



**Interreg**   
**SLOVENIA – CROATIA**  
European Union | European Regional Development Fund



**ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT  
2019**

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

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## 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
<b>Title</b>	Cooperation programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia
<b>Version</b>	1.0
<b>Reporting year</b>	2019
<b>Date of approval of the report by the Monitoring Committee</b>	30 June 2020

### 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 fifth 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 2019.

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 approved the Annual Implementation Report 2019 via written procedure due to the COVID-19 situation on 30 June 2020.

All programme structures and both Member States, Slovenia and Croatia, were very much involved in the implementation of the Cooperation Programme in the year 2019.

In 2019 the implementation of the programme ran very actively with all of the approved projects (4 strategic FRISCO projects and 34 approved projects within the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline of the Open Call) implementing their activities, which resulted in sending payment requests to the European Commission (EC) etc. The MA and JS met two times with the programme partners (National Authorities (NAs), Certifying Authority (CA), First Level Control (FLC)) at the Bilateral technical meetings (BTM) to discuss the topics related to programme implementation.

On 15 February 2019 the ceremonial signing of the Subsidy contract for the last strategic project FRISCO 2.3 took place. With the signing of the FRISCO 2.3 project Subsidy contract all available funds within the Priority axis 1 and also all available programme funds were allocated and committed as all Subsidy contracts for all 38 approved projects (34 approved projects within the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline of the Open Call altogether and 4 strategic projects) were signed.

On 3 June 2019 a programme event "Together for protection of biodiversity" and meeting of the Slovenian and Croatian Minister in the Risnjak National Park was organised. Slovenian minister responsible for Development, Strategic Projects and Cohesion dr. Iztok Purič and Croatian minister from the Ministry of Regional Development and EU funds Gabrijela Žalac took this opportunity to exchange experience in managing and implementing cross-border cooperation programmes. They both agreed that cross-border projects are having significant impact on the quality of life and on

the protection of the environment in border regions with solving common challenges and making use of developmental potential recognized in the border area.

Projects presented at the event were: project Carnivora Dinarica for conservation of large carnivores in the northern Dinarides, project ČIGRA for maintaining a stable population of terns on gravel habitats along the Sava and Drava rivers, project LIKE for establishing an effective management and monitoring mechanism of the N2000 area and project VEZI NARAVE for ensuring the durability of conservation and restoration of target species in Natura 2000 areas of the Sotla and Kolpa river, the Risnjak National Park, the Radensko Polje area and the Kamačnik canyon.

On 4 June 2019 the MC members met at their 8<sup>th</sup> meeting where among other topics Evaluation of effectiveness and efficiency was presented and discussed and Annual Implementation Report 2018 was approved.

The 9<sup>th</sup> MC meeting was organised on 3 December 2019 where MC members discussed, among other topics, the Effectiveness and efficiency evaluation recommendations, were updated about and discussed the implementation of strategic projects FRISCO1, FRISCO2.1, FRISCO 2.2 and FRISCO 2.3 and visited project CrossCare in Ljubljana.

As part of a study visit the MA and JS together with MAs and JSs of Interreg Programmes Slovenia-Austria and Slovenia-Hungary hosted representatives of the Interreg V-A Cross-Border Cooperation Programme Finland-Estonia-Latvia-Sweden (Central Baltic) 2014-2020 on 27 February 2019. This international meeting was held in order to exchange experience in managing cross-border cooperation programmes in period 2014-2020.

By the end of 2019 citizens in the involved regions are benefiting from the following concrete **results of the 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, which 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.
- From the approved projects within PA2 the achieved value of increased number of visits to cultural or natural heritage sites was 228.108, 23 small scale investments in visitor infrastructure and preservation of natural and cultural heritage were performed, 4 new or improved cross-border sustainable products were developed and 2869 persons participated in capacity building activities by the end of 2019.
- 152,55 ha of surface area of habitats attained a better conservation status and 45 persons gained improved practical skills and competences for the implementation of biodiversity protection measures and valorisation of ecosystem services by the end of 2019.
- Within PA3 65 institutions participated in new cross-border structures and 915 persons gained improved skills and competences in CB service delivery by the end of 2019.



