



**ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT
2020**

Cooperation Programme
Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia
for the programme period 2014–2020
May 2020

CONTENT:

1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL/FINAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT.....	1
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) 1	
3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRIORITY AXIS (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)	3
3.1 Overview of the implementation	3
3.2 Common and programme specific indicators (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013) 5	
3.3 Milestones and targets defined in the performance framework (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013) – submitted in annual implementation reports from 2017 onwards	15
3.4 Financial data (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)	18
4. SYNTHESIS OF THE EVALUATIONS (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013) ..	21
5. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND MEASURES TAKEN (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013).....	21
6. CITIZEN'S SUMMARY (Article 50(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)	22
7. REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Article 46 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013).....	22
8. WHERE APPROPRIATE, 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)	23
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).....	26
9.1 Information in Part A and achieving the objectives of the programme (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)	26
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).....	26
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)	26
9.4 Reporting on support used for climate change objectives (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013).....	27
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)	27
10. OBLIGATORY INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT ACCORDING TO ARTICLE 14(4), Subparagraph 1 (a) and (b), of REGULATION (EU) No 1299/2013	27
10.1 Progress in implementation of the evaluation plan and the follow-up given to the findings of evaluations.....	27
10.2 The results of the information and publicity measures of the Funds carried out under the communication strategy	27

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) 27

11.1 Progress in implementation of the integrated approach to territorial development, including sustainable urban development, and community-led local development under the cooperation programme 27

11.2 Progress in implementation of actions to reinforce the capacity of authorities and beneficiaries to administer and to use the ERDF 28

11.3 Contribution to macro-regional and sea basin strategies (where appropriate) 28

11.4 Progress in the implementation of actions in the field of social innovation 29

12. Financial information at priority axis and programme level (Articles 21(2) and 22(7) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013) 30

13. SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH 31

14. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND MEASURES TAKEN – PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013) 31

PART A - DATA REQUIRED EVERY YEAR ("LIGHT REPORTS") (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL/FINAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

CCI	2014TC16RFCB029
Title	Cooperation programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia
Version	1.0
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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.

This is the sixth Annual Implementation Report (AIR) for the Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia for the programming period 2014-2020. It reports on the progress achieved under the CP in implementing the programme during the calendar year 2020.

The report was prepared by the Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy acting as the Managing Authority (MA) of the programme in cooperation with the Joint Secretariat (JS) and programme partners. The Monitoring Committee (MC) discussed and approved the Annual Implementation Report 2020 at the 11th MC meeting held on 20 May 2021 (on-line due to the COVID-19 situation).

All programme structures and both Member States, Slovenia and Croatia, were very much involved in the implementation of the Cooperation Programme in the year 2020.

The year 2020 was a very challenging year, but nevertheless all programme structures were doing their best to cope with the challenges and were especially intensively working on the activities related to the implementation of approved strategic FRISCO projects and approved projects within the 1st, 2nd and 3rd deadline of the Open Call. Furthermore, due to COVID-19 situation special COVID-19 Guidance for projects and First Level Controls (FLC) has been prepared and published on the Programme website, the Annual Implementation Report 2019 was submitted to the EC in June 2020 and was accepted by the EC.

In 2020 the delays in the verification of partner reports by FLCs were diminished and consequently also the spending on the programme level made a big leap in 2020 which resulted in a long list of Applications for Payments submitted by the programme to the EC.

The MA and JS met once with the programme partners (National Authorities (NAs), Certifying Authority (CA), First Level Control (FLC)) at the Bilateral technical meeting (BTM) on 8th May 2020 to discuss the topics related to programme implementation. Due to the COVID-19 situation the meeting was organised on-line.

Due to the COVID-19 situation the MC members were not able to meet at the MC meeting in 2020. The 10th MC meeting was organised on 26 January 2021 (on-line).

