



Interreg 
SLOVENIA - HUNGARY
European Union | European Regional Development Fund

ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT 2021

Cooperation Programme
Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary
in the Programming Period 2014-2020

May 2022

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1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

CCI	2014TC16RFCB053
Title	Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary
Version	1.3
Reporting year	2021
Date of approval of the report by the Monitoring Committee	19. 5. 2022

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 information on financial instruments with relation to the financial and indicator data.

The 7th Annual Implementation Report for the Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary 2014-2020 (hereinafter CP Interreg SI-HU) provides information on the progress in terms of Programme implementation in 2021. The Monitoring Committee (MC) approved the report **in the frame of the 20th Written procedure on 19 May**.

Programme and projects implementation and meetings

Also year 2021 was marked by the COVID-19 pandemic, although in minor extent. Even in these conditions, the Programme managed to make further steps towards its targets. As in 2021 the Programme entered the final stage of its implementation, the focus of the activities was mostly on the monitoring of still ongoing projects and on the closure of the finished projects. The programme remained close to beneficiaries by demonstrating flexibility not only in view of adapting the Programme rules to the situation (COVID-19 pandemic) but also by implementing information and promotion measures using online communication platforms and social media channels. The progress made by the Programme towards its targets (objectives, indicators) is therefore consistent and capable to ensure the fulfilment of its goals.

In parallel, a significantly more intensive programming activity with the active participation of both Member States started in 2021 in order to elaborate on the new financial perspective 2021-2027 for the Interreg VI-A SI-HU programme. The drafting of the new programme as well as the accompanying strategic environmental assessment (SEA) are supported by external experts. At the second half of 2021, the first draft of the new programme was developed building on a territorial analysis as well as taking into account inputs and recommendations given by relevant partners involved in the design of the programme strategy and intervention logic. Interreg SI-HU continued its active contribution to the work of the "Core group" for the development of the new monitoring system called Jems.

The fact that the launching of the open call, selection and contracting of project applications followed a quite fast schedule has ensured a good perspective for the implementation and closure, as the majority of the projects were finalized by 2021, only a minimum number (4) of projects remained under implementation for the next year. Nine projects were successfully completed in year 2021.

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Due to the pandemic situation, the 9th and 10th MC meetings were held online, on 13 January and on 17 May 2021. On both meetings MC members were informed of the state of programme implementation. In addition, they:

- were presented with the results of the second Evaluation which was on the efficiency and effectiveness of the CP SI-HU,
- approved the Annual Communication Plan 2021 and Annual Implementation Report 2020,
- were updated on the activities in the field of fight against fraud, conflict of interests, irregularities and audits.

The fraud risk self-assessment for the Programme was updated on 10 June 2021 based on the audit recommendation.

System audit and audits of the operations

The **Annual Control report referred to 7th accounting year has been approved on 17 February 2022 by the EC.** As no major irregularities have been identified in the frame of system audits and the error rate (TER) is well below the materiality level 2% the AA expressed the unqualified opinion..

The Audit Authority (AA) has performed the planned system audit of specific thematic area – withdrawals and recoveries. The audit of the five Key Requirements found that the system works well with no or only minor improvements needed. They also audited the MA/JS/National Authority system. They assessed that the system within the MA/JS/NA with Category 2 “System works while some improvements are needed”. 4 recommendations were given in the draft audit report and they were all responded by the MA. All findings are considered by being either an ongoing task carried out annually by the MA, or in the next programming period.

In 2021 the Group of Auditors for the programme performed audits of three operations (ETHOS LAND, MURA RABA TOUR, and SI-HU PRO) in the 7th accounting year, in the total amount of EUR 473.607,75. The audits identified some minor irregularities having financial consequences.

Publicity and communication measures

In light of the changed, pandemic related circumstances in 2021, more activities were carried via online communication. The Programme website in all three language versions was continuously updated, **21** news articles were published (news concerning the activities of the Programme itself and news articles shedding light on project activities). In 2021, as many as **10,193 visitors** visited the Programme website resulting in a total of **25,561** visits. The Programme is building social media presence via its Facebook page with the activities of the Programme and projects being regularly posted. During its operation, **311** people signed up and liked the page, a total of **166** posts were published and the highest number of people reached by a single post was **1,925**. In addition to single posts of the diverse project and Programme-related topics, **two project promotion campaigns** were designed. To make the project results visible on social media an **online drawing and photo contest** was organised for the pupils in the border regions of Slovenia, Austria and Hungary with the topic of a green future. Outstanding achievement in communication was the participation of the Programme in the grand final of the **Interreg Project Slam 2021**, where the video produced in cooperation with project partners finished fourth in the competition.

