

**IMPLEMENTATION REPORT FOR THE EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL
COOPERATION GOAL
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 Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme was approved by the EU Commission in December 2014. To ensure a strong implementation from the start, the first call was opened in autumn 2014.

In March 2017, the Monitoring Committee approved 10 projects out of 37 submitted in the Fourth Call, bringing the total of approved main projects to 35. During the year another 4 preparatory projects were approved, bringing the total number of preparatory projects to 33. 38 113 711 Euro or 68% of the total NPA funding for projects was allocated by the end of the year.

After 4 calls, the allocation is unevenly distributed across the funding sources. Of the ERDF funding, 64% was committed, whilst 88% of the Norwegian, 71% of the Icelandic, 96% of the Faroese and 100% of the Greenlandic funding to projects was committed. For these reasons, some of the non-member states therefore decided to increase their contribution to the programme in 2017. The total extra allocation amounts to 1 367 362 Euro, the largest contribution coming from Iceland but the Faroese Islands and Greenland also decided to use outstanding balances from the NPP 2007-2013 in the current programme.

The beneficiaries are distributed as follows across the three geographical zones of the programme area: 108 partners in Finland, Sweden and Norway, 94 partners in Scotland, Ireland and Northern Ireland and 40 partners in Greenland, Iceland and Faroe Islands, and other countries 10. When looking at the geographical distribution of Lead Partners, the distribution between the three zones is more uneven, mainly because Greenlandic and Faroese partners cannot be Lead Partners.

The 35 main projects and 33 preparatory projects are distributed unevenly seen in relation to the four programme priority axes. In the earliest stages of programme implementation, priority Axis 3 (Energy) and 4 (Sustainability) had a slow start, which led the Monitoring Committee to decide to open the third call only for projects in these areas. This measure has had the desired effect and there are now 10 approved main projects and 7 preparatory projects in Axis 4 and the highest commitment rate with 77% of the ERDF funding. In Axis 3 there are 5 main projects and 9 preparatory projects approved and the commitment rate is 60%. Axis 1 (Innovation) is the second most popular theme with 12 main projects and 10 preparatory projects, and a commitment rate of 72%. The lowest commitment rate is in Axis 2 (Entrepreneurship) with 8 approved main projects and 7 preparatory projects or 50% of the ERDF funding.

The Fifth Call was launched on 1st October 2017, and closed in February 2018. The Terms of Reference for this call were informed by a thematic gap analysis after the Fourth Call. To support project applicants, a *How to Apply* seminar was held in November.

The overall payment rate of the ERDF at the end of 2017 was 13,72%, broken down by Priority Axis as follows: PA1 16,78%, PA2 17,87%, PA3 7,47%, PA4 5,62% and PA5 (TA) 22,27%.

The NPA addresses the “Arctic Dimension” as a cross cutting theme, and the integrated European Union policy for the Arctic mandated the NPA to have a leading role in bringing together a network of managing authorities and stakeholders from cooperation programmes in the European Arctic. In 2017, a wide range of activities was organized jointly by NPA, Interreg Nord, Interreg Botnia-Atlantica and Kolarctic CBC ENI.

All programmes have added an Arctic Cooperation section to their websites to promote the collaboration. In May, a project clustering event was organised by Interreg Botnia-Atlantica in Sweden. It brought together projects and experts within the 4 themes of eHealth, Energy efficiency, Bio-economy and Entrepreneurship to identify future cooperation possibilities. Following the event, the NPA opened a project call for cross-programme project clusters, which resulted in 2 successful applications.

In October, the Arctic programmes organised a workshop during the European Week of Regions and Cities in Brussels, gathering 80 participants. This well-received event aimed to demonstrate how the political decisions in the Joint Communication were followed up with concrete actions.

In August, the first Arctic Awards project competition was launched, to highlight innovative projects being of direct benefit to Arctic communities. The 2017 categories were Overcoming Critical Mass, and Sustainable Use of Resources. In total, 20 projects from 3 programmes applied, and one winner was selected in each category. The award ceremony took place during the Interreg Nord conference in Luleå (Sweden) in November. The Arctic project criteria developed for this competition are also used to capture the Arctic dimension of NPA projects in the final report package, which was presented to First Call projects in September 2017. Besides this, the NPA has joined meetings and events in connection with the EU Arctic Stakeholder Forum.

During 2017, the NPA also highlighted its contribution to the EU Atlantic Strategy at the NPA Annual Conference *Blue Opportunities: The Marine Economy in the NPA*, held in Galway in September. The event gathered 136 participants, including projects funded by the NPA and other Interreg programmes, representatives from programme bodies, representatives from the European Commission, and stakeholders from organisations linked to Blue Growth, particularly in the fields of entrepreneurship and innovation, protecting and developing the Atlantic marine and coastal environment, and creating a socially inclusive model of regional development for the Atlantic regions.

Besides clustering projects, the programme launched another new preparatory project type during 2017, micro projects. Micro projects are meant for building up capacity and experience for representatives of specific underrepresented groups to make them better suited to join NPA main projects in the future.

In table 2, the cumulative target value of outputs of selected operations is equal to the expected results of approved projects at application stage, a forecast provided by beneficiaries. These forecasts are high in relation to the target values set by the programme. Interim reporting however shows that the method for counting actual achievements as compared to forecasts will be more robust. The values are therefore expected to decrease noticeably once projects are asked to provide robust evidence for their achievements in their final report.

By the end of 2017, values for actual achievements are well on track, except for one common indicator in priority axis 2 and both indicators in axis 4, which is related to the low number of approved projects in these axes in the first calls. To address the situation, a focused call was held to increase the uptake in axis 3 and 4, which had the desired effect. For this reason, the allocation rate in axis 4 is high, but since projects are in the early stages of their implementation, the payment rate has not yet caught up. This is expected to improve.