By the end of 2020 citizens in the involved regions are benefiting from the following concrete **results of fully implemented activities** covering programme indicators:

- Joint tools, models and maps for flood risk management were developed for six transboundary river basins within FRISCO 1 project and flood risk reduction measures were implemented. Within FRISCO2.1 project including the modernization and upgrading of the Vonarje Dam. This is a key structural flood risk reduction element in the Sutla/Sotla river basin. With the completion of all FRISCO projects more than 1600 people are planned to benefit from flood protection measures, 20 people will gain increased professional capacity due to their participation in cross-border activities in transboundary flood risk and river basin management and in 4 transboundary river basins flood risk reduction measures will be implemented. By the end of 2020 works have started on all 4 transboundary river basins and flood risk reduction measures were implemented on 1 transboundary river basin.
- From the approved projects within PA2 the achieved value of increased number of visits to cultural or natural heritage sites was 734,310. By the end of 2020 projects were performed 44 small scale investments in visitor infrastructure and preservation of natural and cultural heritage, 42 new or improved cross-border sustainable products were developed and 14,377 persons participated in capacity building activities.
- 152.77 ha of surface area of habitats attained a better conservation status and 286 persons gained improved practical skills and competences for the implementation of biodiversity protection measures and valorisation of ecosystem services by the end of 2020.
- Within PA3 73 institutions participated in new cross-border structures and 1,942 persons gained improved skills and competences in CB service delivery by the end of 2020.

Audit of the projects

In 2020 the Group of Auditors (GoA) performed audits of 4 projects (ČIGRA, EMERGENCY EuroRegion, FRISCO 2.1, MISTERION) where no major irregularities were found. The irregularities were individual cases and not of systemic nature and all financial corrections have been made for the found irregularities.

Information and publicity measures

In line with the Communication strategy one major annual event of the programme was carried out on 17 September 2020 in the frame of the European Cooperation Day 2020 which was organized together with the project VEZI NARAVE/VEZE PRIRODE, and was due to the COVID-19 pandemic organized as two separated events with limited number of participants, one in Slovenia in Nimno by Rogaška Slatina and the other one in Risvica near Kumrovec in Croatia.

In 2020, to celebrate the "Interreg 30 Years" anniversary, Interact has organised a Project Slam promoting innovative communication approaches to Interreg results, the themes for 2020 were Neighbour cohesion, Youth cooperation and Green connections. Among more than 150 EU projects also 13 projects from our Programme participated and the project HITRO ranked among the top 8

in its category “We all have a neighbour” and finally took 3rd place with the final TED Talk video. Project Carnivora Dinarica has also been recognized as one of the best examples of cross-border cooperation in the green category and participated in the EC virtual exhibition. Furthermore, also the project Mala barka 2 has taken the award for the best EU project of Croatian counties in the category of cross-border cooperation. In December 2020 another two of our project Misterion and CrossCare were selected for the European Union Campaign - Stories from the Regions.

In the frame of the programme's website 29 news on activities, events and relevant information were published in 2020 (19 programme news and 10 project news). The section within the programme website where the news on project activities and results are published was also updated with project news throughout the year.

Reimbursement of funds

By the end of 2020 38 Subsidy contracts (without TA projects) were signed in the amount of 43.068.037,56 EUR ERDF funds, which represents 99,9 % of the funds available for projects. Including the 6 Technical Assistance (TA) projects (altogether 44 projects) the programme has committed 99,9 % of all available funds.

In relation to the financial data total eligible expenditure incurred by beneficiaries and certified to the Commission by the end of 2020 amounts to 33.423.599,35 EUR.

By the end of 2020 26 projects fully implemented their activities and for 14 projects final reports were submitted and checked by the end of 2020 therefore in relation to the indicator data the progress can be mostly measured on the level of selected projects (see table 2).

3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRIORITY AXIS (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

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
A.1	1. Integrated flood risk management in transboundary river basins	<p>By the end of 2020 4 projects were approved altogether, implementing project activities in the amount of 10.026.555,11 EUR ERDF which represents 100% of available funds within the priority axis (PA) 1.</p> <p>By the end of 2020 FRISCO1 project fully implemented its activities delivering the following main outputs: a set of joint models, maps and tools for each of the six target transboundary river basins (Kupa/Kolpa, Sutla/Sotla, Drava, Mura, Dragonja and Bregana) with associated design documentation for optimal structural measures for four river basins (excluding Dragonja and Bregana), improved physical alert systems and outputs of awareness raising/capacity building activities.</p> <p>By the end of 2020 also the first strategic project implementing the structural flood risk reduction measures FRISCO2.1 fully implemented its activities with modernization and upgrading of the Vonarje Dam, which is a key structural flood risk reduction</p>

