IMPLEMENTATION REPORT FOR THE EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL COOPERATION GOAL

**PART A**

# IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL/FINAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CCI | 2014TC16RFCB048 |
| Title | Interreg V-A - United Kingdom-Ireland (Ireland-Wales) |
| Version | 2015.0 |
| Date of approval of the report by the monitoring committee | 23-May-2016 |

# 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.

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| --- |
| 2014 focussed mainly on planning and negotiating the new Ireland Wales European Territorial Cooperation Programme with the European Commission which was approved in February 2015. There have been a number of key achievements over the 2014 and 2015 reporting years. The Ireland Wales Programme Monitoring Committee (PMC) was formally constituted in April 2015 and met three times during 2015 (meeting on 30 April 2015, 23 July 2015 and 26 November 2015). The PMC comprises 26 members that represent the key stakeholders groups both in Ireland and Wales. The PMC oversees the implementation of the Programme and, during 2015, agreed the assessment and selection criteria for operations that will be funded under the Programme and delegated the responsibility for selecting operations to the Programme Steering Committee (PSC). Systems have been put in place to manage the Programme, including programme guidance, a Monitoring and Evaluation strategy and a Communications plan, all of which were agreed by the PMC during 2015.  At the end of December 2015 no operations were approved under the Programme. During 2015 there was, and continues to be, high levels of interest in the Ireland Wales Co-operation programme following its launch in March 2015. Consequently, the Joint Secretariat has met with a large number of organisations to discuss their proposals for funding from the Programme.  As set out in the Programme there will be no financial instruments supported under the Programme. The Programme operates with an open call for projects. The open call for projects was announced at the Ireland / Wales Programme launch on 26  March 2015.  Because there were no operations approved, there was no expenditure paid and no indicator achievements were made to the end of December 2015. There were 31 proposals in the pipeline in 2015 and the Managing Authority expects the first operations to be approved during 2016 and to begin delivery against the Programme's output indicators, as operations submit claims and incur expenditure.  E-cohesion requires a system to allow the electronic transfer of data between beneficiaries and the Managing Authority. To manage Structural Funds WEFO uses an IT system called PPIMS, used by Managing Authority Officials.  The externally facing system, used by beneficiaries to enter data, including everything from appraisal documentation to transaction lists and claims is called WEFO Online. Some minor developments were required during 2015, but by allowing the electronic transfer of data, WEFO Online meets the conditions of an Electronic Data Exchange System under the e-cohesion requirements and therefore WEFO was compliant with e-cohesion as of November 2015.  The Managing Authority has an early draft of the Article 72 report (on the Management and Control Systems) prepared with a planned submission to the European Commission in Autumn 2016. |