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	Using Innovation to Maintain and Develop Robust and Competitive Communities	<p>Five main projects have been approved in relation to Specific Objective 1.1 (Increased innovation and transfer of new technology to SMEs) under Priority Axis 1. The supported projects are in general addressing 5 out of 8 prioritised actions mentioned in the Cooperation Programme document. Four prioritised actions are not addressed: Projects addressing clustering of SMEs in order to develop critical mass to access R&D, linking creative sector and SME's to promote innovation, facilitating business networks across regional and national borders, and developments in relation to marine and maritime sectors as well as developments in relation to cold climate and natural resources.</p> <p>Seven main projects are addressing Specific Objective 1.2 (Increased innovation within public service provision) under Priority Axis 1. The supported projects are in general addressing all prioritised actions mentioned in the Cooperation Programme document.</p>
2	Promoting Entrepreneurship to Realise the Potential of the Programme Area's Competitive Advantage	<p>Six main projects are addressing Specific Objective 2.1 (Improved support systems tailored for start-ups and existing SMEs) under Priority Axis 2 and no bigger gaps can be identified within the Specific Objective. Two main projects are addressing Specific Objective 2.2 (Greater market reach beyond local market for SMEs under Priority Axis 2. One out of three prioritised actions in the Cooperation Programme are in general addressed by the supported projects. Not yet addressed are actions regarding transfer and development of concepts for clustering and creating networks of SMEs to meet a larger-scale, more diverse and/or more complex demand and marketing models and solutions facilitating the use of distance-spanning technology to overcome long distance to market.</p> <p>Priority Axis 2 has the lowest commitment rate but this is expected to increase with the 5th call. This can partially be explained by the fact that proposals coming forward in the first calls were thematically very narrow, and therefore did not offer the added value the MC was looking for. In addition, the strong focus on entrepreneurship is relatively new for the NPA. The terms of reference for the 5th call, published in October 2017 pointed out that the programme will be able to fund another 8 projects within this theme. During fall 2017 a number of preparatory projects addressing priority axis 2 were initiated, which also indicates that there will be main applications in the pipeline.</p>
3	Fostering Energy-Secure Communities through Promotion of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency	Five main projects have been approved in this Priority Axis. The supported projects are in general addressing all three types of prioritised actions mentioned in the Cooperation Programme document.

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
4	Protecting, promoting and developing cultural and natural heritage	Ten main projects have been approved in this Priority Axis. The supported projects are in general addressing all prioritised actions mentioned in the Cooperation Programme document.
5	Technical Assistance	<p>All cost related to technical assistance are transmitted into the accounts of and reported by the Managing Authority.</p> <p>In the first years of NPA 2014-2020 implementation, the NPP 2007-2013 budget was used for the programme closure. This fact, in combination with vacancies at the Managing Authority, delayed invoicing from some of the programme bodies and for the development of the monitoring system (eMS) contributed to an underspending in the first years of programme implementation. In 2017 the TA spending has caught up and is expected to be accurate over time.</p> <p>The development of eMS has been a large task in the first years of programme implementation and by the end of 2017 project applicants applied online, the eligibility check, appraisals by Regional Advisory Groups, the quality assessment and the contracting took place in the system. Furthermore the reporting and other modules to process and pay project claims are in place and the rate of payments has increased after having made the first payments in November 2016 and is at a satisfactory stage. In total 6,7 million EUR, or 13,4% of the allocated funding (including TA), has been paid.</p> <p>There have not been any problems experienced in relation to TA expenditure. At its meeting in September the Management Group approved a budget change where adjustments were made between budget lines, mainly in order to allocate extra resources to the evaluation budget which had been underbudgeted.</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 - Using Innovation to Maintain and Develop Robust and Competitive Communities
Investment priority	1b - Promoting business investment in R&I, developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the higher education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation, and supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advanced manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 1.1b

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2017	Observations
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	32.00	56.00	
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	32.00	50.00	
F	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	Enterprises	16.00	141.00	
S	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	Enterprises	16.00	240.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2016	2015	2014
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	50.00	50.00	0.00
F	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	79.00	49.00	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 - Using Innovation to Maintain and Develop Robust and Competitive Communities
Investment priority	1b - Promoting business investment in R&I, developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the higher education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation, and supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advanced manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies
Specific objective	1.1 - Increased innovation and transfer of new technology to SMEs in remote sparsely populated areas

Table 1: Result indicators - 1.1b.1.1

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
1.1	Degree of transnational collaboration between SMEs and R&D	Composite index aggregating sub-indicators from a scoreboard	100.00	2015	181.70			In line with expectations for 2016, but slightly below the target value.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
1.1	Degree of transnational collaboration between SMEs and R&D	107.80					

Priority axis	1 - Using Innovation to Maintain and Develop Robust and Competitive Communities
Investment priority	1b - Promoting business investment in R&I, developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the higher education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation, and supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advanced manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies
Specific objective	1.2 - Increased innovation within public service provision in remote, sparsely populated areas

Table 1: Result indicators - 1.1b.1.2

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
1.2	Awareness and attitudes among health professionals towards the use of eHealth technologies	Composite index aggregating sub-indicators from a scoreboard	100.00	2015	293.10			In line with expectations for 2016, but slightly below the target value.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
1.2	Awareness and attitudes among health professionals towards the use of eHealth technologies	128.10					