		<p>element in the Sutla/Sotla river basin. The main project output directly reduces the share of transboundary river basins under flood risk.</p> <p>With the completion of all FRISCO projects more than 1600 people are planned to benefit from flood protection measures, 20 people will gain increased professional capacity due to their participation in cross-border activities in transboundary flood risk and river basin management. 4 transboundary river basins will have pilot structural flood risk reduction measures implemented. By the end of 2020 works have started on all 4 transboundary river basins. Flood risk reduction measures were fully implemented on 1 transboundary river basin.</p>
A.2	2. Preservation and sustainable use of natural and cultural resources	<p>Within the Open Call 26 projects were contracted and in implementation in the amount of 28.045.826,82 EUR ERDF (99,9 % of available funds) by the end of 2020. Altogether 22 projects are within the Investment priority 6c which shows very high interest of projects in conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage and 4 projects within the Investment priority 6d dealing with protecting and restoring biodiversity.</p> <p>Within the Investment priority 6c 15 projects were fully implemented activities by the end of 2020. The achieved value of increased number of visits to cultural or natural heritage sites was 734,310, 44 small scale investments in visitor infrastructure and preservation of natural and cultural heritage were performed, 42 new or improved cross-border sustainable products were developed and 14,377 persons participated in capacity building activities by the end of 2020.</p> <p>Regarding the Investment priority 6d 2 projects were fully implemented activities by the end of 2020. By the end of 2020 152.77 ha of surface area of habitats attained a better conservation status and 286 persons gained improved practical skills and competences for the implementation of biodiversity protection measures and valorisation of ecosystem services.</p> <p>At this stage no significant problems have been identified in the implementation of PA 2.</p>
A.3	3. Healthy, safe and accessible border areas	<p>Within the Open Call 8 projects were contracted in the amount of 4.995.655,63 EUR ERDF (99,9 % of available funds) by the end of 2020. Three projects were administratively concluded by the end of 2020.</p> <p>By the end of 2020 73 institutions participated in new cross-border structures and 1.942 persons gained improved skills and competences in CB service delivery.</p> <p>At this stage no significant problems have been identified in the implementation of PA 3.</p>
A.4	4. Technical assistance	<p>The allocation of the TA funds aims at ensuring efficient and smooth implementation of the cooperation programme and at a proficient operation of all bodies which are needed for the frictionless and successful programme implementation, e.g. MA, JS, FLC in Slovenia and Croatia, CA, Audit Authority (AA) in Slovenia/Audit Body in Croatia (AB), NA in Slovenia and NA in</p>

Croatia. The TA is divided into 6 projects and the total ERDF amount for all TA projects is 3.000.000 EUR.

In 2020 the following activities were implemented within the TA projects:

- implementation, management and monitoring of the programme,
- on 17 September 2020 in the frame of the European Cooperation Day 2020 two separated events were organised, one in Slovenia in Nimno by Rogaška Slatina and the other one in Risvica near Kumrovec in Croatia,
- one BTM meeting was organised, namely on 8 May 2020 (on-line), to discuss topics related to the programme implementation,
- advising/supporting the LPs/PPs of the implementing projects and checking the LPs progress reports,
- site visits for the approved projects were carried out according to the Site visit plan for 2020,
- preparation of written procedures for the MC,
- preparation or update of programme documents,
- special COVID-19 Guidance for projects and First Level Controls (FLC) were prepared and published,
- one meeting of the Programming task force group for the programming of the Interreg Programme Slovenia-Croatia 2021-2027 was organised on 25 February 2020,
- programme website has been updated with news, information on programme and project implementation, etc.

At this stage, no significant problems have been identified in the implementation of PA 4.

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

Data for common and programme-specific indicators by investment priority are transmitted using the tables 1 to 2 below.

TABLE 1: Result indicators (by priority axis and specific objective); applies also to technical assistance priority axis

Automatic from SFC						ANNUAL VALUE										
ID	Indicator	Measurement Unit	Baseline Value	Baseline Year	Target Value (2023)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Observations (if necessary)
5bRI	Share of targeted transboundary river basins area under flood risk	%	6,47%	2014	5%	6,47%	6,47%	6,47%	6,47%	6,47%	6,47%	5,89%				Included all completed measures by the end of 2020
6cRI	Visitors to cultural and natural heritage sites in the programme area	Number	4,911,583	2013	5,750,000	4,911,583	4,911,583	4,911,583	4,911,583	5,919,310	5,919,310	/				In Slovenia and Croatia only data at the level of the country are available for the no. of visitors in museums and galleries due to the changed methodology (in addition no data available for Slovenia for 2020)
6dRI1	Average degree of conservation status of habitat types and species of Natura 2000 sites in	Number	Species CS: 2,050	2014	Species CS: 2,052	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,038				Changes were made in Natura 2000 in SI in 2016 and in CRO in 2015 and 2019 (some species

TABLE 2: Common and programme specific output indicators (by priority axis, investment priority); applies also to technical assistance priority axes).