The event for EC Day 2021 served as the annual event of the Programme: **“Project picnic”** took place in September as an in-person event. Participants from Slovenia and Hungary gathered for a one-day hike in Rakičan, Slovenia where they learned about the HORSE BASED TOURISM - HBT, Back in the day, Dual Transfer, GreenReg and Green Line projects. The participants were offered a hiking tour in the area of the EXPANO leisure time facility next to Murska Sobota. The tour was carried out only on the Slovenian **side due to the uncertainty around the continuously changing pandemic situation. The event was well accepted and was promoted with media coverage.**

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Financial data

The Programme is very **well on track** considering its financial progress, payment claims are regularly submitted to the EC. Programme bodies and structures immediately adjusted to the new working conditions resulting from the pandemic, so Programme beneficiaries received funds without any delays. Due to the smooth reporting, validating and certifying processes the fulfilment of the N+3 targets for the year in concern is not endangered, no decommitment is foreseen. The Programme **with its 75% reimbursement ratio**, is among the top performing cross-border cooperation programmes. TA projects are performing well from the financial aspect as well, the average spending is around 90%. Although it needs to be mentioned if there were not so many activities implemented online, some financial difficulties would occur. All in all, projects are performing well, those which finished their implementation show a total spending ratio of 95%.

Four interim payment claims were sent to the Commission in 2021 altogether amounting to EUR **2,368,607.52** in ERDF funding (EUR **2,957,670.79** of total eligible costs). Commission made regular payments following the receipt of reimbursement claims within a one-month deadline or earlier.

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

3.1. Overview of the implementation

ID	Priority axis	Key information on the implementation of the priority axis with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems
1	ATTRACTIVE REGION	<p>All funds available under PA1 were allocated to projects after the 5th submission deadline already in 2019.</p> <p>Altogether twelve projects were approved under this PA. By the end of 2021 all of them completed their implementation (Green Exercise, GO IN NATURE, ESCAPE, HORSE BASED TOURISM - HBT, Guide2Visit, GardEN, TELE-KA-LAND, MURA RABA TOUR, ETHOS LAND, Wine picnic, HOUSES, IronCurtainCycling), all reaching the set objectives, main results and Programme indicators. Out of them six (Green Exercise, GO IN NATURE, ESCAPE, HORSE BASED TOURISM - HBT, Guide2Visit, TELE-KA-LAND) are completely finished meaning they submitted their final reports and final payments have been carried out. It can be seen that projects do not spend 100% of the allocated funds. The spending ration in average is 95%.</p> <p>Although projects are still affected by the pandemic, no major problems in terms of implementation were detected. Certain tourism-related activities could not be implemented as scheduled (the tourism sector was closed most of the year) or will not have the immediate effect that was foreseen. Lead and project partners were supported by the JS with proposals on how to overcome the pandemic-related obstacles. The pandemic related issues that the projects faced continued to be handled on a case-by-case basis.</p>
2	COOPERATIVE REGION	<p>All funds available under PA2 were allocated to projects after the 6th submission deadline already in 2019.</p> <p>Altogether twelve projects were approved under this priority. Eight (Right Profession II, E-CONOMY, Back in the day, e-documenta Pannonica, Folk</p>

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		<p><i>Music Heritage, Green Line, DUAL TRANSFER and SENS NETWORK) have already completed with the implementation, all reaching the set objectives, main results and Programme indicators. Out of them 6 (Right Profession II, E-CONOMY, Back in the day, e-documenta Pannonica, Folk Music Heritage, Green Line) are completely finished meaning they submitted their final reports and final payments have been carried out.</i></p> <p><i>Although projects were affected by the pandemic, no major problems were detected. Lead and project partners were supported by the JS with proposals on how to overcome pandemic-related obstacles. The pandemic related issues that the projects faced continued to be handled on a case-by-case.</i></p>
3	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	<p><i>Technical Assistance (TA) activities focus on financing the preparatory, management, monitoring, evaluation, and information and control activities of Interreg SI-HU, together with the activities to reinforce the administrative capacity for using the funds.</i></p> <p><i>The following major activities were implemented under TA in 2021:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• activities regarding Programme implementation and monitoring;</i> <i>• information and publicity measures; organisation of the event “Project picnic” in the context of the EC DAY;</i> <i>• consultancy and support to partners of approved projects;</i> <i>• preparation of the two written procedures of the MC (17th and 18th);</i> <i>• site visits for the approved projects carried out according to the site visit plan for 2021 in light of the pandemic;</i> <i>• organisation of Programming Task Force meetings (six occasions)</i> <i>• preparation of the first draft of the Interreg VI-A Slovenia-Hungary programme 2021-2027;</i> <p><i>No significant problems have been identified concerning the implementation of PA3 (Technical Assistance) at this stage.</i></p>