Priority axis	2 - Promoting Entrepreneurship to Realise the Potential of the Programme Area's Competitive Advantage
Investment priority	3a - Promoting entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 2.3a

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2017	Observations
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	16.00	427.00	
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	16.00	569.00	
F	CO28	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products	Enterprises	8.00	18.00	
S	CO28	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products	Enterprises	8.00	44.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2016	2015	2014
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	510.00	510.00	0.00
F	CO28	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO28	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products	67.00	67.00	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 - Promoting Entrepreneurship to Realise the Potential of the Programme Area's Competitive Advantage
Investment priority	3a - Promoting entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators
Specific objective	2.1 - Improved support systems tailored for start-ups and existing SMEs in remote and sparsely populated areas

Table 1: Result indicators - 2.3a.2.1

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
2.1	Conditions for start ups in remote and sparsely populated areas	Composite index aggregating sub-indicators from a scoreboard	100.00	2015	132.70			In line with expectations for 2016.The uncertainty of the method is greater than the actual change.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
2.1	Conditions for start ups in remote and sparsely populated areas	99.20					

Priority axis	2 - Promoting Entrepreneurship to Realise the Potential of the Programme Area's Competitive Advantage
Investment priority	3d - Supporting the capacity of SMEs to grow in regional, national and international markets, and to engage in innovation processes

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 2.3d

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2017	Observations
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	16.00	5.00	
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	16.00	35.00	
F	CO28	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products	Enterprises	8.00	117.00	
S	CO28	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products	Enterprises	8.00	23.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2016	2015	2014
F	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	0.00	0.00	
S	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	35.00	35.00	
F	CO28	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products	0.00	0.00	
S	CO28	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products	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 - Promoting Entrepreneurship to Realise the Potential of the Programme Area's Competitive Advantage
Investment priority	3d - Supporting the capacity of SMEs to grow in regional, national and international markets, and to engage in innovation processes
Specific objective	2.2 - Greater market reach beyond local markets for SMEs in remote and sparsely populated areas

Table 1: Result indicators - 2.3d.2.2

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
2.2	Awareness of the business opportunities beyond local markets	Composite index aggregating sub-indicators from a scoreboard	100.00	2015	139.50			In line with expectations for 2016, but slightly below the target value.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
2.2	Awareness of the business opportunities beyond local markets	102.80					

Priority axis	3 - Fostering Energy-Secure Communities through Promotion of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
Investment priority	4c - Supporting energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 3.4c

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2017	Observations
F	CO31	Energy efficiency: Number of households with improved energy consumption classification	Households	250.00	3,316.00	
S	CO31	Energy efficiency: Number of households with improved energy consumption classification	Households	250.00	4,748.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2016	2015	2014
F	CO31	Energy efficiency: Number of households with improved energy consumption classification	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO31	Energy efficiency: Number of households with improved energy consumption classification	4,515.00	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	3 - Fostering Energy-Secure Communities through Promotion of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
Investment priority	4c - Supporting energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector
Specific objective	3 - Increased use of energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions in housing and public infrastructures in remote, sparsely populated areas

Table 1: Result indicators - 3.4c.3

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
3	Awareness of energy efficiency opportunities and renewable solutions in housing sector and public infrastructures in remote and sparsely populated areas	Composite index aggregating sub-indicators from a scoreboard	100.00	2015	111.10			No new data, however, the observed trend in at least one of the three regions is positive.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
3	Awareness of energy efficiency opportunities and renewable solutions in housing sector and public infrastructures in remote and sparsely populated areas	103.00					

Priority axis	4 - Protecting, promoting and developing cultural and natural heritage
Investment priority	6c - Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 4.6c

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2017	Observations
F	CO42	Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects	Organisations	11.00	2.00	
S	CO42	Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects	Organisations	11.00	45.00	
F	4	Number of organisations introducing a decision-making tool or governance concept facilitating sustainable environmental management	Organisations	22.00	0.00	
S	4	Number of organisations introducing a decision-making tool or governance concept facilitating sustainable environmental management	Organisations	22.00	39.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2016	2015	2014
F	CO42	Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	CO42	Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects	28.00	0.00	0.00
F	4	Number of organisations introducing a decision-making tool or governance concept facilitating sustainable environmental management	0.00	0.00	0.00
S	4	Number of organisations introducing a decision-making tool or governance concept facilitating sustainable environmental management	26.00	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	4 - Protecting, promoting and developing cultural and natural heritage
Investment priority	6c - Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage
Specific objective	4 - Increased capacity of remote and sparsely populated communities for sustainable environmental management

Table 1: Result indicators - 4.6c.4

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
4	Preparedness of responsible authorities in remote, sparsely populated areas for environmental management in relation to climate change and impacts of new investments in the exploitation of natural resources	Composite index aggregating sub-indicators from a scoreboard	100.00	2015	131.30			Above expectations for 2016. This is mainly due to that important steps have been taken in one of the three regions concerning international cooperation in relation to climate change adaptation.