S – Selected operations F – Fully implemented operations*	ID	Indicator (<i>name of indicator</i>)	Measurement unit	Target value (2023)	CUMULATIVE VALUE										Observations (if necessary)
					2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
S	CO20	Population benefiting from flood protection measures	Persons	1500	0	0	0	953	1609	1609	1609				The target value set in the CP is already reached (plan in the selected projects).
F															
S	5b-1	Transboundary river basins with joint tools, models and maps for flood risk management developed	Number	6	0	0	6	6	6	6	6				The target value set in the CP is already reached (plan in the selected projects).
F															
S	5b-2	Transboundary river basins with pilot structural flood risk reduction measures implemented	Number	4	0	0	0	1	4	4	4				The target value set in the CP is already reached (plan in the selected projects).
F										1					
S	5b-3	People with increased professional capacity due to their participation in cross-border activities in transboundary flood risk	Number	20	0	0	20	20	20	20	20				The target value set in the CP is already reached (plan in the selected projects).

F		and river basin management												
S	CO09	Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural or natural heritage and attractions	visits/year	50,000	0	0	62,800	203,300	289,732	289,732	734,310			<i>The target value set in the CP is already reached and exceeded due to the high expected number of visits (plan in the selected projects).</i>
F										12,932	734,310			<i>Achieved value in 15 fully implemented activities</i>
S	6c-1	Small scale investments in visitor infrastructure and preservation of natural and cultural heritage	Number	15	0	0	17	45	69	69	73			<i>The target value set in the CP is already reached and exceeded (plan in the selected projects).</i>
F										6	44			<i>Achieved value in 15 fully implemented activities</i>
S	6c-2	New or improved cross-border sustainable tourism products and destinations integrating natural or cultural heritage	Number	20	0	0	13	40	62	62	62			<i>The target value set in the CP is already reached and exceeded (plan in the selected projects).</i>
F										1	42			<i>Achieved value in 15 fully</i>

		competences in CB service delivery														number of persons with improved skills and competences (plan in the selected projects).
F									380	635	1,942					Achieved value in 7 fully implemented activities
S					0	0	0	0	44	44	44					Number of selected projects
F	TA-1	Joint CB projects implemented and concluded	Number	57					1	3	13					No of implemented and concluded projects in 2020 (26 projects implemented the activities and 13 projects were concluded – final Progress report submitted and checked and funds certified in 2020).
S	TA-2	Joint CB informational and publicity events	Number	10	0	5	7	10	11	13	14					
F																
S	TA-3		FTE (Full Time Equivalent)	12	0	4,8	11,67	11,67	13,99	13,99	13,99					

F		Employees whose salaries are co-financed by the technical assistance													
S	TA-4	e-Monitoring System established	Number	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1				
F															
S	TA-5	First level controllers established	Number	2	0	0	2	2	2	2	2				
F															
S	TA-6	Programme evaluation plan prepared and approved by Monitoring Committee (MC)	Number	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1				
F															
S	TA-7	Programme communication plan prepared and approved by MC	Number	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1				
F															
S	TA-8	Guiding document addressed to applicants and beneficiaries	Number	1	0	0	2	2	2	2	2				
F															
S	TA-9	Information, consultation and training measures for applicants and beneficiaries	Number	8	0	0	5	8	11	12	13				
F															

* **S** - Selected operations [forecast provided by beneficiaries]

F - Fully implemented operations [actual achievement]

3.3 Milestones and targets defined in the performance framework (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013) – submitted in annual implementation reports from 2017 onwards

Reporting on financial indicators, key implementation steps, output and result indicators to act as milestones and targets for the performance framework (submitted starting with the report in 2017).

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

Priority Axis	Indicator Type	ID	Indicator or key implementation step	Measurement unit, where appropriate	Mile-stone for 2018	Final target (2023)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Observations (if necessary)
1	Financial	5bFI	Payments: certified total amount of eligible expenditure	EUR	1,720,000 EUR	11,795,950 EUR	0	0	0	138,736.47	1,693,779.95	2,455,575.94	7,245,766.38				Total eligible expenditure certified to the Commission by the end of 2020 is stated.
1	Output	5b-2	Transboundary river basins with pilot structural flood risk reduction measures implemented	Number	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	1				Within the approved projects FRISCO2.1, FRISCO 2.2 and FRISCO 2.3 there are 4 river basins with pilot structural flood risk reduction measures in implementation. By the end of 2020 flood risk reduction measures were implemented on 1 transboundary river basin.
1	Key implementation step	5bK1	Transboundary river basins where works have started	Number	1	4	0	0	0	0	2	3	4				Within the approved projects FRISCO2.1, FRISCO 2.2 and FRISCO 2.3 works have started on all 4 river basins by the end of 2020.

