

# Implementation Report for IPA II Cross-Border

## PART A

### IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL/FINAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

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## **2. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013 AND ARTICLE 14(3)(A) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1299/2013)**

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

The Programme has achieved important milestones during 2017, both in the domain of Programme Governance and in the field of implementation:

### **Programme Governance**

The Complaints Committee has been set up. The Committee evaluated five complaints, that were filed for project proposals under the 1st Call.

The Programme was revised, to fully adhere with the Regulatory Framework.

The First Level Control Unit of the Managing Authority issued several manuals and guidance notes for the eligibility and verification of expenditure. Furthermore, training seminars were delivered to the Controllers of the Programme.

The Management and Control System description and designation procedure of the relevant authorities were largely completed during 2017.

### **Programme Implementation**

A Joint Evaluation Team was set up, in charge of the qualitative assessment of the project proposals under the 1st Call. Each proposal was evaluated by at least two officers, along with a detailed set of pre-determined criteria and scoring thresholds. The rigorous procedure, in conjunction with the high demand of Programme funds, guaranteed the high quality of the selected projects.

The Joint Selection Committee and Joint Monitoring Committee decided to commit

funds in excess of the budget of the Call, in line with good Programme management practices. Despite the larger budget commitment, only very good projects secured funding, in accordance with their score ranking. As such, the scores of the forty approved projects was 65% and above.

The Joint Secretariat concluded budget clearance exercises with all individual projects. Significant savings have been realized, without compromising the activities and expected quality of the approved projects.

### **Information and Publicity**

A strong record of Information and Publicity activities has been documented during 2017. A small sample is presented here.

#### Programme's website

The dedicated Programme website was re-designed from scratch, in order to better accommodate the needs of the 2014-2020 Programming Period. It is fully operational since November 16, 2017, and brings several novelties, including an events' calendar, featuring both project and Programme events. A large download center has also been added.

The main features of the website are in line with the modern trends in web design. Moreover, they offer visual harmonization with the Interreg family (including the Programme logo, which is fully part of Interreg joint branding initiative). Content-wise there is an effort to move from a technical terminology to a jargon-less content. The website is conformed to the "WCAG, 2.0, Level AA" standards, in order to meet the accessibility needs of persons with disabilities.

For the sixth consecutive year, European Cooperation Day (ECD) was celebrated on 21 and 22 September 2017.

A highlight was a gliding fly-in and air-show event in Edessa, which was attended by

school students from Edessa, Arnissa, and Bitola.

Another highlight was the screening of the award-winning movie “Amerika Square”, which triggered the discussion of migration in the context of Interreg Programmes.

All ECD events were co-organised by the multilateral Programme ‘Balkan – Med’. Therefore, the impact of the events was augmented.

For the third consecutive year, the Programme was presented in the International Fair of Thessaloniki, along with the other Programmes under the umbrella of the Managing Authority.

### 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRIORITY AXIS

#### 3.1 Overview of the implementation

ID	Priority axis	Key information on the implementation of the priority axis with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems
1	Development and Support of Local Economy	<p>The first phase of the evaluation of projects proposals was concluded in 2016 (for both Priorities). The second phase (qualitative review) of the evaluations took place in the first trimester of 2017. All proposals that were qualified for qualitative review, were also controlled for state aid compliance.</p> <p>A total of 60 proposals were evaluated under Priority 1. Sixteen projects were approved, with a combined budget of EUR 14.7 million. Two additional projects have been allocated to the reserve list.</p>
2	Protection of Environment - Transportation	<p>The evaluation principles are the same as above.</p> <p>A total of 52 proposals were evaluated under Priority 2. Twenty one projects were approved, with a combined budget of EUR 21.5 million. One additional project has been allocated to the reserve list.</p>
3	Technical Assistance	<p>The Technical Assistance Priority was fully mobilized during the reference period. Expenditure of EUR 211.209 was incurred. Approximately 60% of this expenditure was allocated to staff costs of the Joint Secretariat. Yet, all other budget lines reported expenses, too.</p> <p>An amount of EUR 21.992 was verified with the first Payment Claim, in November 2017.</p> <p>In addition to the above, EUR 148.852 was granted as pre-financing to the Operating Structure of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.</p>

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

#### Priority axes other than technical assistance

Priority axis	1 - Development and Support of Local Economy
Thematic Priority	d - Encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage.

**Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 1.d**

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2017	Observations
F	O0104	Number of enterprises participating in cross-border joint projects	Number of Enterprises	30.00	0.00	Projects did not commence implementation.
S	O0104	Number of enterprises participating in cross-border joint projects	Number of Enterprises	30.00	0.00	Projects did not commence implementation.

(1)	ID	Indicator	2016	2015	2014
F	O0104	Number of enterprises participating in cross-border joint projects	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0104	Number of enterprises participating in cross-border joint projects	0.00	0.00	0.00

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



Priority axis	1 - Development and Support of Local Economy
Thematic Priority	d - Encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage.
Specific objective	1.3 - Improve the attractiveness and promote tourism in the cross-border area to enhance employment in tourism

**Table 1: Result indicators - 1.d.1.3**

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
R0104	Jobs created in the tourism sector	Persons	3,250.00	2015	3,285.00	3,250.00		Projects did not commence implementation.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0104	Jobs created in the tourism sector	3,250.00		3,250.00		3,250.00	

Priority axis	1 - Development and Support of Local Economy
Thematic Priority	a - Promoting employment, labour mobility and social and cultural inclusion across borders through, inter alia: integrating cross-border labour markets, including cross-border mobility; joint local employment initiatives; information and advisory services and joint training; gender equality; equal opportunities; integration of immigrants' communities and vulnerable groups; investment in public employment services; and supporting investment in public health and social services.

**Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 1.a**

(I)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2017	Observations
F	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	Persons	1,500.00	0.00	Projects did not commence implementation.
S	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	Persons	1,500.00	0.00	Projects did not commence implementation.
F	O0101	Number of participants in joint local cross-border employment activities	Persons	350.00	0.00	Projects did not commence implementation.
S	O0101	Number of participants in joint local cross-border employment activities	Persons	350.00	0.00	Projects did not commence implementation.
F	O0103	Population covered by improved social services	Persons	500.00	0.00	Projects did not commence implementation.
S	O0103	Population covered by improved social services	Persons	500.00	0.00	Projects did not commence implementation.

(I)	ID	Indicator	2016	2015	2014
F	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	O0101	Number of participants in joint local cross-border employment activities	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0101	Number of participants in joint local cross-border employment activities	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	O0103	Population covered by improved social services	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0103	Population covered by improved social services	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	1 - Development and Support of Local Economy
Thematic Priority	a - Promoting employment, labour mobility and social and cultural inclusion across borders through, inter alia: integrating cross-border labour markets, including cross-border mobility; joint local employment initiatives; information and advisory services and joint training; gender equality; equal opportunities; integration of immigrants' communities and vulnerable groups; investment in public employment services; and supporting investment in public health and social services.
Specific objective	1.1 - Create employment opportunities for educated graduates by exploiting comparative advantages of the crossborder area, preferably with the use of innovative tools and practices

**Table 1: Result indicators - 1.a.1.1**

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
R0101	Highly educated in employment, including self employment 6 months upon leaving the project/intervention	Persons	47.00	2015	52.00	47.00		Projects did not commence implementation.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0101	Highly educated in employment, including self employment 6 months upon leaving the project/intervention	47.00		47.00		47.00	

Priority axis	1 - Development and Support of Local Economy
Thematic Priority	a - Promoting employment, labour mobility and social and cultural inclusion across borders through, inter alia: integrating cross-border labour markets, including cross-border mobility; joint local employment initiatives; information and advisory services and joint training; gender equality; equal opportunities; integration of immigrants' communities and vulnerable groups; investment in public employment services; and supporting investment in public health and social services.
Specific objective	1.2 - Improvement of preventive health care and social services of children and elderly population