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
4	Preparedness of responsible authorities in remote, sparsely populated areas for environmental management in relation to climate change and impacts of new investments in the exploitation of natural resources	114.60					

Priority axes for technical assistance

Priority axis	5 - Technical Assistance
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Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators - 5.Technical Assistance

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2017	Observations
F	16	Number of simplification measures implemented	Simplification measures		0.00	No reporting since target values have not been decided by the MC
S	16	Number of simplification measures implemented	Simplification measures		0.00	No reporting since target values have not been decided by the MC
F	17	Number of project development support activities	Events and activities		0.00	No reporting since target values have not been decided by the MC
S	17	Number of project development support activities	Events and activities		0.00	No reporting since target values have not been decided by the MC
F	18	Number of information and communication activities	Information and communication measures		0.00	No reporting since target values have not been decided by the MC
S	18	Number of information and communication activities	Information and communication measures		0.00	No reporting since target values have not been decided by the MC
F	24	Number of employees (full-time equivalents) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	full-time equivalents		0.00	No reporting since target values have not been decided by the MC
S	24	Number of employees (full-time equivalents) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance	full-time equivalents		0.00	No reporting since target values have not been decided by the MC

(1)	ID	Indicator	2016	2015	2014
F	16	Number of simplification measures implemented			
S	16	Number of simplification measures implemented			
F	17	Number of project development support activities			
S	17	Number of project development support activities			
F	18	Number of information and communication activities			
S	18	Number of information and communication activities			
F	24	Number of employees (full-time equivalents) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance			
S	24	Number of employees (full-time equivalents) whose salaries are co-financed by technical assistance			

(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	5 - Technical Assistance
Specific objective	5 - Leaner Programme management and more effective Programme implementation

Table 1: Result indicators - 5.5

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2017 Total	2017 Qualitative	Observations
99	Not applicable because the support to TA does not exceed 15 MEUR. See Priority Axis 5 "result sought".	N/A			0.00			

ID	Indicator	2016 Total	2016 Qualitative	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
99	Not applicable because the support to TA does not exceed 15 MEUR. See Priority Axis 5 "result sought".						

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	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	6.00	32.00	56.00	
1	O	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	Enterprises	3.00	16.00	14.00	
1	F	1	Total certified expenditure for Priority Axis 1 (ERDF + national contribution)	EUR	3,267,506.00	21,783,372.00	3,655,684.00	
2	O	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises	6.00	32.00	432.00	
2	O	CO28	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products	Enterprises	3.00	16.00	135.00	
2	F	2	Total certified expenditure for Priority Axis 2 (ERDF + national contribution)	EUR	3,267,506.00	21,783,372.00	3,892,396.00	
3	O	CO31	Energy efficiency: Number of households with improved energy consumption classification	Households	50.00	250.00	3,316.00	
3	F	3	Total certified expenditure for Priority Axis 3 (ERDF + national contribution)	EUR	2,178,337.00	14,522,247.00	1,084,097.00	
4	O	CO42	Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects	Organisations	2.00	11.00	2.00	
4	F	5	Total certified expenditure for Priority Axis 4 (ERDF + national contribution)	EUR	2,178,337.00	14,522,247.00	816,727.00	
4	O	4	Number of organisations introducing a decision-making tool or governance concept facilitating sustainable environmental management	Organisations	4.00	22.00	0.00	Based on reported outputs from ongoing projects, all milestones are on track to being met or exceeded by December 2018. By December 2017, the two milestones for Priority Axis 4 are not yet met, namely output indicator C42, and the specific output indicator for PA4. The reason for this is twofold. During the first calls, the uptake of Priority Axis 3 and 4 was low. To address this matter, the Monitoring Committee decided in 2015 that the Third Call should exclusively target Priority Axes 3 and 4. This has had a positive effect on the number of projects contributing to the common output indicators in PA 4. However, since they started later, the reported outputs for Priority Axis 4 projects are not yet as high as for projects from earlier calls. Nevertheless, we are confident that by December 2018, the milestones for Priority Axis 4 will also be met.

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	2016	2015	2014
1	O	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises			
1	O	CO26	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	Enterprises			
1	F	1	Total certified expenditure for Priority Axis 1 (ERDF + national contribution)	EUR			
2	O	CO01	Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support	Enterprises			
2	O	CO28	Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products	Enterprises			
2	F	2	Total certified expenditure for Priority Axis 2 (ERDF + national contribution)	EUR			

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	2016	2015	2014
3	O	CO31	Energy efficiency: Number of households with improved energy consumption classification	Households			
3	F	3	Total certified expenditure for Priority Axis 3 (ERDF + national contribution)	EUR			
4	O	CO42	Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects	Organisations			
4	F	5	Total certified expenditure for Priority Axis 4 (ERDF + national contribution)	EUR			
4	O	4	Number of organisations introducing a decision-making tool or governance concept facilitating sustainable environmental management	Organisations			

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 16 of model for cooperation programmes under the European territorial cooperation goal

Priority axis	Fund	Calculation basis	Total funding	Co-financing rate	Total eligible cost of operations selected for support	Proportion of the total allocation covered with selected operations	Public eligible cost of operations selected for support	Total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the managing authority	Proportion of the total allocation covered by eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries	Number of operations selected
1	ERDF	Total	21,783,372.00	65.00	15,717,713.24	72.15%	15,517,617.21	3,655,683.63	16.78%	22
2	ERDF	Total	21,783,372.00	65.00	10,941,802.71	50.23%	10,412,017.77	3,892,395.55	17.87%	15
3	ERDF	Total	14,522,247.00	65.00	8,720,310.16	60.05%	8,585,927.42	1,084,096.67	7.47%	14
4	ERDF	Total	14,522,247.00	65.00	11,231,807.80	77.34%	11,231,807.80	816,727.15	5.62%	17
5	ERDF	Total	6,025,186.00	50.00	6,025,186.00	100.00%	6,025,186.00	1,342,032.71	22.27%	3
Total	ERDF		78,636,424.00	63.85	52,636,819.91	66.94%	51,772,556.20	10,790,935.71	13.72%	71
Grand total			78,636,424.00	63.85	52,636,819.91	66.94%	51,772,556.20	10,790,935.71	13.72%	71

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)

In addition to the ERDF financing in table 4, the non-member state contribution to the programme is 10 326 418 Euro, including 1 199 830 Euro for Technical Assistance. The budgeted ERDF equivalent funding to priority Axes 1-4 is 9 126 588 Euro, of which a total of 7 822 780 Euro or 75,8% has been committed by end of 2017, which is a significantly higher commitment rate than for the ERDF funding. The high level of commitment already at an early stage of programme implementation caused some of the non-member states to increase their contribution to the programme with an extra 1 367 362 Euro during 2017. The largest additional contribution was by Iceland but also the Faroese Islands and Greenland decided to use outstanding balances from the NPP 2007-2013 in the current programme.