**System audit and audit of the projects**

Follow-up system audits of programme structures were carried out in December 2018 with final reports delivered in April and May 2019. A follow-up audit established that the system in place at relevant bodies worked, although some improvements were still needed. Based on the audit recommendation the fraud risk self-assessment for the programme was updated in March 2019. 15 fraud risks under four risk categories were identified. Additional category was added - Programming of the post-2020 programmes.

In 2019 the Group of Auditors (GoA) performed audits of 3 projects (STAR, CLAUSTRA +, Mala barka 2) 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.

**Other information and publicity measures**

In line with the Communication strategy along with the ceremonial signing of the FRISCO 2.3 project contract also one major annual event of the programme was carried out on 30 September 2019 in the frame of the European Cooperation Day 2019 in Krapina, Croatia. The event promoted joint cultural and natural heritage from Slovenia and Croatia. The aim was to present successful cross-border projects dealing with the preservation of cultural and natural heritage implemented with ERDF funds. More than 100 participants from Slovenia and Croatia arriving with organised bus transportation had a closer look at the projects implemented within the programme (ENJOYHERITAGE, Uživam tradicijo, INSPIRACIJA and CrossCare).

In the frame of the programme's website 47 news on activities, events and relevant information were published in 2019 (20 programme news and 27 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**

In 2019 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 2019 amounts to 15.095.873,94 EUR.

By the end of 2019 14 projects fully implemented their activities but only for 3 projects final reports were submitted and checked by the end of 2019 therefore in relation to the indicator data the progress can be mostly measured only 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>In 2019 within Priority axis 1 the strategic projects FRISCO1, FRISCO2.1, FRISCO 2.2 and FRISCO 2.3 containing flood risk reduction measures were in full implementation. The implementation of FRISCO projects in terms of progress in performing the activities and following the financial plan was closely monitored by the MA/JS, National Authorities and Monitoring Committee due to the fact that the progress of FRISCO projects was not completely in line with the plan and in order to discuss the reasons for the deviations. The partnership of the project presented the solutions in order to improve project implementation.</p> <p>By the end of 2019 <b>4 projects</b> were approved altogether, implementing project activities in the amount of <b>10.026.555,11 EUR ERDF</b> which represents 100% of available funds within the priority axis (PA) 1.</p> <p>In 2019 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>In 2019 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 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 and 4 transboundary river basins will have pilot structural flood risk reduction measures implemented.</p>
A.2	2. Preservation and sustainable use of natural and cultural resources	<p>Within the Open Call <b>26 projects were contracted and in implementation in the amount of 28.045.826,82 EUR ERDF (99,9 % of available funds)</b> by the end of 2019. 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</p>

		<p>Investment priority 6d dealing with protecting and restoring biodiversity.</p> <p>Within the Investment priority 6c 9 projects fully implemented their activities by the end of 2019 (1 project was administratively concluded). The achieved value of increased number of visits to cultural or natural heritage sites was 228.108, 23 small scale investments in visitor infrastructure and preservation of natural and cultural heritage were performed, 4 new or improved cross-border sustainable products were developed and 2869 persons participated in capacity building activities by the end of 2019.</p> <p>Regarding the Investment priority 6d all 4 contracted projects were implementing their activities in 2019. By the end of 2019 152,55 ha of surface area of habitats attained a better conservation status and 45 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 <b>8 projects were contracted in the amount of 4.995.655,63 EUR ERDF (99,9 % of available funds)</b> by the end of 2019. Three projects fully implemented their activities by the end of 2019 (2 projects were administratively concluded).</p> <p>By the end of 2019 65 institutions participated in new cross-border structures and 915 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 Croatia. The TA is divided into 6 projects and the total ERDF amount for all TA projects is 3.000.000 EUR.</p> <p>In 2019 the following activities were implemented within the TA projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- implementation, management and monitoring of the programme,</li> <li>- organisation of two MC meetings (update on the current stage of programme implementation, Annual Implementation Report 2018, irregularities, audits, update on information and publicity activities - EC Day 2019, etc.),</li> <li>- on 3 June 2019 the event “Together for protection of biodiversity” and a meeting of Slovenian and Croatian Ministers in the Risnjak National Park was organised,</li> <li>- two BTM meetings were organised, namely on 13 March 2019 in Globočice and on 18 September 2019 in</li> </ul>