# 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 |
| --- | --- | --- |
| PA1 | Cross-Border Innovation | By the end of December 2015 no operations had been approved under the Priority.  During 2015 seventeen proposals were in the pipeline for the Priority, of which five were in the 'business planning' and one in the 'detailed business planning' stages.  The operation 'Dwr-Uisce' which is a proposal for integrated low carbon and smart energy solution for the water sector was at the 'detailed business planning' stage.  At the 'business planning' stage were 'CALIN', a proposal in Nano-Health technology; 'Irish Sea Portal (Pilot)', a proposal to test the concept a link between HEI’s, Research Institutions and SMEs operating in the Irish Sea; 'Food – Ascend', a proposal for improving competitiveness in the Food Sector; 'Bucanier', a proposal for improving the innovation processes in new and established SMEs; and 'More than a Club (Pilot)', a proposal designed to test the use of sports clubs as hubs to develop social enterprises.  Not all of the operations in the pipeline will progress to the business planning stages, nor be taken through to funding decision. No significant problems were identified whilst implementing the Priority during 2015. |
| PA2 | Adaptation of the Irish Sea and Coastal Communities to Climate Change | By the end of December 2015 no operations had been approved under the Priority.  During 2015 seven proposals were in the pipeline for the Priority, of which four were in 'business planning', including: 'Acclimatize', a proposal for evaluating the impact of climate change on bathing waters; 'CHERISH', a proposal to look at the effects of climate change and sea-level rise upon the cultural and maritime heritage of small islands, headlands and reefs of the Irish Sea; 'Eco-Structures' a proposal exploring how coastal communities can meet the challenges of the EU strategy on adaptation to climate change while minimising the impacts on the natural environment; and 'STREAM' a proposal to develop and implement a technological solution to monitor coastal and estuarine regions for the impacts of climate change.  Not all of the operations in the pipeline will progress to the business planning stages, nor be taken through to funding decision. No significant problems were identified whilst implementing the Priority during 2015. |
| PA3 | Cultural and Natural Resources and Heritage | By the end of December 2015 no operations had been approved under the Priority.  During 2015 one proposal was at the 'business planning' stage. This was 'Seascapes (Pilot)', a proposal to identify assets that can be used to add to visitor numbers. A further 6 proposals are at the 'pre planning' stage.  Not all of the operations in the pipeline will progress to the business planning stages, nor be taken through to funding decision. No significant problems were identified whilst implementing the Priority during 2015. |
| PA4 | Technical Assistance | By the end of December 2015 no operations have been approved under the Priority axis.  One project is in development and this will support the deliver and promotion of the Ireland/Wales programme. |

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

**Priority axes other than technical assistance**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Priority axis | PA1 - Cross-Border Innovation |
| 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)** | **ID** | **Indicator** | **Measurement unit** | **Target value** | **2015** | **Observations** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| F | CO01 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support | Enterprises | 1,200.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | CO01 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support | Enterprises | 1,200.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | CO04 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support | Enterprises | 1,200.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | CO04 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support | Enterprises | 1,200.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | CO08 | Productive investment: Employment increase in supported enterprises | Full time equivalents | 35.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | CO08 | Productive investment: Employment increase in supported enterprises | Full time equivalents | 35.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | CO26 | Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions | Enterprises | 70.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | CO26 | Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions | Enterprises | 70.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | CO27 | Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects | EUR | 791,984.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | CO27 | Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects | EUR | 791,984.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | CO28 | Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products | Enterprises | 30.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | CO28 | Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products | Enterprises | 30.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | CO29 | Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the firm products | Enterprises | 600.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | CO29 | Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the firm products | Enterprises | 600.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | CO41 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | Enterprises | 50.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | CO41 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | Enterprises | 50.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | CO42 | Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | Organisations | 45.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | CO42 | Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | Organisations | 45.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | PS01 | Number of new or enhanced cross-border innovation networks | Networks | 6.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS01 | Number of new or enhanced cross-border innovation networks | Networks | 6.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | PS02 | Number of pilot projects completed | Completed pilot projects | 3.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS02 | Number of pilot projects completed | Completed pilot projects | 3.00 | 0.00 |  |

| **(1)** | **ID** | **Indicator** | **2014** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| F | CO01 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support | 0.00 |
| S | CO01 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving support | 0.00 |
| F | CO04 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support | 0.00 |
| S | CO04 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support | 0.00 |
| F | CO08 | Productive investment: Employment increase in supported enterprises | 0.00 |
| S | CO08 | Productive investment: Employment increase in supported enterprises | 0.00 |
| F | CO26 | Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions | 0.00 |
| S | CO26 | Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions | 0.00 |
| F | CO27 | Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects | 0.00 |
| S | CO27 | Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects | 0.00 |
| F | CO28 | Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products | 0.00 |
| S | CO28 | Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products | 0.00 |
| F | CO29 | Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the firm products | 0.00 |
| S | CO29 | Research, Innovation: Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the firm products | 0.00 |
| F | CO41 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | 0.00 |
| S | CO41 | Productive investment: Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | 0.00 |
| F | CO42 | Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | 0.00 |
| S | CO42 | Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | 0.00 |
| F | PS01 | Number of new or enhanced cross-border innovation networks | 0.00 |
| S | PS01 | Number of new or enhanced cross-border innovation networks | 0.00 |
| F | PS02 | Number of pilot projects completed | 0.00 |
| S | PS02 | Number of pilot projects completed | 0.00 |