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

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

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

Automatic from SFC						ANNUAL VALUE										Observations (if necessary)
ID	Indicator	Measurement Unit	Baseline Value	Baseline Year	Target Value (2023)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
1.1	Number of overnight stays in the programme area	Number	5,269,268	2014	5% increase 5,532,728					6,601,261		3,258,535*				<p><i>official statistics</i></p> <p><i>*The reason for such a low number is the fact that 2021 was marked by the COVID-19 pandemic which significantly affected the tourism sector.</i></p> <p><i>If we compare the number of overnight stays with 2019 standing at 6,289,194, we see a great difference.</i></p>
2.1	The level of cross-border cooperati	scale	3.05	2015	20% increase 3.66					3.58		3.82				

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<i>on at institutional level in the programme area</i>																	
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TABLE 2: Common and programme-specific output indicators (by priority axis, investment priority); applies also to technical assistance priority axes.

S – Selected operations F – Fully implemented operations*	ID	Indicator (name of indicator)	Measurement unit	Target value ¹ (2023)	CUMULATIVE VALUE										Observations (if necessary)
					2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
					S	CO09	Increase in the expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions (EU)	Visits/Year	10,000	0	0	3,000	28,225	44,325	
F					0	0	0	0	0	21,833	30,882	46,325			Projects ESCAPE, Green Exercise, HORSE BASED TOURISM - HBT, Guide2Visit, and TELE-KA-LAND were completed, also

¹ Targets are optional for technical assistance priority axes.

																	value due to selection of projects which produced more than one joint cross-border touristic products.
S	6c.4	Length of cycle tracks and footpaths	km	8	0	0	0	28.14	28.14	28.14	368.44*	368,44					* The project IronCurtainCycling has a project indicator Length of interconnected cross-border cycle paths equipped with modern infrastructure – 344.3 km (Programme indicator 6.4c). In the beginning, this indicator was incorrectly put in the application form in meters and only later corrected to kilometres. Due to this correction, the Programme indicator is much higher.
F					0	0	0	0	0	0.92	2.21	355,44					Projects ESCAPE and Guide2Visit

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

Priority Axis	Indicator Type (Key implementation step, financial, output or, where appropriate result indicator)	ID	Indicator or key implementation step	Measurement unit, where appropriate	Milestone for 2018	Final target (2023)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Observations (if necessary)
1	Financial indicator	P1.1	Amount of certified expenditure for Priority Axis 1	Euro	600,000.00	11,764,705.89	0	0	0	482,802.29	3,868,442.81	5,647,485.72	8,289,341.84	9,878.157.71			
1	Output indicator	CO09	Increase in the expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage	Visits / Year	800	20,000	0	0	0	0	12,653	22,353	33,794	48,084			

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2	<i>Financial indicator</i>	<i>P2.1</i>	<i>and attractions</i> <i>Amount of certified expenditure for Priority Axis 2</i>	<i>Euro</i>	465,755.10	3,876,488.24	0	0	0	82,474	502,279.34	915,798.94	1,521,539.86	2.468.875,15			
2	<i>Output indicator</i>	<i>11b.1</i>	<i>Number of institutions /organizations involved in cross-border cooperation</i>	<i>Number</i>	12	100	0	0	0	0	337	383	410	457			
2	<i>Output indicator</i>	<i>11b.2</i>	<i>Number of joint professional agreements and protocols</i>	<i>Number</i>	3	20	0	0	0	0	4	14	14	18			

* Member States submit cumulative values for output indicators. Values for financial indicators are cumulative. Values for the key implementation steps are cumulative if the key implementation steps are expressed by a number or percentage. If the achievement is defined in a qualitative way, the table should indicate whether they are completed or not.