**Table 1: Result indicators - 1.a.1.2**

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
R0102	Population having access to health services	Persons living close to health centers	1,808,707.00	2015	1,826,794.00	1,808,707.00		Projects did not commence implementation.
R0103	Population having access to social services	Persons living close to social services providers	1,260,163.00	2015	1,272,765.00	1,272,765.00		Projects did not commence implementation.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0102	Population having access to health services	1,808,707.00		1,808,707.00		1,808,707.00	
R0103	Population having access to social services	1,272,765.00		1,272,765.00		1,272,765.00	

Priority axis	2 - Protection of Environment - Transportation
Thematic Priority	b - Protecting the environment and promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management through, inter alia: joint actions for environmental protection; promoting sustainable use of natural resources, resource efficiency, renewable energy sources and the shift towards a safe and sustainable low-carbon economy; promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems and emergency preparedness.

**Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 2.b**

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2017	Observations
F	CO20	Population benefiting from flood protection measures	Persons	200,000.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
S	CO20	Population benefiting from flood protection measures	Persons	200,000.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
F	CO21	Population benefiting from forest fire protection measures	Persons	270,000.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
S	CO21	Population benefiting from forest fire protection measures	Persons	270,000.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
F	CO23	surface area of habitats supported in order to attain a better conservation status	Hectars	50,000.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
S	CO23	surface area of habitats supported in order to attain a better conservation status	Hectars	50,000.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
F	O0207	Surface area of rehabilitated or with improved management ecosystems	Hectars	188,000.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
S	O0207	Surface area of rehabilitated or with improved management ecosystems	Hectars	188,000.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
F	O0210	Number of participants in prevention actions	Persons	200.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
S	O0210	Number of participants in prevention actions	Persons	200.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.

(1)	ID	Indicator	2016	2015	2014
F	CO20	Population benefiting from flood protection measures	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO20	Population benefiting from flood protection measures	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	CO21	Population benefiting from forest fire protection measures	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO21	Population benefiting from forest fire protection measures	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	CO23	surface area of habitats supported in order to attain a better conservation status	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO23	surface area of habitats supported in order to attain a better conservation status	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	O0207	Surface area of rehabilitated or with improved management ecosystems	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0207	Surface area of rehabilitated or with improved management ecosystems	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	O0210	Number of participants in prevention actions	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0210	Number of participants in prevention actions	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Priority axis	2 - Protection of Environment - Transportation
Thematic Priority	b - Protecting the environment and promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management through, inter alia: joint actions for environmental protection; promoting sustainable use of natural resources, resource efficiency, renewable energy sources and the shift towards a safe and sustainable low-carbon economy; promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems and emergency preparedness.
Specific objective	2.3 - Sustainable management of protected areas, ecosystems and biodiversity

**Table 1: Result indicators - 2.b.2.3**

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
R0205	Surface area of ecosystems or habitats with improved protection and conservation status	Hectars	1,369,578.00	2015	1,557,578.00	1,369,578.00		Projects did not commence their implementation.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0205	Surface area of ecosystems or habitats with improved protection and conservation status	1,369,578.00		1,369,578.00		1,369,578.00	

Priority axis	2 - Protection of Environment - Transportation
Thematic Priority	b - Protecting the environment and promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management through, inter alia: joint actions for environmental protection; promoting sustainable use of natural resources, resource efficiency, renewable energy sources and the shift towards a safe and sustainable low-carbon economy; promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems and emergency preparedness.
Specific objective	2.4 - Prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, risks and hazards

**Table 1: Result indicators - 2.b.2.4**

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
R0206	Population benefiting from risk / hazards prevention and natural disaster management measures	Persons	1,150,000.00	2015	1,620,200.00	1,150,000.00		Projects did not commence their implementation.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0206	Population benefiting from risk / hazards prevention and natural disaster management measures	1,150,000.00		1,150,000.00		1,150,000.00	

Priority axis	2 - Protection of Environment - Transportation
Thematic Priority	c - Promoting sustainable transport and improving public infrastructures by, inter alia, reducing isolation through improved access to transport, information and communication networks and services and investing in cross-border water, waste and energy systems and facilities.

**Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 2.c**

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2017	Observations
F	CO32	Decrease of annual primary energy consumption of public buildings	Kwh/year	150,000.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
S	CO32	Decrease of annual primary energy consumption of public buildings	Kwh/year	150,000.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
F	CO34	Estimated annual decrease of GHG	Kilograms of CO2 equivalent/year	106.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
S	CO34	Estimated annual decrease of GHG	Kilograms of CO2 equivalent/year	106.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
F	O0201	Surface of improved cross-border road and infrastructure	Square meters	1,200.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
S	O0201	Surface of improved cross-border road and infrastructure	Square meters	1,200.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
F	O0204	Volume of solid wastes under improved management or recycling	Tonnes / year	1,725.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
S	O0204	Volume of solid wastes under improved management or recycling	Tonnes / year	1,725.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
F	O0205	Volume of liquid wastes under improved management or recycling	Cubic meters / year	158,775.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.
S	O0205	Volume of liquid wastes under improved management or recycling	Cubic meters / year	158,775.00	0.00	Projects did not commence their implementation.

(1)	ID	Indicator	2016	2015	2014
F	CO32	Decrease of annual primary energy consumption of public buildings	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO32	Decrease of annual primary energy consumption of public buildings	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	CO34	Estimated annual decrease of GHG	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO34	Estimated annual decrease of GHG	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	O0201	Surface of improved cross-border road and infrastructure	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0201	Surface of improved cross-border road and infrastructure	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	O0204	Volume of solid wastes under improved management or recycling	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0204	Volume of solid wastes under improved management or recycling	0.00	0.00	0.00
F	O0205	Volume of liquid wastes under improved management or recycling	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	O0205	Volume of liquid wastes under improved management or recycling	0.00	0.00	0.00

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



Priority axis	2 - Protection of Environment - Transportation
Thematic Priority	c - Promoting sustainable transport and improving public infrastructures by, inter alia, reducing isolation through improved access to transport, information and communication networks and services and investing in cross-border water, waste and energy systems and facilities.
Specific objective	2.1 - Upgrade public infrastructure to improve road travel time, safe border crossing and promote energy efficiency towards green transport

**Table 1: Result indicators - 2.c.2.1**

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
R0201	Reduced travel time	Minutes	10,81 min/10 km	2015	10% improvement over 2015 value		10,81 min/10 km	Projects did not commence their implementation.
R0202	Average border crossing travelling time	Minutes	101		20% improvement over 2015 value		101	Projects did not commence their implementation.
R0203	Energy efficiency awareness barometer	Value in a scale of 100	61.77	2015	20% improvement over 2015 value		61.77	Projects did not commence their implementation.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0201	Reduced travel time		10,81 min/10 km		10,81 min/10 km		10,81 min/10 km
R0202	Average border crossing travelling time		101		101		101
R0203	Energy efficiency awareness barometer		61.77		61.77		61.77

Priority axis	2 - Protection of Environment - Transportation
Thematic Priority	c - Promoting sustainable transport and improving public infrastructures by, inter alia, reducing isolation through improved access to transport, information and communication networks and services and investing in cross-border water, waste and energy systems and facilities.
Specific objective	2.2 - Sustainable management and recycling of biowastes

**Table 1: Result indicators - 2.c.2.2**

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
R0204	Population served by improved waste management or recycling	Persons	17,885.00	2015	25,097.00	17,885.00		Projects did not commence their implementation.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
R0204	Population served by improved waste management or recycling	17,885.00		17,885.00		17,885.00	