2	Financial	6FI	Payments: certified total amount of eligible expenditure	EUR	3,963,439 EUR	33,028,657 EUR	0	0	0	135,975.05	6,643,383.68	9,775,352.27	20,639,868.02			Total eligible expenditure certified to the Commission by the end of 2020 is stated.
2	Output	6c-1	Small scale investments in visitor infrastructure and preservation of natural and cultural heritage	Number	0	15	0	0	0	0	16	23	44			Within the approved projects there are 73 small scale investments in visitor infrastructure and preservation of natural and cultural heritage planned. By the end of 2020 the achieved value for 15 projects which fully implemented their activities is 44.
2	Key implementation step	6cKI	Restoration or construction works at heritage sites or at supporting visitor infrastructure started	Number	5	15	0	0	0	0	32	45	73			Achieved value in by the end of 2020.
2	Output	CO2 3	Surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status	Hectares (ha)	0	31,000 ha	0	0	0	0	152.55	152.55	152.77			Within the approved projects there are 32,432.97 ha of surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status. By the end of 2020 the achieved value for 2 projects which fully implemented their activities is 152.77 ha.

2	Key implementation step	6dK I	Surface area of habitats planned to be supported based on selected projects in order to attain a better conservation status	Area covered (ha)	10,000 ha	31,000 ha	0	0	0	221.82	32,432.97	32,432.97	32,432.97				
3	Financial	11-FI	Payments: certified total amount of eligible expenditure	EUR	707,757 EUR	5,897,975 EUR	0	0	0	17,917.29	1,193,659.62	1,697,079.07	3,807,743.15				Total eligible expenditure certified to the Commission by the end of 2020 is stated.
3	Output	11-1	Institutions participating in cross-border structures	Number	3	45	0	0	0	0	35	65	73				<p>Within the approved projects there are 104 institutions participating in cross-border structures.</p> <p>By the end of 2020 the achieved value for 7 projects which fully implemented their activities institutions participating in cross-border structures is 73.</p>

3.4 Financial data (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

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 1011/2014¹ [Model for transmission of financial data]² 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
1	ERDF	total	11.795.950,00	85,00	11.795.947,19	100,00%	11.795.947,19	7.246.515,04	61,43%	4
2	ERDF	total	33.028.657,00	85,00	33.009.143,50	99,94%	32.437.948,46	22.746.745,67	68,87%	26
3	ERDF	total	5.897.975,00	85,00	5.877.242,06	99,65%	5.844.160,62	4.653.086,25	78,89%	8
4	ERDF	total	4.968.331,00	60,38	4.968.330,62	100,00%	4.968.330,62	1.784.041,09	35,91%	6
Total			55.690.913,00	82,80	55.650.663,37	99,93%	55.046.386,89	36.430.388,05	65,42%	44

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)

Not applicable for CP Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia.

¹ OJ L 286, 30.9.2014, p. 1.

² Structured data required for the report on YEI which is to be submitted in April 2015 in accordance with Article 19(3) and Annex II of Regulation (EU) No 1304/2013.

