indicative schedule of programme implementation and budget allocation. It is assumed that a single pilot action, in the field of intervention of the specific objective, will be prepared for each project selecting this indicator. The 2029 target was thus quantified considering the estimated number of projects for each SO, weighted with the results of the survey among potential beneficiaries. ¹</p> <p>Considering all the above, the target set for this indicator by 2029 looks reliable and realistic.</p>	<p>Delays in the evaluation of results, which is a crucial part of any pilot action.</p> <p>Delays in the realisation of investments, where foreseen, under pilot actions.</p>	<p>The guidelines for applicants will include detailed guidance on the development of pilot actions, including as concerns M&E activities, whilst the linkage established between pilot actions and jointly developed solutions is meant to facilitate the delivery of innovative actions. Great part of the allocated budget will be launched through the call that will be opened in the first year after the programme approval, in order to speed up the absorption of funds, with an eye on facilitating the delivery of most complex pilot actions with possible investment budgets.</p>

¹ See the table on chapter 3.5.

Selected output indicators	Policy objective	Criteria applied for the selection	Data or evidence, quality assurance and calculation method	Factors that may influence the attainment of targets	Strategy to deal with factors that may influence the attainment of 2029 targets
		ensuring a more focussed approach on the cross-cutting expected change, notably the jointly development of new forms of cooperation.			
RCO116 Jointly developed solutions	PO 2 PO 4 ISO 1	<p>Closely linked to RCO84, RCO116 entails a strong EU added value, reflecting a concrete impact on cooperation based on novel approaches to tackle common problems or to valorise common resources.</p> <p>More in detail, the criteria can be described as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>The relevance for programme intervention logics</u>, as the programme strategy puts great accent on the need to improve cooperation patterns, through evidence-based joint solutions and strategies; 2. The <u>stakeholders' interest</u> in the realisation of joint actions that may lead to system change, as expressed under several consultations (including the last online survey) realised during the programming exercise. 	<p>The indicator is based on the estimated number of contracted projects, deriving from the indicative schedule of programme implementation and budget allocation. It is assumed that a single joint developed solution, in the field of intervention of the specific objective, will be prepared for each project selecting this indicator.</p> <p>The target for 2029 was established considering the estimated number of projects with pilot actions for each SO, taking into account that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the guidelines for applicants will establish some requirements related to the jointly developed solution (i.e. these will be compulsory for pilot actions, as the solutions will directly derive from the pilot); - potential beneficiaries have expressed their interest in developing new solutions to tackle a common need, possibly leading to a system change, under the last survey (on average for all SO more than 60% of respondents, which allows us to have the ambition to forecast that 55% of total projects will be pilot actions). 	The concept of “joint solution” may be not well understood or misunderstood by potential applicants	<p>The development of joint solutions will be a requirement included in the guidelines for applicants for all pilot actions. The guidelines for applicants will include details on the concept of joint solution and its operationalisation.</p> <p>In addition to the consultations held during the programming exercise (which have already boosted stakeholders' awareness on the importance of joint strategic planning, innovation and scaling up, for sustainable cooperation), consultations and info days before the launch of the calls will ensure early buy in and proper knowledge of potential applicants as concerns the programme intervention logics.</p> <p>In particular, the message to be shared will focus on the cross-cutting expected change related to increased lost-lasting cooperation and added value of the cross-border approach, to be necessarily reflected in the projects' logical framework and expected results.</p>