## Priority axes for technical assistance

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

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone for 2018 total	Final target (2023) total	2017	Observations
1	O	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	Persons	0	1,500.00	0.00	This indicator is sufficiently captured by no less than 9 projects (of the 1st Call). According to the projects' workplan, the target value will be reached well before 2023.
1	F	F011	Eligible verified (certified) Expenditure of the Axis	Euro	1400000	18,188,028.00	0.00	Following the budget clearing exercise, which was concluded between the Joint Secretariat and the beneficiaries under the 1st CfP, the combined budget of Specific Objectives 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 amounts to EUR 14.250.140.
1	I	K0101	Contracted Projects	Number of Projects	13		0.00	All 16 projects approved under the 1st CfP are ready for contracting.
2	F	F0102	Eligible verified (certified) Expenditure of the Axis	Euro	2000000	22,735,032.00	0.00	Following the budget clearing exercise, which was concluded between the Joint Secretariat and the beneficiaries under the 1st CfP, the combined budget of Specific Objectives 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 amounts to EUR 21.944.891.
2	I	K0102	Contracted Projects	Number of Projects	16		0.00	All 21 projects approved under the 1st CfP are ready for contracting.
2	O	O0207	Surface area of rehabilitated or with improved management ecosystems	Hectars	0	188,000.00	0.00	Number of projects contributing to indicator: 8. The total relevant area covered by the projects is over 230.000 Hectars.
2	O	O0210	Number of participants in prevention actions	Persons	0	200.00	0.00	Number of projects contributing to indicator: 2. The relevant projects have planned far reaching activities, with 1000 participants per project.

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	2016	2015	2014
1	O	CO36	Health: Population covered by improved health services	Persons	0.00	0.00	0.00
1	F	F011	Eligible verified (certified) Expenditure of the Axis	Euro	0.00	0.00	0.00
1	I	K0101	Contracted Projects	Number of Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	F	F0102	Eligible verified (certified) Expenditure of the Axis	Euro	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	I	K0102	Contracted Projects	Number of Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	O	O0207	Surface area of rehabilitated or with improved management ecosystems	Hectars	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	O	O0210	Number of participants in prevention actions	Persons	0.00	0.00	0.00

### 3.4. Financial data

**Table 4: Financial information at priority axis and programme level**

As set out in Table 1 of Annex II to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1011/2014 (Model for transmission of financial data) and table 17 of model for cooperation programmes under IPA.

Priority axis	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	Public	18,188,028.00	85.00	14,254,359.88	78.37%	14,254,359.88	0.00	0.00%	16
2	Public	22,735,032.00	85.00	21,920,844.12	96.42%	21,920,844.12	0.00	0.00%	21
3	Public	4,547,006.00	85.00	4,547,006.00	100.00%	4,547,006.00	21,992.80	0.48%	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>45,470,066.00</b>	<b>85.00</b>	<b>40,722,210.00</b>	<b>89.56%</b>	<b>40,722,210.00</b>	<b>21,992.80</b>	<b>0.05%</b>	<b>39</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)**

The Programme is financed by the IPA. The allocation of funds under the first Call for Proposals is as follows:

Greece: EUR 21.472.871,92

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: EUR 14.722.159,28

The above amounts include national co-financing at a rate of 15%.

**Table 5: Breakdown of the cumulative financial data by category of intervention**

As set out in Table 2 of Annex II to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1011/2014 (Model for transmission of financial data) and tables 6-9 of Model for cooperation programmes