		<p>Podčetrtek, to discuss topics related to the programme implementation,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an event was organised under the auspices of the EC Day initiative (30 September 2019) in Krapina,</li> <li>- advising/supporting the LPs/PPs of the implementing projects and checking the LPs progress reports,</li> <li>- site visits for the approved projects were carried out according to the Site visit plan for 2019,</li> <li>- preparation of written procedures for the MC,</li> <li>- preparation or update of programme documents,</li> <li>- ceremonial signing of the contract for FRISCO 2.3 project was organised on 15 February 2019 in Ljubljana,</li> <li>- two meetings of the Programming task force group for the programming of the Interreg Programme Slovenia-Croatia 2021-2027 were organised on 18 September and 4 December 2019,</li> <li>- programme website has been updated with news, FAQs, information on programme and project implementation, etc.</li> </ul> <p>At this stage, no significant problems have been identified in the implementation of PA 4 (Technical Assistance).</p>
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### 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

<i>Automatic from SFC</i>						<b>ANNUAL VALUE</b>										
<b>ID</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Measurement Unit</b>	<b>Baseline Value</b>	<b>Baseline Year</b>	<b>Target Value (2023)</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>Observations (if necessary)</b>
<b>5bRI</b>	Share of targeted transboundary river basins area under flood risk	%	6,47%	2014	<b>5%</b>	6,47 %	6,47 %	6,47 %	6,47 %	6,47 %	6,47 %					Frequency of reporting 2018, 2020, 2023
<b>6cRI</b>	Visitors to cultural and natural heritage sites in the programme area	Number	4,911,583	2013	<b>5,750,000</b>	4,911,583	4,911,583	4,911,583	4,911,583	5,919,310	5,919,310					Frequency of reporting 2018, 2020, 2023
<b>6dRI1</b>	Average degree of conservation status of habitat types and species of Natura 2000 sites in programme area-species	Number	Species CS: 2,050	2014	<b>Species CS: 2,052</b>	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050					Frequency of reporting 2018, 2020, 2023
<b>6dRI2</b>	Average degree of conservation status of habitat types and species of Natura 2000 sites in programme area-habitat	Number	Habitat CS: 2,070	2014	<b>Habitat CS: 2,072</b>	2,070	2,070	2,070	2,070	2,070	2,070					Frequency of reporting 2018, 2020, 2023
<b>11RI</b>	Level of cooperation quality in the field	Average score from 0 to 5	2,22	2015	<b>3,33</b>	2,22	2,22	2,22	2,22	2,6	2,6					Frequency of reporting

of health, social care, safety and mobility services within the programme area																			2018, 2020, 2023
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**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	953	1609	1609						The target value set in the CP is already reached (plan in the selected projects).
F					0	0										
S	5b-1	Transboundary river basins with joint tools, models and maps for flood risk management developed	Number	6			6	6	6	6						The target value set in the CP is already reached (plan in the selected projects).
F					0	0										
S	5b-2	Transboundary river basins with pilot structural flood risk reduction measures implemented	Number	4			0	1	4	4						The target value set in the CP is already reached (plan in the selected projects).
F					0	0										

<b>S</b>	5b-3	People with increased professional capacity due to their participation in cross-border activities in transboundary flood risk and river basin management	Number	20			20	20	20	20					<i>The target value set in the CP is already reached (plan in the selected projects).</i>
<b>F</b>					0	0									
<b>S</b>	CO09	Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural or natural heritage and attractions	visits/year	50,000			62,800	203,300	289,732	289,732					<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>
<b>F</b>					0	0				12,932					<i>Achieved value in 1 fully implemented and concluded operation</i>
<b>S</b>	6c-1	Small scale investments in visitor infrastructure and preservation of natural and cultural heritage	Number	15			17	45	69	69					<i>The target value set in the CP is already reached and exceeded (plan in the selected projects).</i>
<b>F</b>					0	0				6					<i>Achieved value in 1 fully implemented and concluded operation</i>