Selected output indicators	Policy objective	Criteria applied for the selection	Data or evidence, quality assurance and calculation method	Factors that may influence the attainment of targets	Strategy to deal with factors that may influence the attainment of 2029 targets
			Considering all these criteria, the target set for this indicator by 2029 looks reliable and realistic.		
RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	PO 2 PO 4 ISO 1	Case studies included in the programme evaluation report suggest that partnership is a key issue to ensure smooth and successful project implementation, whilst long-lasting partnerships are the milestones of cooperation. As programme strategy to boost cooperation, the minimum value of normal projects established at 500,000 euro (excluding people-to-people actions). is expected to generate larger partnerships, which will be needed to cover the co-funding conditions The overall purpose of this measure is to extend the coverage of the Interreg projects, to promote wider impacts and to facilitate the structured cooperation between different actors across the border. On the other hand, the outreach of the programme will be boosted through higher allocation to small-scale projects as key feature of the programme strategy. In this context, indicator RCO 87, in its simplicity, fully reflects the cornerstone of cooperation programmes, notably institutional networking, mutual learning, in one word: partnership.	Under the Interreg Programme 2014-2020, 75% of projects have less than 3 partners, amounting to an average 3.16 partners / project for similar interventions. However, this average does not reflect the double counting of the organisations involved: on average, the same organisation has 1.28 projects under implementation, whilst an organisation may be partner in 1.24 operations. If we adjust the average 3.16 with a 1,26 coefficient, we have an average 2.5 partners / project. These considerations justify the approach to the calculation method for this indicator, ranging from 2.4 to 2, the lower coefficient being applied to the specific objectives where local public administrations use to submit as leaders and to be partners in more than one project (mainly under PO 4) or to ISO 1 where the incidence of people-to-people operations is higher and these are traditionally characterised by lower budgets and a lower number of partners.	Low capacity of potential beneficiaries to develop and manage wide cross-border partnerships.	Before Programme launch, a series of awareness raising, information and dissemination activities will be organised, addressed to the wider possible audience of potential beneficiaries under both strategic and “normal projects”, in view to facilitate networking activities, including through dedicated “partner search” engine on the Programme website. In this way, the programming phase will pave the way to the obtainment of key performance indicators. People-to-people actions will contribute to build local capacities to cooperate, also among potential applicants with lower capacities / experience, whilst increasing the outreach of the programme. On the other hand, normal and, especially, strategic projects will be required to be built on high complementarities among partners, deriving from legal / policy attributions and / or capitalising previous experiences, in order to consolidate cooperation patterns. In any case, it shall be underlined that the proposed methodology is highly realistic and reliable, as it takes into

Selected output indicators	Policy objective	Criteria applied for the selection	Data or evidence, quality assurance and calculation method	Factors that may influence the attainment of targets	Strategy to deal with factors that may influence the attainment of 2029 targets
			Considering all the above, the target set for this indicator by 2029 looks reliable and realistic.		account both the need to avoid double counting and the need to consider possible difficulties (and even resistances) met by stakeholders in the construction of wide partnerships.

4.4.2. Methodology for Result indicators 2029 targets

Selected result indicators	Specific objective	Criteria applied for the selection	Data or evidence, quality assurance and calculation method	Factors that may influence the attainment of targets	Strategy to deal with factors that may influence the attainment of 2029 targets
RCR104 Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations	PO 2 PO 4 ISO 1	The analysis realised during the programming exercise has shown that there is the need to improve the quality of cooperation, through concrete and sustainable solutions developed jointly and owned by stakeholders. This can be achieved through joint strategies / action plans / long-term institutional cooperation agreements / protocols, founded on the ownership of results from the pilot action implemented jointly and related solution developed. Indicator RCR104 reflects this goal, whilst ensuring that cooperation can be further sustained in the future by partner organisations and other stakeholders eventually involved in the taken up or up-scaling of proposed solutions.	It is assumed that pilot actions (both soft type and investment type of actions) will bring to at least one solution taken up or up-scaled, which valorise the outcomes of the experimentation, ensuring the follow up of the pilot action and / or its transfer to other sectors / organisations / territories. The source of verification will be the programme monitoring system and programme beneficiaries (during or by 1 year from project closure). Considering all the above, the target set for this indicator by 2029 looks reliable and realistic.	Lack of agreement among partners / organisations outside the initial partnership	All joint solutions underlying pilot actions shall include a communication plan and a vision on the sustainability of the action . This shall also encompass the continuity, transferability, replicability and “taking up” or scaling up of the jointly developed solutions by both initial partners and external organisations, taking into account the outcomes of the pilot. In this respect, the proper monitoring and evaluation of the pilot action will facilitate the definition of an evidence-based follow up of the joint action, which can be easily owned by project partners.
RCR84 Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion	PO 2 PO 4 ISO 1	The sustainability of cooperation is also reflected in the continuity of the partnerships created for the purpose of implementing joint actions together in the cross-border area. In this respect, indicator RCR84 implies the existence of cooperation protocols / agreements	It is assumed that all organisations cooperating within joint pilot actions will continue to cooperate after project completion, as required to take up / up-scale the jointly developed solutions deriving from the pilot.	Lack of sources for future cooperation initiatives	The beneficiaries will be required to describe the pilot action and developed solutions’ sustainability in their application, as integral part of their proposal to improve institutional cooperation and ensure the project follow up.

Selected result indicators	Specific objective	Criteria applied for the selection	Data or evidence, quality assurance and calculation method	Factors that may influence the attainment of targets	Strategy to deal with factors that may influence the attainment of 2029 targets
		/ understanding between project partners and / or other organisations, in view to continue cooperation after project closure.	The source of verification will be the programme monitoring system and programme beneficiaries.		Additionally, fundraising and project generation will be integral part of the joint action funded under any specific objective.