TABLE 5: Breakdown of the cumulative financial data by category of intervention (Article 112(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 1304/2013) 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 priority dimension	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	Nr. of operations selected
1	ERDF	087	01	03	07	05	22	HR041	7.122.227,01	7.122.227,01	4.303.518,87	2
1	ERDF	087	01	03	07	05	22	SI021	4.673.720,18	4.673.720,18	2.942.996,17	2
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06	22	HR041	579.177,40	560.977,04	569.429,21	1
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06	22	SI021	2.553.908,00	2.521.658,00	371.721,44	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06	22	HR036	1.528.377,29	1.508.100,20	1.044.905,12	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06	22	SI021	2.333.997,64	2.290.195,09	691.189,23	1
2	ERDF	090	01	02	07	06	15	HR043	875.472,55	875.472,55	357.283,36	1
2	ERDF	091	01	02	07	06	15	SI011	829.360,00	788.219,76	821.428,91	1
2	ERDF	091	01	02	07	06	15	SI021	1.524.792,25	1.452.712,18	1.464.827,06	1
2	ERDF	091	01	03	07	06	15	SI018	982.694,29	951.719,57	579.079,97	1
2	ERDF	093	01	02	07	06	15	SI012	1.221.544,00	1.221.544,00	1.210.070,81	1
2	ERDF	093	01	02	07	06	15	SI021	1.593.700,00	1.568.548,60	1.537.590,17	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	HR031	2.164.455,00	2.164.455,00	2.127.430,51	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	HR036	1.144.622,45	1.119.836,72	766.040,41	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	HR042	2.319.560,02	2.309.033,20	1.418.932,49	2
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	HR046	2.443.414,73	2.425.507,73	1.675.472,02	2
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	SI011	836.515,00	799.624,00	831.509,76	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	SI012	926.678,47	920.145,14	908.619,97	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	SI015	1.503.000,00	1.393.480,60	871.910,64	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	SI021	1.779.988,15	1.779.988,15	1.732.401,03	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	SI024	1.416.321,03	1.392.702,77	477.031,16	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06	15	HR044	720.289,93	720.289,93	422.415,62	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06	15	SI012	908.448,50	908.448,50	853.822,83	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06	15	SI017	1.237.589,00	1.205.184,43	1.236.065,94	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06	15	SI024	745.050,00	740.700,00	334.296,41	1
2	ERDF	095	01	02	07	06	15	SI024	840.187,80	819.405,30	443.271,60	1
3	ERDF	112	01	02	07	11	20	HR031	860.740,50	860.740,50	847.859,25	1
3	ERDF	112	01	02	07	11	20	SI021	1.052.257,68	1.052.257,68	703.756,25	1
3	ERDF	112	01	02	07	11	20	SI024	938.486,77	938.486,77	730.820,89	1

3	ERDF	112	01	02	07	11	21	SI024	982.058,56	970.554,46	954.342,03	2
3	ERDF	119	01	02	07	11	21	SI024	142.587,80	139.711,77	138.399,07	1
3	ERDF	120	01	02	07	11	21	SI012	574.947,17	558.882,39	340.486,49	1
3	ERDF	120	01	02	07	11	24	HR04D	808.163,58	808.163,58	540.304,77	1
3	ERDF	120	01	02	07	11	24	SI021	518.000,00	515.363,47	397.117,50	1
4	ERDF	121	01	01	07		18	HR041	775.000,00	775.000,00	189.702,48	2
4	ERDF	121	01	01	07		18	SI012	322.580,63	322.580,63	97.353,65	1
4	ERDF	121	01	01	07		18	SI017	350.000,00	350.000,00	141.835,38	1
4	ERDF	121	01	01	07		18	SI021	3.520.749,99	3.520.749,99	1.355.149,58	2

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

1	2	3	4	5
	The amount of ERDF support* envisaged to be used for all or part of an operation implemented outside the Union part of the programme area based on selected operations (EUR)	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)	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 (EUR)	Share of the total financial allocation to all or part of an operation located outside the Union part of the programme area (%) (column 4/total amount allocated to the support from the ERDF at programme level *100)
All or part of an operation outside the Union part of the programme area³	0	0	0	0

* ERDF support is fixed in the Commission decision on the respective cooperation programme.

³ In accordance with and subject to ceilings set out Article 20 of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013.

4. SYNTHESIS OF THE EVALUATIONS (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

Synthesis of the findings of all evaluations of the programme that have become available during the previous financial year, including the name and reference period of the evaluation reports used.

In 2020 the programme was faced with problems regarding the contract with the evaluator, namely the MA has contracted the external expert for all Programme evaluations foreseen in the Evaluation Plan. Ultimately, the MA was forced to terminate the contract in June 2020. In September 2020 a new public procurement for the evaluator was launched but was unfortunately not successful. Due to this situation and the delays that occurred with the evaluations the MC members decided at the 10th MC meeting held on 26 January 2021 to revise the Evaluation plan to prepare only one impact evaluation in 2022. For detailed information please see Chapter 5.

5. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND MEASURES TAKEN (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

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

In 2020 there were no specific direct problems which would endanger the performance of the programme. The projects from the 1st, 2nd and 3rd deadline of the Open Call and strategic FRISCO projects continued with the implementation of their activities.