S	6c-2	New or improved cross-border sustainable tourism products and destinations integrating natural or cultural heritage	Number	20			13	40	62	62					<i>The target value set in the CP is already reached and exceeded (plan in the selected projects).</i>
F					0	0					1				<i>Achieved value in 1 fully implemented and concluded operation</i>
S	6c-3	Persons participating in capacity building activities	Number	500			600	5539	7997	7997					<i>The target value set in the CP is already reached and exceeded due to the high number of expected persons participating in capacity building activities (plan in the selected projects).</i>
F					0	0					162				<i>Achieved value in 1 fully implemented and concluded operation</i>
S	CO01	Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	7			0	4	7	8					<i>The target value set in the CP is already reached (plan in the</i>
					0	0									

																	selected projects).	
F																		
S	CO02	Number of enterprises receiving grants	Enterprises	7	0	0	0	4	7	8								The target value set in the CP is already reached (plan in the selected projects).
F																		
S	CO23	Surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status	Hectares (ha)	31,000 ha	0	0	0	221.82	32,432.97	32,432.97								The target value set in the CP is already reached (plan in the selected projects).
F																		
S	6d-1	Implemented practical demonstrations of measures in nature in support of biodiversity	Number	10	0	0	0	10	29	29								The target value set in the CP is already reached and exceeded (plan in the selected projects).
F																		
S	6d-2	Joint studies and tools for assessing and promoting ecosystem services developed	Number	3	0	0	0	12	13	13								The target value set in the CP is already reached and exceeded (plan in the selected projects).
					0	0												



F														
S	6d-3	Persons with improved practical skills and competences for implementation of biodiversity protection measures and valorisation of ecosystem services	Number	250	0	0	0	290	650	650				<i>The target value set in the CP is already reached and exceeded (plan in the selected projects).</i>
F														
S	11-1	Institutions participating in cross-border structures	Number	45	0	0	20	53	104	104				<i>The target value set in the CP is already reached and exceeded (plan in the selected projects).</i>
F									13	24				<i>Achieved value in 2 fully implemented and concluded operations</i>
S	11-2	Persons representing institutions and stakeholders from the programme area with improved skills and competences in CB service delivery	Number	300	0	0	536	826	1724	1724				<i>The target value set in the CP is already reached and exceeded due to the high expected number of persons with improved skills and competences (plan in the</i>

															selected projects).
F									380	635					Achieved value in 2 fully implemented and concluded operations
S									44	44					Number of selected projects
F	TA-1	Joint CB projects implemented and concluded	Number	57	0	0	0	0	1	3					No of implemented and concluded projects in 2019 (14 projects implemented the activities but only 3 projects were concluded – final Progress report submitted and checked and funds certified in 2019).
S	TA-2	Joint CB informational and publicity events	Number	10	0	5	7	10	11	13					
F															
S	TA-3	Employees whose salaries are co-financed by the technical assistance	FTE (Full Time Equivalent)	12	0	4,8	11,67	11,67	13,99	13,99					
F															

S	TA-4	e-Monitoring System established	Number	1	0	1	1	1	1	1					
F															
S	TA-5	First level controllers established	Number	2	0	0	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					
F															
S	TA-7	Programme communication plan prepared and approved by MC	Number	1	0	1	1	1	1	1					
F															
S	TA-8	Guiding document addressed to applicants and beneficiaries	Number	1	0	0	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					
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					Total eligible expenditure certified to the Commission by the end of 2019 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					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 2019 flood risk reduction measures were implemented on 1 transboundary river basin – final report was not yet submitted in 2019.
1	Key implementation step	5bK1	Transboundary river basins where works have started	Number	1	4	0	0	0	0	2	3					Within the approved projects FRISCO2.1, FRISCO 2.2 and FRISCO 2.3 works have started on 3 river basins by the end of 2019.

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					Total eligible expenditure certified to the Commission by the end of 2019 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					Within the approved projects there are 69 small scale investments in visitor infrastructure and preservation of natural and cultural heritage planned. By the end of 2019 the achieved value for small scale investments in visitor infrastructure and preservation of natural and cultural heritage is 23.
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					Achieved value in by the end of 2019.
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					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 2019 the achieved value for surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status is 152.55 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									
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						Total eligible expenditure certified to the Commission by the end of 2019 is stated.
3	Output	11-1	Institutions participating in cross-border structures	Number	3	45	0	0	0	0	35	65						Within the approved projects there are 104 institutions participating in cross-border structures. By the end of 2019 the achieved value for institutions participating in cross-border structures is 65.



