



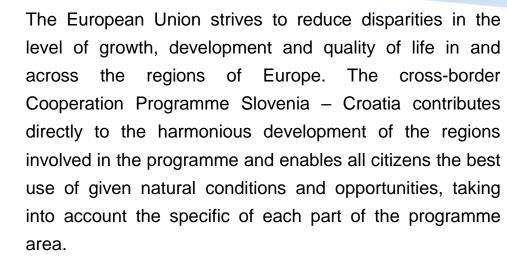
CITIZENS' SUMMARY 2021

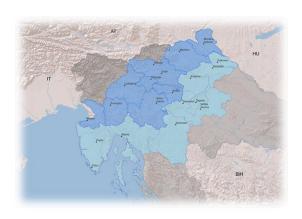
Interreg V-A Slovenia – Croatia, May 2022

"The Cooperation Programme INTERREG V-A Slovenia – Croatia aims at promoting sustainable, safe and vibrant border area by fostering smart approaches to preservation, mobilization and management of natural and cultural resources for the benefit of the people living and working in or visiting the area."

What we do







Since 2014, the programme runs with the budget of 46 mio EUR of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and is co-financing 38 projects.

This is a brief summary of the Annual Implementation Report (AIR) 2021 for the Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia – Croatia for the programming period 2014-2020.

The Programme has three priority axis and related specific objectives:

PA 1: Integrated flood risk management in transboundary river basins

Specific objective 1.1: Flood risk reduction in the transboundary

n the transpoundar Dragonja, Kolpa/Kupa, Sotla/Sutla, Drava, Mura and Bregana river basins PA 2: Preservation and sustainable use of natural and cultural resources

Specific objective 2.1:

Active heritage preservation through sustainable tourism

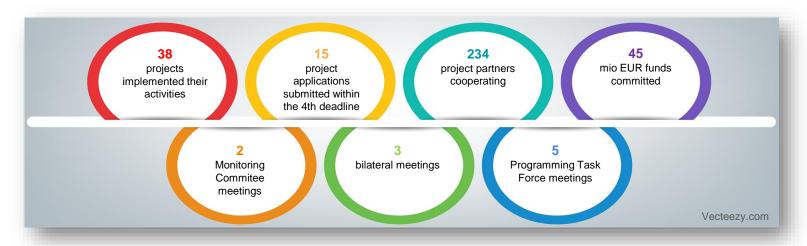
Specific objective 2.2:
Protecting and restoring biodiversity and promoting ecosystem services

PA 3: Healthy, safe and accessible border areas

Specific objective

Building
partnerships among
public authorities
and stakeholders for
healthy, safe and
accessible border
areas

OVERVIEW of the implementation of the Cooperation Programme



All programme structures and both Member States, i.e. Slovenia and Croatia were involved in the implementation of the Cooperation Programme in the calendar year 2021.

In 2021 all programme structures worked intensively on the activities related to the implementation and completion of strategic FRISCO projects and approved projects within the 1st, 2nd and 3rd deadlines of the Open Call. The 4th deadline of the Open Call for submission of projects was published on the programme website on 15 July 2021 focusing on projects in the field of safety and cross-border sustainable mobility services within Priority Axis 3. The deadline for submission of project proposals was 12 October 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic still impacted implementation the of projects activities in 2021. With COVID-19 Guidance for the Projects prepared in 2020, updated in 2021 and thanks to the adopted flexibility regarding the implementation of the projects there were no major delays or problems regarding the implementation of projects activities.

In July 2021, a new public procurement was launched; the contract with the external expert for Impact Evaluation of the CP SI-HR 2014-2020 was signed in August 2021.

In 2021, contracts were also signed with external experts for preparing the future Interreg Programme Slovenia-Croatia 2021-2027 and for preparing the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the future programme.

What has changed?

By the end of 2021, citizens in the involved regions were benefitting from the following concrete results of fully implemented activities covering programme indicators:

All 4 FRISCO projects have finished with project implementation in 2021, but only 2 were administratively concluded.

By the end of 2021 2,231 people benefited from flood protection measures, 31 people gained increased professional capacity due to their participation in cross-border activities in transboundary flood risk and river basin management.

By the end of 2021 flood risk reduction measures were implemented on 4 transboundary river basin and 6 transboundary river basins have developed joint tools, models and maps for flood risk management.

As regards projects within PA2, the achieved value of increased number of visits to cultural or natural heritage sites was 836,061. By the end of 2021, 61 small scale investments were made in visitor infrastructure and preservation of natural and cultural heritage, 57 new or improved cross-border sustainable products were developed and 16,675 persons participated in capacity building activities.

3,409.75 ha of surface area of habitats achieved a better conservation status and 1,136 persons gained improved practical skills and competences for the implementation of biodiversity protection measures and valorisation of ecosystem services by the end of 2021.

Under PA3, 116 institutions participated in new crossborder structures and 2,201 persons gained improved skills and competences in CB service delivery by the end of 2021.















Information and publicity measures

In line with the Communication strategy and planed communication tools we performed or participated in:



Stories from the Regions (DG Regio campaign included projects MISTERION and CrossCare) Podcast "This is Europe" (Interact campaign, project story ideas from Interreg programmes, proposed projects CrossCare and 2SoKroG) Smart Regions (EC campaign included project Carnivora Dinarica)

Interreg Project Slam (proposed project Carnivora Dinarica)

Reporting
Workshop for
Slovenian
beneficiaries (First
Level Control
workshop for CBC
programmes)

Vecteezy.com

On 16 September 2021, the European Cooperation Day 2021 was organised together with the project LIVING CASTLES. Due to the COVID-19 situation, the event was organised in a hybrid form with two separated events with a limited number of participants carried out, namely one in Slovenia in Rakičan and the other one in Croatia in Varaždin.

In September 2021, the MA/JS organised two online workshops for potential beneficiaries of the 4th deadline of the Open Call dedicated to projects in the field of safety and cross-border sustainable mobility services.

More information

The latest programme news and information on events implemented within the programme are available on the programme website: www.si-hr.eu



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