The distribution of ERDF equivalent funding between non-member states and priority axis is described below (all figures in Euro):

Norwegian ERDF equivalent funding:

Priority axis 1: 1 781 496

Priority axis 2: 623 573

Priority axis 3: 196 250

Priority axis 4: 1 671 849

TOTAL: 4 273 168 Euro

The intervention rate for Norwegian partners is 50%.

Icelandic ERDF equivalent funding:

Priority axis 1: 713 310

Priority axis 2: 268 823

Priority axis 3: 131 185

Priority axis 4: 798 668

TOTAL: 949 193 Euro

The intervention rate for Icelandic partners is 60%.

Faroese ERDF equivalent funding:

Priority axis 1: 43 819

Priority axis 2: 195 087

Priority axis 3: 160 300

Priority axis 4: 308 879

TOTAL: 708 085 Euro

The intervention rate for Faroese partners is 65%.

Greenlandic ERDF equivalent funding:

Priority axis 1:

Priority axis 2: 567 984

Priority axis 3: 107 042

Priority axis 4: 254 514

TOTAL: 929 540 Euro

The intervention rate for Greenlandic partners is 65%.

The total ERDF equivalent funding from non-member states is distributed across the priority axis according to the below:

Priority axis 1: 2 538 625

Priority axis 2: 1 655 467

Priority axis 3: 594 777

Priority axis 4: 3 033 910

TOTAL: 7 822 779 Euro

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	Fund	Intervention field	Form of finance	Territorial dimension	Territorial delivery mechanism	Thematic objective dimension	ESF secondary theme	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	ERDF	055	01	07	07	01		12	UKM6	2,299,372.29	2,283,722.29	323,852.66	1
1	ERDF	055	01	07	07	01		20	SE33	1,476,227.69	1,476,227.69	181,421.44	1
1	ERDF	055	01	07	07	01		21	UKM6	45,000.00	45,000.00		1
1	ERDF	062	01	07	07	01		02	IS	560,221.91	489,269.91	265,133.13	1
1	ERDF	062	01	07	07	01		02	NO07	175,789.00	175,789.00	49,427.43	1
1	ERDF	062	01	07	07	01		07	UKN0	1,904,785.05	1,904,785.05		1
1	ERDF	062	01	07	07	01		11	FIID	44,976.40	44,976.40	44,976.40	1
1	ERDF	062	01	07	07	01		15	UKM6	67,022.29	64,531.04	67,022.21	2
1	ERDF	063	01	07	07	01		02	UKM2	17,322.31	12,698.77	17,322.31	1
1	ERDF	063	01	07	07	01		03	IS	237,626.94	237,626.94	146,437.95	1
1	ERDF	063	01	07	07	01		24	UKN0	1,548,478.82	1,548,478.82	521,800.33	1
1	ERDF	065	01	07	07	01		24	FIID	1,661,866.15	1,557,486.91	425,804.23	1
1	ERDF	081	01	07	07	01		13	FIID	39,996.54	39,996.54	39,996.54	1
1	ERDF	081	01	07	07	01		18	IE01	1,107,656.62	1,107,656.62	569,431.01	1
1	ERDF	081	01	07	07	01		20	FIID	44,994.50	44,994.50	44,994.50	1
1	ERDF	081	01	07	07	01		20	IE02	23,294.00	21,294.00	23,294.00	1
1	ERDF	081	01	07	07	01		20	NO07	1,264,320.57	1,264,320.57	265,651.24	1
1	ERDF	081	01	07	07	01		20	SE33	1,535,412.31	1,535,412.31	534,125.20	1
1	ERDF	081	01	07	07	01		20	UKN0	44,993.05	44,993.05	44,993.05	1
1	ERDF	081	01	07	07	01		21	FIID	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	1
1	ERDF	081	01	07	07	01		21	UKN0	1,573,356.80	1,573,356.80		1
2	ERDF	062	01	07	07	03		22	UKM6	913,338.46	765,544.48	406,134.09	1
2	ERDF	063	01	07	07	03		23	NO05	920,844.58	920,844.58	375,100.61	1
2	ERDF	063	01	07	07	03		23	SE33	30,463.49	30,463.49	30,463.27	1
2	ERDF	063	01	07	07	03		24	SE33	44,777.00	42,284.00	44,777.00	1
2	ERDF	066	01	07	07	03		01	FIID	1,847,744.06	1,732,310.36		1
2	ERDF	066	01	07	07	03		15	FIID	61,756.38	61,756.38	61,756.38	2
2	ERDF	066	01	07	07	03		15	IE02	1,101,649.23	938,219.97	415,176.06	1
2	ERDF	066	01	07	07	03		15	UKM6	1,277,076.57	1,277,076.57	695,150.11	1
2	ERDF	066	01	07	07	03		23	IE01	1,847,111.96	1,847,111.96	647,822.97	1
2	ERDF	067	01	07	07	03		21	FIID	1,397,618.88	1,397,618.88	635,722.05	1
2	ERDF	067	01	07	07	03		21	IE01	40,788.38	40,788.38		1
2	ERDF	067	01	07	07	03		24	IE01	1,371,950.77	1,271,315.77	538,610.06	1
2	ERDF	067	01	07	07	03		24	SE33	45,000.00	45,000.00		1
2	ERDF	073	01	07	07	03		21	UKN0	41,682.95	41,682.95	41,682.95	1
3	ERDF	013	01	07	07	04		22	FIID	3,434,840.93	3,410,340.93	150,627.60	4
3	ERDF	013	01	07	07	04		22	IE01	44,658.89	44,658.89	44,658.89	1
3	ERDF	013	01	07	07	04		22	IE011	1,600,864.06	1,600,864.06		1
3	ERDF	013	01	07	07	04		22	IE02	37,546.95	37,546.95	37,546.95	1
3	ERDF	013	01	07	07	04		22	NO07	6,927.91	6,927.91	6,927.91	1
3	ERDF	013	01	07	07	04		22	UKN0	26,340.61	26,340.61	26,340.61	1
3	ERDF	013	01	07	07	04		24	FIID	34,250.24	34,250.24	34,250.24	1
3	ERDF	014	01	07	07	04		10	FIID	1,779,836.54	1,779,836.54		1
3	ERDF	014	01	07	07	04		10	UKM2	1,680,044.03	1,571,661.29	708,744.47	1
3	ERDF	014	01	07	07	04		22	FI193	30,000.00	28,500.00	30,000.00	1
3	ERDF	014	01	07	07	04		22	FIID	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	1
4	ERDF	084	01	07	07	06		24	IE01	1,085,075.82	1,085,075.82		1
4	ERDF	085	01	07	07	06		11	UKM6	45,000.00	45,000.00	44,999.99	1
4	ERDF	085	01	07	07	06		18	FIID	1,184,592.51	1,184,592.51		1
4	ERDF	085	01	07	07	06		22	FIID	22,786.65	22,786.65		1
4	ERDF	085	01	07	07	06		23	UKN0	1,311,998.46	1,311,998.46	341,458.08	1
4	ERDF	087	01	07	07	06		11	FIID	1,707,330.04	1,707,330.04	33,024.00	2