### 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 1011/2014<sup>1</sup> [Model for transmission of financial data]<sup>2</sup> 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
<b>1</b>	ERDF	total	11.795.950,00	85,00%	11.795.947,20	100,00%	11.795.947,20	2.455.943,73	20,82%	4
<b>2</b>	ERDF	total	33.028.657,00	85,00%	33.009.143,51	99,94%	32.395.597,42	9.864.147,37	29,87%	26
<b>3</b>	ERDF	total	5.897.975,00	85,00%	5.877.242,05	99,65%	5.844.653,64	1.698.735,53	28,80%	8
<b>4</b>	ERDF	total	4.968.331,00	60,38%	4.968.330,62	100,00%	4.968.330,62	1.404.446,01	28,27%	6
<b>Total</b>			<b>55.690.913,00</b>	<b>82,80%</b>	<b>55.650.663,38</b>	<b>99,93%</b>	<b>55.004.528,88</b>	<b>15.423.272,64</b>	<b>27,69%</b>	<b>44</b>

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.*

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 286, 30.9.2014, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> 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	2.351.294,45	2
1	ERDF	087	01	03	07	05	22	SI021	4.673.720,19	4.673.720,19	104.649,28	2
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06	22	HR041	579.177,40	550.532,88	223.701,20	1
2	ERDF	085	01	02	07	06	22	SI021	2.553.908,00	2.521.658,00	5.000,00	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06	22	HR036	1.528.377,29	1.476.212,14	500.923,55	1
2	ERDF	086	01	03	07	06	22	SI021	2.333.997,64	2.290.195,09	2.608,76	1
2	ERDF	090	01	02	07	06	15	HR043	875.472,55	875.472,55	72.950,03	1
2	ERDF	091	01	02	07	06	15	SI011	829.360,00	788.219,76	519.338,04	1
2	ERDF	091	01	02	07	06	15	SI021	1.524.792,25	1.452.712,18	793.973,08	1
2	ERDF	091	01	03	07	06	15	SI018	982.694,29	951.719,57	1.980,00	1
2	ERDF	093	01	02	07	06	15	SI012	1.221.544,00	1.221.544,00	928.855,47	1
2	ERDF	093	01	02	07	06	15	SI021	1.593.700,00	1.568.548,60	935.862,95	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	HR031	2.164.455,00	2.164.455,00	1.211.370,71	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	HR036	1.144.622,45	1.119.836,72	0,00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	HR042	2.319.560,02	2.309.033,20	124.326,95	2
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	HR046	2.443.414,73	2.425.507,73	649.376,94	2
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	SI011	836.515,00	799.624,00	351.246,17	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	SI012	926.678,47	920.145,14	562.600,65	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	SI015	1.503.000,00	1.393.480,60	156.104,94	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	SI021	1.779.988,15	1.779.988,15	849.229,61	1
2	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06	15	SI024	1.416.321,03	1.392.702,77	4.950,00	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06	15	HR044	720.289,93	720.289,93	16.105,36	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	1.237.589,01	1.205.165,61	853.272,30	1
2	ERDF	094	01	03	07	06	15	SI024	745.050,00	740.700,00	0,00	1
2	ERDF	095	01	02	07	06	15	SI024	840.187,80	819.405,30	246.547,83	1
3	ERDF	112	01	02	07	11	20	HR031	860.740,50	860.740,50	541.628,38	1
3	ERDF	112	01	02	07	11	20	SI021	1.052.257,68	1.052.257,68	1.213,90	1
3	ERDF	112	01	02	07	11	20	SI024	938.486,76	938.486,76	0,00	1

3	ERDF	112	01	02	07	11	21	SI024	982.058,56	970.554,46	954.342,03	1
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	561.388,89	63.152,15	1
3	ERDF	120	01	02	07	11	24	HR04D	808.163,58	808.163,58	0,00	1
3	ERDF	120	01	02	07	11	24	SI021	518.000,00	513.350,00	0,00	1
4	ERDF	121	01	07	07		18	HR041	775.000,00	775.000,00	157.088,09	2
4	ERDF	121	01	07	07		18	SI012	322.580,63	322.580,63	59.716,20	1
4	ERDF	121	01	07	07		18	SI017	350.000,00	350.000,00	93.137,54	1
4	ERDF	121	01	07	07		18	SI021	3.520.749,99	3.520.749,99	1.094.504,18	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
	<b>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)</b>	<b>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)</b>	<b>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)</b>	<b>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)</b>
<b>All or part of an operation outside the Union part of the programme area<sup>3</sup></b>	0	0	0	0