However, we had to address some challenges regarding the issues that could affect the performance of the programme:

Like all other programmes also our programme was in 2020 faced with the COVID-19 situation. The COVID-19 pandemic situation was/is having an impact on the implementation of the projects activities, on the eligibility of expenditure as well as on the reporting process. Since the situation was/is affecting territories covered by the programme, the implementation of the approved projects and the work of the programme structures, the MA in 2020 prepared COVID-19 Guidance for the projects and also a set of directions for the work of FLCs during the COVID-19 situation. With these actions and with flexibility regarding the implementation of the projects/changes requests (approval of projects prolongations due to COVID situation...) we were able to assure that there were no major delays or problems regarding the implementation of projects activities and with programme structures activities, meaning that the programme performance was not endangered.

In 2020 the programme was also faced with problems regarding the contract with the evaluator, namely the MA has contracted the external expert for all Programme evaluations foreseen in the Evaluation Plan. The contractor managed to deliver the Final Report on the Evaluation of Efficiency and Effectiveness; however, serious deficiencies emerged in the inception phase of Impact Evaluation I due to incapability of the contractor to deliver the results in the timeframe set in the contract. After several warnings the MA was forced to terminate the contract in June 2020. In September 2020 a new public procurement for the evaluator was launched but was unfortunately not successful. 3 tenders were received and no tender was found admissible, therefore the public procurement failed. Due to this situation and the delays that occurred with the evaluations the MC members decided at the 10th MC meeting held on 26 January 2021 to

revise the Evaluation plan in line with the MA proposal to prepare only one impact evaluation in 2022. The reason for this decision was that the MA does not expect differences in results if the Impact evaluation I would be prepared in the middle of the year 2021 and the second Impact evaluation II a few months later, as the Programme and the projects are currently already at the peak of the implementation. The MC members agreed that the public procurement for the external experts for the evaluation will be launched before summer vacation, preferably in May 2021.

In the first quarter of 2020 the programme was still dealing with delays that occurred with the verification of project partner reports by the First level controls (FLC). Due to the fact that the programme was at the high peak of the projects implementation in 2020 and majority of the approved projects were implementing their activities the number of partner reports was very high which caused some delays with the verification by FLCs within the 3 months' deadline. To deal with this situation big efforts were made by MA/JS/FLCs and both Member states to speed up the verification process of FLCs and in the continuation of the year 2020 the programme was able to resolve all the delays regarding the verification of project partner reports and the reimbursement of funds improved significantly.

b) OPTIONAL FOR LIGHT REPORTS, otherwise it will be included in point 9.1 (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

An assessment of whether progress made towards targets is sufficient to ensure their fulfilment, indicating any remedial actions taken or planned, where appropriate

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

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

The citizen's summary is prepared as a separate document and will be uploaded in the SFC and published on the programme's website.

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

Where the managing authority decided to use financial instruments it must send to the Commission a specific report covering the financial instruments operations as an annex to the annual implementation report

Not applicable for CP Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia.

8. WHERE APPROPRIATE, 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)

Not applicable for CP Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia.

8.1. Major projects

TABLE 7: Major projects

Project	CCI	Status of MP 1. completed 2. approved 3. submitted 4. planned for notification/submission to Commission	Total investments	Total eligible costs	Planned notification/ submission date (if applicable) (year, quarter)	Date of tacit agreement / approval by Commission (if applicable)	Planned start of implementation (year, quarter)	Planned completion date (year, quarter)	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 1.completed/in operation; 2.advanced construction; 3. construction; 4. procurement; 5. design	Main outputs	Date of signature of first works contract ⁴ (if applicable)	Observations (if necessary)
<i>Not applicable for CP Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia.</i>														

⁴ 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).

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

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

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8.2. Joint action plans

Progress in the implementation of different stages of joint action plans

Not applicable for CP Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia.

TABLE 8: Joint action plans

Title of the JAP	CCI	Stage of implementation of JAP 1. completed 2. > 50% implemented 3. Started 4. approved 5. submitted 6. planned	Total eligible costs	Total public support	OP contribution to JAP	Priority axis	Type of JAP 1. normal 2. pilot 3. YEI	[Planned] submission to the Commission	[Planned] start of implementation	[Planned] completion	Main outputs and results	Total eligible expenditure certified to the Commission	Observations (if necessary)

Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them

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PART B - REPORTING SUBMITTED IN YEARS 2017, 2019 AND FINAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 14(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013)

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)

FOR EACH PRIORITY AXIS - Assessment of the information provided above and progress towards achieving the objectives of the programme, including the contribution of the ERDF to changes in the value of result indicators, when evidence is available from evaluations

Not applicable for AIR 2020

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

Not applicable for AIR 2020

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

Not applicable for AIR 2020

9.4 Reporting on support used for climate change objectives (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

Figures calculated automatically by the SFC2014 based on categorisation data.