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| --- | --- |
| Priority axis | PA1 - Cross-Border Innovation |
| 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 | SO1 - To increase the intensity of knowledge transfer collaborations involving research organisations and SMEs in line with the shared priorities of the smart specialisation strategies |

Table 1: Result indicators

|  | **Indicator** | Measurement unit | Baseline value | Baseline year | Target value (2023) Total | 2015 Total | 2015 Qualitative | Observations |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RI01 | Levels of investment in R&D and innovation arising from cross-boder collaboration in shared priorities as specified in smart specialisation strategies | TBC |  | 2015 | 0.00 | 0.00 |  |  |

| **ID** | **Indicator** | 2014 Total | 2014 Qualitative |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RI01 | Levels of investment in R&D and innovation arising from cross-boder collaboration in shared priorities as specified in smart specialisation strategies | 0.00 |  |

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| --- | --- |
| Priority axis | PA2 - Adaptation of the Irish Sea and Coastal Communities to Climate Change |
| Investment priority | 5a - Supporting investment for adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches |

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators

| **(1)** | **ID** | **Indicator** | **Measurement unit** | **Target value** | **2015** | **Observations** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| F | CO42 | Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | Organisations | 10.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | CO42 | Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | Organisations | 10.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | PS02 | Number of pilot projects completed | Completed pilot projects | 2.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS02 | Number of pilot projects completed | Completed pilot projects | 2.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | PS03 | Number of new awareness raising initiatives targeting coastal communities | Awareness raising initiatives | 60.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS03 | Number of new awareness raising initiatives targeting coastal communities | Awareness raising initiatives | 60.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | PS04 | Number of organisations cooperating in enhancing the marine and coastal environment | Organisations | 24.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS04 | Number of organisations cooperating in enhancing the marine and coastal environment | Organisations | 24.00 | 0.00 |  |

| **(1)** | **ID** | **Indicator** | **2014** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| F | CO42 | Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | 0.00 |
| S | CO42 | Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects | 0.00 |
| F | PS02 | Number of pilot projects completed | 0.00 |
| S | PS02 | Number of pilot projects completed | 0.00 |
| F | PS03 | Number of new awareness raising initiatives targeting coastal communities | 0.00 |
| S | PS03 | Number of new awareness raising initiatives targeting coastal communities | 0.00 |
| F | PS04 | Number of organisations cooperating in enhancing the marine and coastal environment | 0.00 |
| S | PS04 | Number of organisations cooperating in enhancing the marine and coastal environment | 0.00 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Priority axis | PA2 - Adaptation of the Irish Sea and Coastal Communities to Climate Change |
| Investment priority | 5a - Supporting investment for adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches |
| Specific objective | SO2 - To increase capacity and knowledge of Climate Change adaptation for the Irish sea and coastal communities |

Table 1: Result indicators

|  | **Indicator** | Measurement unit | Baseline value | Baseline year | Target value (2023) Total | 2015 Total | 2015 Qualitative | Observations |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RI02 | Levels of knowledge of adaptation to climate change amongst communities and businesses | TBC |  | 2015 | 0.00 | 0.00 |  |  |

| **ID** | **Indicator** | 2014 Total | 2014 Qualitative |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RI02 | Levels of knowledge of adaptation to climate change amongst communities and businesses | 0.00 |  |

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| --- | --- |
| Priority axis | PA3 - Cultural and Natural Resources and Heritage |
| Investment priority | 6c - Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage |