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

TABLE 4: Financial information at priority axis and programme level as set out in Table 1 of Annex II to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1011/2014² [Model for transmission of financial data]³ and table 16 of the model for cooperation programmes under the European Territorial Cooperation Goal

Priority Axis	Fund	Calculation basis	Total funding	Co-financing rate	Total eligible cost of operations selected for support	Proportion of the total allocation covered with selected operations	Public eligible cost of operations selected for support	Total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the managing authority	Proportion of the total allocation covered by eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries	Number of operations selected
1	ERDF	Total	11,764,706.00	85.00%	11,793,960.05	100.25%	11,533,125.38	10,181,005.83	86.54%	12
2	ERDF	Total	3,876,489.00	85.00%	3,968,943.10	102.38%	3,790,115.90	2,547,562.69	65.72%	12
3	ERDF	Total	3,000,000.00	50.00%	2,999,999.99	100.00%	2,999,999.99	1,694,681.55	56.49%	7
Total	ERDF		18,641,195.00	79.37%	18,762,903.14	100.65%	18,323,241.27	14,423,250.07	77.37%	31
Grand total			18,641,195.00	79.37%	18,762,903.14	100.65%	18,323,241.27	14,423,250.07	77.37%	31

² OJ L 286, 30.9.2014, p. 1.

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

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Where applicable, the use of any contribution from third countries participating in the cooperation programme should be provided (for example IPA and ENI, Norway, Switzerland)

Not applicable for the Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary.

TABLE 5: Breakdown of the cumulative financial data by category of intervention (Article 112(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 1304/2013) as set out in Table 2 of Annex II to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1011/2014 [Model for transmission of financial data] and tables 6-9 of Model for cooperation programmes

Priority axis	Characteristic of expenditure	Categorisation dimensions								Financial data				
		Fund	Intervention field	Form of finance	Territorial dimension	Territorial delivery mechanism	Thematic priority 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	032	01	02	07	06		24	HU222	300,561.08	300,561.08	294,407.10	1
1		ERDF	034	01	02	07	06		24	HU222	901,683.23	901,683.23	883,221.29	1
1		ERDF	090	01	02	07	06		24	HU222	103,802.50	100,950.58	100,569.04	1
1		ERDF	090	01	02	07	06		24	HU223	1,260,282.65	1,260,282.65	1,143,220.81	1
1		ERDF	091	01	02	07	06		24	HU222	1,018,856.24	998,578.27	920,733.25	3
1		ERDF	091	01	02	07	06		24	SI011	1,104,783.39	1,069,064.91	986,808.63	1
1		ERDF	091	01	03	07	06		24	HU222	1,086,198.40	995,503.88	620,282.70	1
1		ERDF	091	01	03	07	06		24	HU223	788,191.25	788,191.25	649,333.48	2
1		ERDF	093	01	02	07	06		24	HU222	707,448.73	695,726.52	619,026.12	3
1		ERDF	093	01	02	07	06		24	HU223	572,855.75	572,855.75	519,645.82	1
1		ERDF	093	01	03	07	06		24	HU223	507,085.33	500,774.43	391,658.01	2

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1	ERDF	093	01	03	07	06		24	SI011	793,608.00	733,268.40	692,018.13	1
1	ERDF	094	01	01	07	06		24	SI012	409,322.49	405,126.75	379,706.52	1
1	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	HU222	99,095.62	93,077.24	25,345.24	1
1	ERDF	094	01	02	07	06		24	SI011	965,877.67	959,090.67	933,123.18	1
1	ERDF	095	01	01	07	06		24	SI012	409,322.49	405,126.75	379,706.52	1
1	ERDF	095	01	02	07	06		24	HU222	306,700.63	294,978.42	226,483.33	2
1	ERDF	095	01	02	07	06		24	HU223	458,284.60	458,284.60	415,716.66	1
2	ERDF	119	01	01	07	11		24	SI011	203,477.50	194,512.37	75,136.45	1
2	ERDF	119	01	02	07	11		24	SI011	664,963.45	629,437.24	462,557.28	3
2	ERDF	119	01	02	07	11		24	SI012	141,445.77	125,988.48	102,592.18	1
2	ERDF	119	01	03	07	11		24	SI011	410,000.00	369,750.00	405,567.46	1
2	ERDF	120	01	01	07	11		24	HU223	600,303.02	584,340.49	486,024.49	2
2	ERDF	120	01	01	07	11		24	SI011	203,477.50	194,512.37	75,136.45	1
2	ERDF	120	01	02	07	11		24	HU222	678,960.00	654,960.00	148,936.91	2
2	ERDF	120	01	02	07	11		24	SI011	990,152.75	968,775.00	736,369.53	3
2	ERDF	120	01	02	07	11		24	SI012	76,163.11	67,839.95	55,241.94	1
3	ERDF	121	01	07	07			24	HU101	423,118.87	423,118.87	229,809.02	1
3	ERDF	121	01	07	07			24	SI021	1,761,378.00	1,761,378.00	1,009,037.54	2
3	ERDF	122	01	07	07			24	HU101	38,643.63	38,643.63	1,767.15	1
3	ERDF	122	01	07	07			24	SI017	191,219.99	191,219.99	117,237.90	1
3	ERDF	122	01	07	07			24	SI021	72,100.00	72,100.00	19,850.39	1
3	ERDF	123	01	07	07			24	HU101	513,539.50	513,539.50	316,979.55	1
Total	ERDF									18,762,903.14	18,323,241.27	14,423,250.07	