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 2019 the second (the first efficiency and effectiveness evaluation was performed in 2017) evaluation of efficiency and effectiveness was performed. The purpose of the evaluation was to evaluate the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability and impact of the results and effects of the projects, financed by the Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia for the period 2014–2020 and the programme itself. The evaluation included the following: evaluation of the performance of program structures and processes, analyses of reporting procedures, reimbursement of funds, roles of partners and effectiveness and efficiency of projects' management. The evaluation was based on two online surveys, interviews with beneficiaries, interviews with programme structures (namely MA/JS, NA, FLC and CA), data review (provided by the JS and from the eMS) and documents review.

##### **The main findings of the evaluation:**

The programme bodies operate effectively within the framework established for the programme implementation. The programme structures (MA/JS, NA, FLC, CA) are sufficient at the moment, nevertheless a problem can arise, if any of the personnel is absent for a longer period of time.

The quality of cooperation between programme partners is perceived as good. There are regular bilateral meetings or phone/on-line/email communication, all problems are solved quickly and in constructive manner. In general, there are no main differences between the Slovenian and Croatian side in approaches and views to cooperation and expectations.

In the application process the applicants had a support in the form of workshops and individual face-to-face consultations from NA and JS. They were both assessed well by the applicants. The workshops and consultations were especially useful for applicants who already had their ideas developed and had their questions prepared beforehand. Another tool that was used during the application phase (and implementation) was the Implementation manual for beneficiaries. The vast majority of applicants (successful and unsuccessful) used it and majority found it useful or very useful. Among successful applicants all (100 %) LPs used the manual. The manual is well structured into key contents/phases and offers sound guidance to applicants and beneficiaries which was also reflected in the online survey.

There are no bigger difficulties with the programme procedures, processes and forms. There were some difficulties at the application stage, the applicants had the most difficulties with applying in two languages and would prefer just one. The application in both languages caused them difficulties also at the administrative and eligibility (AB) check, as due to missing translations they did not pass AB check. As this was registered by the programme structures there was a change in the application procedure which allowed five working days to correct the translation mistake in one field of the application for the 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline of the Open Call. Besides language difficulties applicants also had problems with completing financial plan and reviewing the application in the system.

Face-to-face meetings were organised with beneficiaries of approved projects before the signature of the Subsidy contract. The purpose of the meetings was to clarify any open issues, a lot of attention was put into discussing and explaining indicators as well as the eligibility of

expenditure and reporting. Besides LP also other PPs were invited to face-to-face meetings. Not only successful but also unsuccessful applicants could come to consultations to clarify the project's weaknesses.

Beneficiaries were satisfied with the meetings, nevertheless, according to the JS beneficiaries often sought explanations for the information that was already published on the website. Often such questions represented additional burden for the JS staff.

In the reporting process all programme bodies are involved at different steps. The first body in the process is FLC, if there are delays, all other steps are slowed down. Due to work overload (checks on different programmes at the same time) and mistakes of beneficiaries which cause amendments, the first step can represent a bottleneck in the process. To avoid mistakes and explain the rules of reporting several workshops on reporting were organised for beneficiaries, an Implementation manual for beneficiaries with instructions for reporting on the programme level was published and separate instructions for Slovenian and Croatian beneficiaries were issued by the FLCs.

Despite some difficulties with the eMS, it is seen as a simplification of administrative procedures by the beneficiaries as well as programme bodies. The main difficulties the beneficiaries had with the eMS were: slowness of the system, the size of the attachments was too small, there was a constant risk of losing the text imputed, work in eMS was time consuming, the system was not optimized. For programme bodies eMS has on one hand simplified the work, as everything is electronic, on the other hand there are more functionalities needed. The satisfaction with the eMS is positive but there is still room for improvement.

For beneficiaries the most often mentioned difficulty regarding administrative procedures is the funding (reimbursement of ERDF contribution), which is, in their opinion, slow. Nevertheless, funding is related to the reporting and confirmation of the reports (financial and content), which can be delayed also due to errors of beneficiaries.