Priority axis	Fund	Intervention field	Form of finance	Territorial dimension	Territorial delivery mechanism	Thematic objective dimension	ESF secondary theme	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
4	ERDF	087	01	07	07	06		18	F11D	27,877.88	27,877.88	27,877.86	1
4	ERDF	087	01	07	07	06		22	UKM2	350,743.03	350,743.03		1
4	ERDF	087	01	07	07	06		22	UKN0	1,208,059.69	1,208,059.69		1
4	ERDF	088	01	07	07	06		22	F11D	945,673.46	945,673.46		1
4	ERDF	088	01	07	07	06		22	SE11	1,277,101.54	1,277,101.54	303,393.13	1
4	ERDF	095	01	07	07	06		15	NO05	3,200.71	3,200.71	3,200.71	1
4	ERDF	095	01	07	07	06		22	NO07	838,672.37	838,672.37		1
4	ERDF	095	01	07	07	06		22	SE33	34,600.00	34,600.00	34,600.00	1
4	ERDF	095	01	07	07	06		22	UKM2	28,173.38	28,173.38	28,173.38	1
4	ERDF	095	01	07	07	06		22	UKM6	1,160,922.26	1,160,922.26		1
5	ERDF	121	01	07	07			18	SE33	5,151,536.00	5,151,536.00	1,147,438.40	1
5	ERDF	122	01	07	07			18	SE33	120,504.00	120,504.00	26,840.72	1
5	ERDF	123	01	07	07			18	SE33	753,146.00	753,146.00	167,753.59	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 ERDF 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 ERDF at programme level *100)	4. 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	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 ERDF at programme level *100)
ADAPT Northern Heritage	227,982.97	0.45%	0.00	
AINNPA	5,248.90	0.01%	8,075.24	0.02%
Adapt	18,312.70	0.04%	28,173.38	0.06%
CEREAL	13,296.84	0.03%	12,347.61	0.02%
CINE	201,425.04	0.40%	0.00	
Circular Ocean	198,344.00	0.40%	155,594.90	0.31%
Connected North	9,674.00	0.02%	14,883.00	0.03%
Craft Reach	147,793.92	0.29%	98,108.80	0.20%
Drifting Apart	238,300.00	0.47%	65,617.69	0.13%
FOBIA	179,899.80	0.36%	0.00	
FREED	260,834.00	0.52%	106,219.23	0.21%
H-CHP	109,525.00	0.22%	0.00	
LECo	178,093.15	0.35%	0.00	
Making it work	201,032.00	0.40%	24,770.63	0.05%
NEES2	6,463.59	0.01%	9,943.99	0.02%
Option	5,838.91	0.01%	8,982.94	0.02%
Pre-Lighthouse	4,903.57	0.01%	7,543.94	0.02%
ReewiseVillage	3,900.00	0.01%	6,000.00	0.01%
RemoAge	92,508.00	0.18%	34,334.77	0.07%
SECURE	65,991.70	0.13%	0.00	
SHAPE	51,368.18	0.10%	0.00	
Spara2020	172,168.00	0.34%	75,184.49	0.15%
WATERPRO	130,068.36	0.26%	0.00	
WaterPro, prep	2,925.00	0.01%	4,500.00	0.01%

- (1) ERDF 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

In 2017 a procurement procedure for the procurement of an impact evaluation of the NPA programme was conducted. At its' meeting in December 2017 the Management Group was informed that the University of Strathclyde, European Policies and Research Centre, had submitted the winning bid. The impact evaluation will be conducted in 2018 and finalized in January 2019. The process is supported by an Evaluation Group consisting of representatives from all zones in the programme area.