Dimension 1 Intervention field

Priority axis	Code	Amount selected for support (EUR)	Expenditure declared by the beneficiary to the MA
1	032 Local access roads (new build)	500,000	294,407.10
1	034 Other reconstructed or improved road (motorway, national, regional or local)	500,000	883,221.29
1	090 Cycle tracks and footpaths	1,500,000	1,243,789.85
1	091 Development and promotion of the tourism potential of natural areas	1,500,000	3,177,158.06
1	093 Development and promotion of public tourism services	1,500,000	2,222,348.08
1	094 Protection, development and promotion of public cultural and heritage assets	2,500,000	1,338,174.94
1	095 Development and promoting of public cultural and heritage services	2,000,000	1,021,906.51
2	119. Investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services at the national, regional and local levels with a view to reforms, better regulation and good governance	1,000,000.00	1,045,853.37
2	120. Capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies, including through sectoral and territorial pacts to mobilize for reform at national, regional and local level	2,295,015.00	1,501,709.32
3	121 Preparation, implementation, monitoring, inspection	1,300,000.00	1,238,846.56

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3	122 Evaluation and studies	100,000.00	138.855,44
3	123 Information and communication	100,000.00	316,979.55

Dimension 2 Form of finance

Priority axis	Code	Amount selected for support (EUR)	Expenditure declared by the beneficiary to the MA
1	01 non-repayable grant	10,000,000	10,181,005.83
2	01 non-repayable grant	3,295,015.00	2,547,562.69
3	01 non-repayable grant	1,500,000.00	1,694,681.55

Dimension 3 Territory Type

Priority axis	Code	Amount (EUR)
1	01 Large Urban areas (densely populated > 50 000 population)	1,000,000.00
1	02 Small Urban areas (intermediate density > 5000 population)	4,000,000.00
1	03 Rural areas (thinly populated)	5,000,000.00
2	01 Large Urban areas (densely populated > 50 000 population)	1,647,508.00
2	02 Small Urban areas (intermediate density > 5000 population)	988,504.00

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2	03 Rural areas (thinly populated)	659,003.00
3	07 Not applicable	

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

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

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<p>All or part of an operation outside the Union part of the programme area⁴</p>				
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* ERDF support is fixed in the Commission decision on the respective cooperation programme.

⁴ In accordance with and subject to ceilings set out in Article 20 of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013.

4. SYNTHESIS OF THE EVALUATIONS (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

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

After the selection of the external expert ZaVita (with sub-contractor Raskó BCA-Consulting Ltd.) in March 2019, the First Impact Evaluation of the implementation of the Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary (CP Interreg SI-HU 2014-2020) was finished at the beginning of 2020.

In the years 2020 and 2021 the main activities of Joint Secretariat connected to evaluation were gathering and storing the data about projects/programme implementation and continuous communication activities. Since the projects included in the first Impact Evaluation were either already finished or in the last third of their implementation period, the scope of Impact Evaluation I of the CP Interreg SI-HU 2014-2020 was limited. While the First Impact Evaluation study was ongoing the contracts of projects approved in the last call were signed. Until end of year 2021 all but 4 projects finished. Therefore, a more coherent impact evaluation will be performed within the Second Impact Evaluation.

According to the time plan, the due date for the (final) Impact Evaluation II is September 2022. By the plan, the evaluation will be done by same group of external experts as Impact Evaluation I.

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

a) Issues which affect the performance of the Programme and the measures taken.