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators

| **(1)** | **ID** | **Indicator** | **Measurement unit** | **Target value** | **2015** | **Observations** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| F | CO08 | Productive investment: Employment increase in supported enterprises | Full time equivalents | 10.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | CO08 | Productive investment: Employment increase in supported enterprises | Full time equivalents | 10.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | PS02 | Number of pilot projects completed | Completed pilot projects | 2.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS02 | Number of pilot projects completed | Completed pilot projects | 2.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | PS05 | Number of new tourism networks promoting cultural, natural or heritage assets | Cross-border networks | 12.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS05 | Number of new tourism networks promoting cultural, natural or heritage assets | Cross-border networks | 12.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | PS06 | Number of coastal communities participating in cross-border cooperation around cultural, natural or heritage tourism | Communities | 20.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS06 | Number of coastal communities participating in cross-border cooperation around cultural, natural or heritage tourism | Communities | 20.00 | 0.00 |  |

| **(1)** | **ID** | **Indicator** | **2014** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| F | CO08 | Productive investment: Employment increase in supported enterprises | 0.00 |
| S | CO08 | Productive investment: Employment increase in supported enterprises | 0.00 |
| F | PS02 | Number of pilot projects completed | 0.00 |
| S | PS02 | Number of pilot projects completed | 0.00 |
| F | PS05 | Number of new tourism networks promoting cultural, natural or heritage assets | 0.00 |
| S | PS05 | Number of new tourism networks promoting cultural, natural or heritage assets | 0.00 |
| F | PS06 | Number of coastal communities participating in cross-border cooperation around cultural, natural or heritage tourism | 0.00 |
| S | PS06 | Number of coastal communities participating in cross-border cooperation around cultural, natural or heritage tourism | 0.00 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Priority axis | PA3 - Cultural and Natural Resources and Heritage |
| Investment priority | 6c - Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage |
| Specific objective | SO3 - To sustainably realise the potential of natural and cultural assets in increasing visitor numbers to coastal communities in the Programme area |

Table 1: Result indicators

|  | **Indicator** | Measurement unit | Baseline value | Baseline year | Target value (2023) Total | 2015 Total | 2015 Qualitative | Observations |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RI03 | Total number of overseas visitors to the coastal communities of the Programme area | Number of overseas visitors | 6,902,000.00 | 2012 | 7,040,040.00 | 6,902,000.00 |  |  |

| **ID** | **Indicator** | 2014 Total | 2014 Qualitative |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RI03 | Total number of overseas visitors to the coastal communities of the Programme area | 6,902,000.00 |  |

**Priority axes for technical assistance**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Priority axis | PA4 - Technical Assistance |

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators

| **(1)** | **ID** | **Indicator** | **Measurement unit** | **Target value** | **2015** | **Observations** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| F | PS07 | Number of training events held | Training Events | 4.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS07 | Number of training events held | Training Events | 4.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | PS08 | Number of project visits and participations in project events by JS | Project visits | 300.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS08 | Number of project visits and participations in project events by JS | Project visits | 300.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | PS09 | Number of PMC meetings | PMC meetings | 14.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS09 | Number of PMC meetings | PMC meetings | 14.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | PS10 | Number of press releases | Press releases | 10.00 | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS10 | Number of press releases | Press releases | 10.00 | 0.00 |  |
| F | PS11 | Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by TA | Number of FTEs |  | 0.00 |  |
| S | PS11 | Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by TA | Number of FTEs |  | 0.00 |  |

| **(1)** | **ID** | **Indicator** | **2014** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| F | PS07 | Number of training events held | 0.00 |
| S | PS07 | Number of training events held | 0.00 |
| F | PS08 | Number of project visits and participations in project events by JS | 0.00 |
| S | PS08 | Number of project visits and participations in project events by JS | 0.00 |
| F | PS09 | Number of PMC meetings | 0.00 |
| S | PS09 | Number of PMC meetings | 0.00 |
| F | PS10 | Number of press releases | 0.00 |
| S | PS10 | Number of press releases | 0.00 |
| F | PS11 | Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by TA | 0.00 |
| S | PS11 | Number of employees (FTEs) whose salaries are co-financed by TA | 0.00 |