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

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

Delays in the adaptation and implementation of the electronic monitoring system (eMS) in 2016 were mostly overcome during 2017. Since July, all preparatory project applications are submitted through the online system, thereby retiring the system of receiving applications by email and then entering them in the system. This means that all main and preparatory projects apply, are contracted, and report in one system.

Continuous updating of the guidance materials and the eMS templates has been based on user experiences such as applicants, lead partners, partners, FLC and programme staff. To assist applicants and project managers a Helpdesk function has been utilized continuously; especially during the start-up phase of approved projects. The Helpdesk has proved to be a good solution to address problems related to the use of eMS.

The high commitment rate for the ERDF equivalent funding from non-member states is a concern for the programme since this funding might be fully committed at a relatively early stage of programme implementation. At their only meeting in March 2017, the Monitoring Committee, decided on a case by case basis about the use of the 20% geographical flexibility rule for partners from non-member states in the fourth call.

The use of the flexibility rule was limited due to the additional contributions to the programme received by Iceland, Faroese Islands and Greenland during the year.

In July 2017, two new preparatory project types were launched: clustering projects and micro projects. Clustering activities can take place between projects from different programmes dealing with the same theme or projects that are addressing the same territorial challenges. The objective is to ensure better implementation of the cooperating projects, more efficient use of the funding, better results and wider dissemination of the results. The tool is mainly envisaged for the programmes participating in the Arctic Cooperation, but could also be used to support the implementation of macroregional and sea basin strategies. During 2017, 2 clustering projects were selected. Micro projects are meant for building up capacity and experience for representatives of specific underrepresented groups (women, young people, and indigenous peoples) to make them better suited to join NPA main projects in the future.

Besides the above mentioned, no problems have been identified in relation to the performance of the programme and expected results. The audit authority has not highlighted any serious problems in conjunction to their procedures according to article 124.2 in EU regulation 1303/2014.

(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.

Currently, progress being made towards targets is sufficient to ensure their fulfilment. The number of projects and allocation of funds in 2017 is at a satisfactory level. The quality of applications is considered to be good and the projects are expected to contribute to the programme targets. However, a systemic underspending by 1st and 2nd call projects was noted by the Joint Secretariat. To address project underspending a “de-commitment” exercise took place in June 2017 to gauge the depth of the underspending and to take remedial action with projects. This exercise did not yield much result, because most projects were over optimistic that they would spend 100% of their budget.

The final reporting pack was presented to First Call projects in September 2017, which is designed to capture both measurable outputs as well as wider results and impacts. Presenting the package exposed the fact that many projects did not properly plan for final reporting, and were suffering from reporting and implementation delays, partially due to the late delivery of eMS. The issues of project underspending and project delays were brought to the Management Group in September 2017. They decided that subject to a solid work plan, projects could be granted a maximum extension of 3 months for final reporting, and in exceptional cases an additional 3 months for implementation. The JS asked all First and Second Call projects to complete a template outlining their expected status with regards to outputs and spending by month 36. This resulted in a more realistic picture with regards to underspending and whether outputs would be achieved with or without modifications. On this more solid basis, the Management Group was able to grant the extensions at their December meeting.

To address delays caused by First Level Controllers, the Managing Authority communicated with National Controllers about the importance of keeping to the 2-month verification period. In addition, a training seminar for FLCs was scheduled for 2018.

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/ 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	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

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

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 - Using Innovation to Maintain and Develop Robust and Competitive Communities
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Priority axis	2 - Promoting Entrepreneurship to Realise the Potential of the Programme Area's Competitive Advantage
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Priority axis	3 - Fostering Energy-Secure Communities through Promotion of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
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Priority axis	4 - Protecting, promoting and developing cultural and natural heritage
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Priority axis	5 - 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)

Calculated amount of support to be used for climate change objectives based on the cumulative financial data by category of intervention in Table 7

Priority axis	Amount of support to be used for climate change objectives (EUR)	Proportion of total allocation to the operational programme (%)
1	1,080,213.01	7.63%
3	5,668,201.87	60.05%
4	3,089,964.96	32.73%
Total	9,838,379.84	19.59%

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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 ERDF

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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:

- EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)
- EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)
- EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR)
- EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP)
- Atlantic Sea Basin Strategy (ATLSBS)

Objective(s), policy area(s) and horizontal action(s) that the programme is relevant to:

	Objectives
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - Save the Sea
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 - Connect the Region
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 - Increase Prosperity
	Policy areas
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4.1 - Bioeconomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	4.2 - Culture
<input type="checkbox"/>	4.3 - Education
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4.4 - Energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	4.5 - Hazards
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4.6 - Health
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4.7 - Innovation
<input type="checkbox"/>	4.8 - Nutri
<input type="checkbox"/>	4.9 - Safe
<input type="checkbox"/>	4.10 - Secure
<input type="checkbox"/>	4.11 - Ship
<input type="checkbox"/>	4.12 - Tourism
<input type="checkbox"/>	4.13 - Transport
	Horizontal actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5.1 - Capacity
<input type="checkbox"/>	5.2 - Climate
<input type="checkbox"/>	5.3 - Neighbours
<input type="checkbox"/>	5.4 - Spatial planning

Actions or mechanisms used to better link the programme with the EUSBSR

A. Are macro-regional coordinators (mainly National Coordinators, Policy Area Coordinators, Horizontal Action Coordinators, or members of the Steering Committees/Coordination Groups) participating in the Monitoring Committee of the programme?