In 2021, the performance of the Programme was still affected by the pandemic, but the most important effect was or still is the influence on the financial status of the projects. That problems on the side of the projects are mainly caused by the high rotation of the employees which also ends up in temporarily missing human resources at the project holder organisations. Due to several lockdowns and still ongoing restrictions especially projects of touristic nature were effected, namely they had to either suspend or postpone their activities which cannot be transferred to the online space.

In order to support the projects affected by the pandemic, Programme authorities continued with the usage of the simplifications for project partners. Its basic assumption was to keep a flexible approach towards the possible changes i.e., a flexible approach towards project prolongation requests, allowance of modifications of applications. The main aim was to facilitate projects during the period of pandemic.

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

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

6. CITIZENS' SUMMARY (Article 50(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

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

7. REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Article 46 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

Where the Managing Authority decided to use financial instruments, it must send to the Commission a specific report covering the financial instrument's operations as an annex to the Annual Implementation Report.

Not applicable for the CP Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary 2014-2020.

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8. WHERE APPROPRIATE, PROGRESS IN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MAJOR PROJECTS AND JOINT ACTION PLANS (Article 101(h) and Article 111(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 14(3)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013)

Not applicable for the CP Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary 2014-2020.

8.1. Major projects

Not applicable for the CP Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary 2014-2020.

TABLE 7: Major projects

Project	CCI	Status of MP 1. completed 2. approved 3. submitted 4. planned for notification/submission to Commission	Total investments	Total eligible costs	Planned notification/submission date (if applicable) (year, quarter)	Date of tacit agreement / approval by Commission (if applicable)	Planned start of implementation (year, quarter)	Planned completion date (year, quarter)	Priority Axis/Investment priorities	Current state of realisation – financial progress (% of expenditure certified to Commission)	Current state of realisation – physical progress Main implementation stage of the project 1. completed/in operation; 2. advanced construction; 3. construction;	Main outputs	Date of signature of first works contract ⁵ (if applicable)	Observations (if necessary)

⁵ In the case of operations implemented under PPP structures the signing of the PPP contract between the public body and the private sector body (Article 102(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013).



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										compare d to total eligible cost)	4. procurement; 5. design			
												<type='S' maxlength=87 5 input='M'>	<type='D' ' input='M' '>	<type='S' maxlength=875 input='M'>

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.



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8.2. Joint action plans

Progress in the implementation of different stages of joint action plans

Not applicable for the CP Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary.

TABLE 8: Joint action plans

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

Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them



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

9. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 14(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013)

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

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

N/A

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 the 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

N/A



9.3. Sustainable development (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 14(4), subparagraph 2, © 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

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

N/A

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

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

N/A

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

N/A

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



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

N/A

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

Existence of many funding opportunities creates an important foundation for synergies. Since many programmes are EU funded, they have the same legislative and strategic background, many of them share the same output and result indicators. In practice that means, that all approved projects of the CP Interreg SI-HU are related to macro-regional strategies as their activities support common goals and contribute to their respective result indicators.

The contribution to the relevant macro-regional strategies is to be described by the project partners in the application, however, in this regard, no additional points are allocated to the projects during the quality check. Altogether 24 projects approved under the Open Call of the CP Interreg SI-HU contribute to the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR).

In general, all 24 projects contribute to macro-regional strategies, but only some of them have a distinct impact on the targets and challenges set in the macro-regional framework and are listed below.

Priority areas of macro-regional strategies and projects contributing to their pillars and priority areas:

EUSDR (Slovenia, Hungary)

Pillar 1 Connection the Danube Region

PA 1.4 - Culture and tourism (Green Exercise, Guide2Visit, IronCurtainCycling)

Pillar 2 Protecting the Environment in the Danube region

2.3 Biodiversity, landscapes, air and soil quality (GO IN NATURE, Green Line, GreenReg)

Pillar 3 Building prosperity in the Danube region

3.2 Competitiveness (E-ECONOMY, SENS NETWORK)

Pillar 4 – Strengthening the Danube region – to step up institutional capacity cooperation

4.1 Institutional capacity and cooperation (Right Profession II, Back in the day, E-ECONOMY, capCROSSplan)

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

N/A.



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

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

13	14
Data for the purpose of the performance review and performance framework	
<p>Only for the report submitted in 2019: Total eligible expenditure incurred and paid by beneficiaries and certified to the Commission by 31/12/2018 Article 21(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013</p>	<p>Only for final implementation report: Total eligible expenditure incurred and paid by beneficiaries by 31/12/2023 and certified to the Commission Article 22(7) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013</p>

13. SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

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

N/A	
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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).

N/A