4.5. Indicative performance framework

indicative allocation	Policy Objective / specific objective	Share on total	Type of calls				2024		2029			
			Strategic projects	Normal calls / P2P	Joint solutions	Pilot actions	Output Indicators	Milestones	Output indicators	Targets	Result Indicators	Targets
46.448.167	PO 2	33%										
11.260.162	RSO 2.4 Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and disaster resilience	8,0%	64%	29%	100%	100%						
10.523.516	ERDF for projects											
7.210.691	1 strategic project						RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	0	RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	5	RCR104 Interreg: Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations	5
3.312.825	normal projects - total allocation 3.3 mill. euro - min 500 th. euro max 2 mill. euro (max 6, min 2 projects, 4 on average)						RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	0	RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	12	RCR84 Interreg: Organisations cooperating post-project	12
736.646	ERDF for TA						RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	0	RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	5		
5,00	total envisaged projects											
2,40	average number of partners											
19.705.283	RSO 2.2 Promoting renewable energy	14,0%	73%	20%	100%	100%						
18.416.152	ERDF for projects											
14.421.381	2 strategic projects						RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	0	RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	7	RCR104 Interreg: Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations	7
3.994.771,08	normal projects - total allocation 4 mill euro - min 500 th. euro max 2 mill. euro (max 8 projects, min 2 = 5 on average)						RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	0	RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	17	RCR84 Interreg: Organisations cooperating post-project	17
1.289.131	ERDF for TA						RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	0	RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	7		
7,00	total number of envisaged projects											
2,40	average number of partners											
15.482.722	RSO 2.7 Enhancing nature protection and biodiversity, green infrastructure in particular in the urban environment, and reducing pollution	11,0%	0%	93%	80%	80%						
14.469.834	ERDF for projects											
14.469.833,84	normal projects - total allocation 14.47 mil euro - min 500.000 euro max 2 mill euro (7-29 projects, 18 on average)						RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	0	RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	14	RCR104 Interreg: Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations	14
1.012.888	ERDF for TA						RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	0	RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	36	RCR84 Interreg: Organisations cooperating post-project	29
							RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	0	RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	14		
18,00	total number of envisaged projects											
2,00	average number of partners											

indicative allocation	Policy Objective / specific objective	Share on total	Type of calls				2024		2029			
			Strategic projects	Normal calls / P2P	Joint solutions	Pilot actions	Output Indicators	Milestones	Output indicators	Targets	Result Indicators	Targets
78.821.131	PO 4	56%										
39.410.566	RSO 4.5 Ensuring equal access to health care through developing infrastructure, including primary care	28%	55%	39%	80%	80%						
36.832.304	ERDF for projects											
21.631.741,98	3 strategic projects						RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	0	RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	18	RCR104 Interreg: Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations	18
15.200.562,32	normal projects - total allocation 15.2 mil euro - min 500.000 euro max 2 mill euro (8-30 projects, 19 on average)						RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	0	RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	44	RCR84 Interreg: Organisations cooperating post-project	35
2.578.261	ERDF for TA						RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	0	RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	18		
22,00	total number of envisaged projects											
2,00	average number of partners											
39.410.566	RSO 4.6 Enhancing the role of culture and sustainable tourism in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation	28%	54%	39%	80%	80%						
36.832.304	ERDF for projects											
21.343.643,99	3 strategic projects						RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	0	RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	18	RCR104 Interreg: Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations	18
15.488.660,31	normal projects - total allocation 15.489 th. euro - min 500.000 euro max 2 mill euro (8-30 projects, 19 on average)						RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	0	RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	44	RCR84 Interreg: Organisations cooperating post-project	35
2.578.261	ERDF for TA						RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	0	RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	18		
22,00	total number of envisaged projects											
2,00	average number of partners											
15.482.722	ISO 1	11%	37%	56%	6%	6%						
14.469.834	ERDF for projects											
5.768.552	2 strategic projects						RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	0	RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	2	RCR104 Interreg: Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations	2
8.701.281	people to people projects with indicative budget of 230.000 euro = total 38 projects						RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	0	RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	80	RCR84 Interreg: Organisations cooperating post-project	64
1.012.888	ERDF for TA						RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	0	RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	2		
40,00	total number of envisaged projects											
2,00	average number of partners											

Total targets 2029

RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	64	RCR104 Interreg: Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations	64
RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	233	RCR84 Interreg: Organisations cooperating post-project	192
RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	64		

Estimated forecast on selected / contracted projects, for data to be transmitted by 31.01.2025

RCO116 Interreg: Jointly developed solutions	19
RCO87 Interreg: Organisations cooperating across borders	70
RCO84 Interreg: Pilot actions developed and implemented jointly	19

5. Annexes

5.1. Report on the survey on potential beneficiaries held in August-September 2021

Attached separately

5.2. Analysis of financial allocations' scenario, based on consultations and lessons learnt

Attached separately