## 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 | 2015 Final target (2023) total | 2015 | Observations |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

| **Priority axis** | **Ind type** | ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | 2014 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

## 3.4. Financial data

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

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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **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** |
| PA1 | ERDF | Total | 39,599,224.00 | 80.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% | 0 |
| PA2 | ERDF | Total | 34,649,320.00 | 80.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% | 0 |
| PA3 | ERDF | Total | 18,809,632.00 | 80.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% | 0 |
| PA4 | ERDF | Total | 5,939,883.00 | 80.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% | 0 |
| **Total** | **ERDF** |  | **98,998,059.00** | **80.00** | **0.00** | **0.00%** | **0.00** | **0.00** | **0.00%** | **0** |
| **Grand total** |  |  | **98,998,059.00** | **80.00** | **0.00** | **0.00%** | **0.00** | **0.00** | **0.00%** | **0** |

**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)**

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| Not applicable to the Programme. |

**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 eneficiaries to the managing authority** | **Number of operations selected** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PA1 | ERDF |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PA2 | ERDF |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PA3 | ERDF |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PA4 | ERDF |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**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)** |

**(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

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| There have been no evaluations completed / published during 2014/2015, apart from the Ex Ante Evaluations. |

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

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

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| --- |
| This early stage of the Programme has concentrated on putting in place the frameworks to enable delivery to take place. Following Programme approval the focus has been on putting in place guidance, processes, training etc. At the end of 2015 no operations had been approved (the first approval was in March 2016) so it might be said to be too early for practical delivery issues to be emerging, but none have been identified at this stage.   The Managing Authority worked with potential beneficiaries during the period when the Programme was under development to ensure that they understood what the Programmes were likely to look like and to give them the confidence to develop proposals even while much of the Programme was still at a draft stage. This is allowing beneficiaries and WEFO to move relatively quickly now that Programmes were approved and other formalities are in place.  The Managing Authority had anticipated that potential beneficiaries might show some reluctance to commit to operations needing EU support due to uncertainty about UK membership if the EU. The question does arise but does not appear in practice to have discouraged interest in the Programme to the extent that the Managing Authority would regard it as a major issue and the Managing Authority has a healthy pipeline of projects for development and approval in 2016. |

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

A citizen's summary of the contents of the annual implementation report can be found at Annex 1.

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

Not applicable to this Programme.

# 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** |

(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

|  |
| --- |
| No Major projects had been approved under the Programme by the end of December 2015. |

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

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| --- |
| No Major projects had been approved under the Programme by the end of December 2015. |

**8.2. Joint action plans**

Progress in the implementation of different stages of joint action plans

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| --- |
| No Joint action plans had been implemented under the Programme during 2015. |

**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** |

**Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them**

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| --- |
| No Joint action plans had been implemented under the Programme during 2015. |

# 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)

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| --- | --- |
| Priority axis | PA1 - Cross-Border Innovation |

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| --- |
| Not applicable to this report. |

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| --- | --- |
| Priority axis | PA2 - Adaptation of the Irish Sea and Coastal Communities to Climate Change |

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| --- |
| Not applicable to this report. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Priority axis | PA3 - Cultural and Natural Resources and Heritage |

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| --- |
| Not applicable to this report. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Priority axis | PA4 - Technical Assistance |

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| --- |
| Not applicable to this report. |

## 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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| --- |
| Not applicable to this report. |

## 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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| --- |
| Not applicable to this report. |

## 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 (%)** |
| **Total** | **0.00** | **0.00%** |

|  |
| --- |
| Not applicable to this report. |

## 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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| Not applicable to this report. |

# 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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| Not applicable to this report. |

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

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| --- |
| Not applicable to this report. |

# 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

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| --- |
| Not applicable to this report. |

## 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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| --- |
| Not applicable to this report. |

## 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:

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| --- |
| Not applicable to this report. |

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

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| Not applicable to this report. |

# 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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| Not applicable to this report. |

# 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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| --- |
| Not applicable to this report. |