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

Not applicable for AIR 2020

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

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

Not applicable for AIR 2020

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)

Not applicable for AIR 2020

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

Not applicable for AIR 2020

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

Not applicable for AIR 2020

11.3 Contribution to macro-regional and sea basin strategies (where appropriate)

The programme is contributing to the European Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) and EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) during its implementation. Various priority areas of EUSDR and EUSAIR are reflected in the thematic objectives of the programme, as laid down in the CP.

Within the application the contribution to the relevant macro-regional strategies has to be described by the project partners. The 22 projects approved within all three deadlines of the Open Call of the CP Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia are contributing to the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) and EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR). The approved projects are contributing to the following pillars and priority areas of macro-regional strategies:

Priority areas of macro-regional strategies:

a) EUSDR (Slovenia, Croatia):

Main pillars: Connect the region, Protecting the environment, Strengthening the region, Building prosperity

- PA 03 – Culture and tourism

1st deadline

ENJOYHERITAGE

DETOX

Mala barka 2

2nd deadline

Riviera4Seasons2

CLAUSTRA+

ECool-Tour

Prebujanje / Buđenje

ZELENO ŽELIMO

ŽIVA COPRNIJA

MISTERION

KRASn'KRŠ

Uživam tradicijo

3rd deadline

RIDE&BIKE II

INSPIRACIJA

MITSKI PARK

kuLTura

Prehistory Adventure

NATURE&WILDLIFE

MINE TOUR

In cultura veritas

LIVING CASTLES

Kaštelir

- PA 05 – Environmental risks (FRISCO1, FRISCO2.1, FRISCO 2.2, FRISCO 2.3)

b) EUSAIR (Slovenia, Croatia);

Main pillars: 1. Blue growth, 2. Connecting the region, 3. Environmental quality, 4. Sustainable tourism

- Topic 4.1 Diversified tourism offers (the same projects as EUSDR PA03 (Culture and tourism))

An example of projects contributing to the EUSDR are all four FRISCO projects. The first project (FRISCO1) started in April 2016 with the objective to improve coordinated flood risk management and reduce flood risks. The main outputs are sets of joint models, maps and tools for each of the six target transboundary river basins (Kupa/Kolpa, Sutla/Sotla, Drava, Mura, Dragonja and Bregana) with the associated design documentation for optimal structural measures, improved physical alert systems, and the outputs of awareness raising/capacity building activities. The ultimate beneficiary of the project is the affected population in the border area between Slovenia and Croatia. The project's objectives can only be achieved through cross-border cooperation because, in line with the Floods Directive, the flood risk management planning should be done following the river basin approach in order to determine the optimal measures. The project is original because of its comprehensiveness, both in terms of spatial coverage (all transboundary river basins) and in terms of the scope of measures (all key non-structural measures covering preparedness, prevention and response). FRISCO2.1, FRISCO 2.2, FRISCO 2.3 are investment projects, where cross-border cooperation is of vital importance as any flood risk reduction measure on a transboundary river needs to be bilaterally coordinated to avoid one-sided approaches that could endanger the other side.

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

Not applicable for AIR 2020

12. FINANCIAL INFORMATION AT PRIORITY AXIS AND PROGRAMME LEVEL (ARTICLES 21(2) AND 22(7) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

For the purpose of assessing progress towards the achievement of milestones and targets set for financial indicators in the years 2018 and 2023, table 4 of Part A of this Annex shall have the following two additional columns:

13	14
Data for the purpose of the performance review and performance framework	
Only for report submitted in 2019: Total eligible expenditure incurred and paid by beneficiaries and certified to the Commission by 31/12/2018 Article 21(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013	Only for final implementation report: Total eligible expenditure incurred and paid by beneficiaries by 31/12/2023 and certified to the Commission Article 22(7) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013
<i>Not applicable for AIR 2020</i>	<i>Not applicable for AIR 2020</i>

PART C

PART C - REPORTING SUBMITTED IN YEAR 2019 AND FINAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (Article 50(5) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

13. SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

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

Not applicable for AIR 2020

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).

Not applicable for AIR 2020