Yes No

B. In selection criteria, have extra points been attributed to specific measures supporting the EUSBSR?

Yes No

C. Has the programme invested EU funds in the EUSBSR?

Yes No

Does your programme plan to invest in the EUSBSR in the future? Please elaborate (1 specific sentence)

Nothing besides the allocated funding to projects that are in line with the strategy.

D. Obtained results in relation to the EUSBSR (n.a. for 2016)

E. Does the programme address the EUSBSR sub-objectives (with corresponding to specific targets and indicators) as stated in the "EUSBSR Action Plan"? (Please specify the target and the indicator)

The NPA addresses partly the sub-objectives "Improved global competitiveness of the Baltic Sea Region" and "Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management".

Priority(s) and objective(s) that the programme is relevant to:

	Priority	Objective
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 - Promote entrepreneurship and innovation	1.1 - Sharing knowledge between higher education organisations, companies and research centers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 - Promote entrepreneurship and innovation	1.2 - Enhancement of competitiveness and innovation capacities in the maritime economy of the Atlantic area
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - Promote entrepreneurship and innovation	1.3 - Fostering adaptation and diversification of economic activities by promoting the potential of the Atlantic area
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 - Protect, secure and develop the potential of the Atlantic marine and coastal environment	2.1 - Improving maritime safety and security
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 - Protect, secure and develop the potential of the Atlantic marine and coastal environment	2.2 - Exploring and protecting marine waters and coastal zones
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 - Protect, secure and develop the potential of the Atlantic marine and coastal environment	2.3 - Sustainable management of marine resources
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 - Protect, secure and develop the potential of the Atlantic marine and coastal environment	2.4 - Exploitation of the renewable energy potential of the Atlantic area's marine and coastal environment
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 - Improve accessibility and connectivity	3.1 - Promoting cooperation between ports
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 - Create a socially inclusive and sustainable model of regional development	4.1 - Fostering better knowledge of social challenges in the Atlantic area
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 - Create a socially inclusive and sustainable model of regional development	4.2 - Preserving and promoting the Atlantic's cultural heritage

Actions or mechanisms used to better link the programme with the Atlantic SBS

A. Are the Sea Basin Strategic coordinators (mainly National Coordinators, Priority Area Coordinators or members, and/or Objective coordinators or members) participating in the Monitoring Committee of the programme?

Yes No

B. In selection criteria, have extra points been attributed to specific measures supporting the ATLSBS?

Yes No

C. Has the programme invested EU funds in the ATLSBS?

Yes No

Does your programme plan to invest in the EUSAIR in the future? Please elaborate (1 specific sentence)

Nothing besides the allocated funding to projects that are in line with the strategy.

D. Obtained results in relation to the ATLSBS (n.a. for 2016)

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
The Northern Periphery and Arctic programme in brief	Citizens' summary	10-Sep-2018		Ares(2018)5658691	The Northern Periphery and Arctic programme in brief	06-Nov-2018	nnystste

Latest validation results

Severity	Code	Message
Info		Implementation report version has been validated
Warning	2.48.1	Annual value entered in table 1 is below the baseline value and moving away from the target for priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3a, specific objective: 2.1, indicator: 2.1 , year: 2016 (99.20 < 100.00). Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 1,500.00% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 1, investment priority: 1b, indicator: CO26, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 1,806.00% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 3, investment priority: 4c, indicator: CO31, year: 2016. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 1,899.20% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 3, investment priority: 4c, indicator: CO31, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 118.18% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 4, investment priority: 6c, indicator: 4, year: 2016. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 156.25% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 1, investment priority: 1b, indicator: CO01, year: 2015. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 156.25% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 1, investment priority: 1b, indicator: CO01, year: 2016. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 156.25% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 1, investment priority: 1b, indicator: CO01, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 177.27% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 4, investment priority: 6c, indicator: 4, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 218.75% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3d, indicator: CO01, year: 2015. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 218.75% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3d, indicator: CO01, year: 2016. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 218.75% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3d, indicator: CO01, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 254.55% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 4, investment priority: 6c, indicator: CO42, year: 2016. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 287.50% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3d, indicator: CO28, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 3,187.50% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3a, indicator: CO01, year: 2015. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 3,187.50% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3a, indicator: CO01, year: 2016. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 3,556.25% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3a, indicator: CO01,

Severity	Code	Message
		year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 306.25% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 1, investment priority: 1b, indicator: CO26, year: 2015. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 409.09% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 4, investment priority: 6c, indicator: CO42, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 493.75% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 1, investment priority: 1b, indicator: CO26, year: 2016. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 550.00% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3a, indicator: CO28, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 837.50% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3a, indicator: CO28, year: 2015. Please check.
Warning	2.52.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 837.50% of the total target value for "S", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3a, indicator: CO28, year: 2016. Please check.
Warning	2.53.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 1,326.40% of the total target value for "F", priority axis: 3, investment priority: 4c, indicator: CO31, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.53.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 1,462.50% of the total target value for "F", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3d, indicator: CO28, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.53.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 175.00% of the total target value for "F", priority axis: 1, investment priority: 1b, indicator: CO01, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.53.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 2,668.75% of the total target value for "F", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3a, indicator: CO01, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.53.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 225.00% of the total target value for "F", priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3a, indicator: CO28, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.53.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered is 881.25% of the total target value for "F", priority axis: 1, investment priority: 1b, indicator: CO26, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 112.00% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: 1, investment priority: 1b, indicator: CO01, year: 2017. Please check.
Warning	2.54.1	In table 2, the annual total value entered for "F" (implemented) is 508.70% of the annual total value entered for "S" (forecast from selected) for priority axis: 2, investment priority: 3d, indicator: CO28, year: 2017. Please check.