During the project implementation the beneficiaries can contact their Contract Manager for explanations and clarifications. Beneficiaries are very satisfied with the communication with their Contract Managers, they find them helpful.

According to beneficiaries, partnerships were not very difficult to form, majority of project partners or lead partners knew at least some of the partners beforehand. By the legal status, majority of the Lead partners are Municipalities / Counties (17 out of 34), followed by research and development organizations (10) and 1 private company. The majority of Project partners are (according to the survey) public institutions and municipalities, followed by NGOs and Universities/research organisations. There are 7 SMEs participating in the programme. The distribution of Croatian institutions is more equal across regions (županija) compared to distribution of beneficiaries in Slovenia, where in Ljubljana there is a high concentration of beneficiaries and Obalno-Kraška region also stands out compared to other regions. The lead partners (LP) are predominantly coming from Slovenia (23 out of 38; 60,5 %). In the case of strategic projects, the share of both countries is equal (50 % LP from Slovenia, 50 % LP from Croatia). In PA 2 Slovenian institutions are leading 15 projects (out of 26; 58 %), while in PA3 Slovenian institutions are leading 6 projects (out of 8; 75 %).

The achievement of objectives of the Communication strategy is progressing well. The majority of indicators has already been achieved or highly surpassed (e.g. number of visits to the website (526 % achieved indicator); Number of participants at workshops (397 % achieved indicator). The

communication activities are implemented in line with the communication plan, the communication of funding opportunities has been completed and promotion of programme/project results is starting. The programme website is well structured, beneficiaries assess it as good in terms of usefulness of information, transparency and general impression.

The programme is adopted very well by beneficiaries. Beneficiaries participating in the programme are, despite minor difficulties, satisfied with the programme and mainly plan to participate also in the next programming period.

## 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 2019 there were no specific direct problems which would endanger the performance of the programme. The projects from the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. One were the 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 project implementation in 2019 and all 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. As a consequence of these delays the delays with the submission of the project reports by lead partners also occurred meaning that the process of reimbursement of funds was slowed down. To deal with this situation big efforts were made by MA/JS and both Member states to speed up the verification process of FLCs and in the first quarter of 2020 the results are beginning to show with a much lower number of project reports waiting for the verification by the FLCs and with the the reimbursement of funds improving.

In 2019 the programme was also faced with problems regarding the implementation of the Impact I evaluation which according to plan should be finalised in the beginning of May 2020. The problems occurred with the external evaluator due to the fact that the activities defined in the contract were not being performed according to the agreed timetable or were not performed at all. After several meetings that were organised by MA/JS with the external expert and after many appeals sent to the expert the activities and the Impact evaluation I were still not performed. Due to these circumstances it was decided to terminate the contract with the external expert and we are now in the process of contract termination. Once the contract is terminated the new public procurement for the Impact I and II evaluations will be published with a time plan for the Impact evaluation I to be finalised in March 2021.

### 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 <sup>4</sup> (if applicable)	Observations (if necessary)
<i>Not applicable for CP Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia.</i>														

<sup>4</sup> 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 2019*

**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 2019*

**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 2019*

#### **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 2019*

### **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 2019*

### **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 2019*

#### **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 2019*

## 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 2019*

## 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

1<sup>st</sup> deadline

ENJOYHERITAGE

DETOX

Mala barka 2

2<sup>nd</sup> deadline

Riviera4Seasons2

CLAUSTRA+

ECool-Tour

Prebujanje / Buđenje

ZELENO ŽELIMO

ŽIVA COPRNIJA

MISTERION

KRASn'KRŠ

Uživam tradicijo

3<sup>rd</sup> 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 will be 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 2019*



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

## **PART C**

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### **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.

<i>Not applicable for AIR 2019</i>
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#### **14. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND MEASURES TAKEN – PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)**

Where the assessment of progress made with regard to the milestones and targets set out in the performance framework demonstrates that certain milestones and targets have not been achieved, Member States should outline the underlying reasons for failure to achieve these milestones in the report of 2019 (for milestones) and in the final implementation report (for targets).

<i>Not applicable for AIR 2019</i>
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