Priority axis	Intervention field	Form of finance	Territorial dimension	Territorial delivery mechanism	«r.ir.etc.table5.thempridimen»	Economic dimension	Location dimension	Total eligible cost of operations selected for support	Public eligible cost of operations selected for support	The total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the managing authority	Number of operations selected
1	075	01	05	07	d	24	EL1	241,745.00	241,745.00	0.00	1
1	075	01	05	07	d	24	MK	268,110.00	268,110.00	0.00	1
1	092	01	05	07	d	24	EL1	775,851.00	775,851.00	0.00	2
1	092	01	05	07	d	24	MK	574,095.03	574,095.03	0.00	2
1	094	01	05	07	d	24	EL1	747,825.16	747,825.16	0.00	2
1	094	01	05	07	d	24	MK	833,937.98	833,937.98	0.00	2
1	102	01	05	07	a	24	EL1	775,512.75	775,512.75	0.00	2
1	102	01	05	07	a	24	MK	426,630.00	426,630.00	0.00	2
1	112	01	05	07	a	24	EL1	6,040,928.79	6,040,928.79	0.00	9
1	112	01	05	07	a	24	MK	3,569,724.17	3,569,724.17	0.00	9
2	013	01	05	07	c	24	EL1	1,913,246.45	1,913,246.45	0.00	3
2	013	01	05	07	c	24	MK	1,539,504.50	1,539,504.50	0.00	3
2	017	01	05	07	b	24	EL1	3,395,203.10	3,395,203.10	0.00	6
2	017	01	05	07	b	24	MK	2,579,703.80	2,579,703.80	0.00	6
2	034	01	05	07	b	24	EL1	774,477.50	774,477.50	0.00	1
2	034	01	05	07	b	24	MK	442,090.00	442,090.00	0.00	1
2	044	01	05	07	c	24	EL1	604,542.00	604,542.00	0.00	1
2	044	01	05	07	c	24	MK	341,860.00	341,860.00	0.00	1
2	085	01	05	07	b	24	EL1	5,068,663.05	5,068,663.05	0.00	8
2	085	01	05	07	b	24	MK	3,420,610.70	3,420,610.70	0.00	8
2	087	01	05	07	b	24	EL1	1,003,118.22	1,003,118.22	0.00	2
2	087	01	05	07	b	24	MK	837,824.80	837,824.80	0.00	2
3	121	01	05	07		24	EL1	2,498,343.00	2,498,343.00	0.00	1
3	121	01	05	07		24	MK	575,000.00	575,000.00	0.00	1
3	122	01	05	07		24	EL1	1,173,063.00	1,173,063.00	21,992.80	1
3	122	01	05	07		24	MK	300,600.00	300,600.00	0.00	1

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

1. Operation (2)	2. The amount of IPA support(1) envisaged to be used for all or part of an operation implemented outside the Union part of the programme area based on selected operations	3. Share of the total financial allocation to all or part of an operation located outside the Union part of the programme area (%) (column 2/total amount allocated to the support from the IPA at programme level * 100)	4. Eligible expenditure of IPA support incurred in all or part of an operation implemented outside the Union part of the programme area declared by the beneficiary to the managing authority	5. Share of the total financial allocation to all or part of an operation located outside the Union part of the programme area (%) (column 4/total amount allocated to the support from the IPA at programme level *100)
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(1) IPA support is the Commission decision on the respective cooperation programme.

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

#### 4. SYNTHESIS OF THE EVALUATIONS

No evaluations were carried out during the reference period.

The Managing Authority prepared the tender document for the procurement of Experts, responsible for the 1st interim Evaluation of the Programme implementation. The evaluation will cover the Programme progress until the end of 2017.

The tender was published in 2018, with an indicative budget of EUR 20.000, in line with the respective allocations of the Programme's Evaluation Plan.



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

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

#### **Programme Revision**

The Programme was revised in 2017. The main addition was the adoption of the Performance Framework, which was absent from all IPA Programmes at the time of approval. The Managing Authority took advantage of the timing and introduced findings from the assessment of the 1st Call for Project Proposals to accurately capture the Key Implementation Steps of the Performance Framework.

The Complaints procedures were also enriched and now cover in detail the stages of Project cycle and Programme duration.

#### **Programme Structures & Management and Control System (MCS)**

To ensure a smooth implementation of the Programme, The Joint Monitoring Committee had decided to maintain the Secretariat structure in place (from the previous programming period). New vacancies were also planned, to enhance the capacity of the Secretariat. The selection procedure of a Financial Officer took place in 2017.

During the reference period, the Designation procedure of the Programme Structures was successfully completed.

Further, the Risk Management Plan of the Programme has been established and integrated with the MCS. An anti-fraud strategy has also been developed.

On October 2017, the Audit Authority submitted their favorable opinion on the compliance with the relevant designation criteria of the Managing Authority, Joint Secretariat, FLC in both partner countries and Certifying Authority.

The Audit Authority requested enrichment of the description in relation to a) the supervision procedure by the MA of the FLC system, and b) the functionality of the integrated MIS system. The fulfillment of the requests is under way.

The Programme FLC system is decentralized for the current Programming Period. The dedicated Unit C, of the Managing Authority is responsible for the well-functioning of the system. Unit C has distinct and clear responsibilities to safeguard its independence. To ensure a smooth transition, the MA organized training seminars for the appointed Controllers and issued relevant manuals. Further, several exchanges and meetings have taken place with the FLC body in the IPA beneficiary country. The goal is to achieve a harmonized set of rules – regarding verification of expenditure – across the partner countries.

## **E-Cohesion**

The Greek integrated Management Information System (MIS) has been developed to support (initially) the mainstream Operational Programmes 2014-2020, ensuring full electronic management of data and procedures on both Programme and project level. More specifically, the MIS covers the specific requirements as set out in EU 1011/2014 (Article 9 prg1 & Article 10 prg1 & prg4) and EU 821/2014 (Article 8 prg1) focusing particularly:

- on the electronic exchange of information between beneficiaries and management and control bodies (i.e. enabling reduction of administrative burden for beneficiaries)
- on the facilitation of interoperability between National and Union legal frameworks, while allowing beneficiaries to submit once all information related to the electronic data exchange (i.e. enabling electronic data exchange on programme implementation level)

Significant Progress has been documented during the reference period. The main desired functions have been integrated into the system and checks have been conducted to control the well-functioning of the System. Full adaptation of the MIS is estimated in 2018.

**(b) OPTIONAL FOR LIGHT REPORTS, otherwise it will be included in point 9.1. An assessment of whether progress made towards targets is sufficient to ensure their fulfilment, indicating any remedial actions taken or planned, where appropriate.**

Although the MA/Joint Secretariat have successfully concluded the budget clearing exercise with all project beneficiaries, no contracts were signed by the end of 2017.

The main obstacle stems from the funding provisions applicable for Greek beneficiaries. As Greek beneficiaries are entitled to receive public funding for their project related activities, they are required to follow the national procurement rules. A coordinated effort has been carried out by the Managing Authority and Commission services, to align the differences between the EU external rules (PRAG) and the rules applicable to Member States.

Contracting of projects and commencement of project activities are expected to start in 2018. Expenditure is expected to be incurred in 2018. In any case, the Programme does not run a risk of decommitment of funds. The target for 2018 amounts to EU funds of EUR 2.799.148. This amount is covered by the Programme's pre-financing. The Programme is also expected to achieve the financial milestones (2018) of the Performance Framework.

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

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

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

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

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

**8.1. Major projects**

**Table 7: Major projects**

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

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

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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

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**Table 8: Joint action plans (JAP)**

Title of the JAP	CCI	Stage of implementation of JAP	Total eligible costs	Total public support	OP contribution to JAP	Priority axis	Type of JAP	[Planned] submission to the Commission	[Planned] start of implementation	[Planned] completion	Main outputs and results	Total eligible expenditure certified to the Commission	Observations
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**Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them**

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**9. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 50(4) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013 AND ARTICLE 14(4) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1299/2013)**

**9.1 Information in Part A and achieving the objectives of the programme (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)**

Priority axis	1 - Development and Support of Local Economy
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Priority axis	2 - Protection of Environment - Transportation
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Priority axis	3 - Technical Assistance
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**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

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**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

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

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**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

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**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**

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

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

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

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

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

As stipulated by the Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013, recital 19, article 8(3)(d) on the "Content, adoption and amendment of cooperation programmes" and article 14(4) 2nd subparagraph (c) "Implementation reports", this programme contributes to MRS(s) and/or SBS:

No macro-regional Strategies are attached to the Programme.

- EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)
- EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR)

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

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### 13. SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

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

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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).

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## Documents

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent By
Citizens' Summary; 2017 Annual Report	Citizens' summary	30-May-2018		Ares(2018)2807603	Citizens' Summary; 2017 Annual Report	30-May-2018	nlogotge

**Latest validation results**

<b>Severity</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Message</b>
Info		Implementation report version has been validated