

## ANNEX 1 : CITIZEN'S SUMMARY (Article 50(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

The Cooperation Programme between Italy and Slovenia with the objective to *promote innovation, sustainability and cross border governance to create a more competitive, cohesive and liveable area* is in line with the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The total Programme budget is EUR 92.588.181,00, with EUR 77.929.954,00 from the European Regional Development Fund and EUR 14.658.227,00 as National counterpart (public and private).

PA-IP	Financed	ERDF allocation
<b>STRATEGIC PROJECTS</b>		
1b	2	5.996.190,87
2-4e	2	5.999.078,20
3-6c	3	12.077.504,07
3-6d	1	
3-6f	1	
4-11 ETC	1	2.492.976,85
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>26.565.449,99</b>

The main effort of the Programme in 2018 was launching two targeted calls for **strategic projects** under the strategic themes approved by the Monitoring Committee as most relevant for the whole Programme area: Nanotechnologies, Creative industry, Mobility and intermodality, SECAP, First World War, Minorities and Multiculturality, Excellence in tourism, Natura 2000 and Green Infrastructures, Flood Directives and Civil Protection. By the end of 2018, 10 strategic projects, involving 105 actors across the Programme area, were approved and financed for a total amount exceeding M€ 26,5 of ERDF. Within the end of 2018, the Subsidy Contracts of 8 approved strategic projects were signed and project kick-off meetings organized to concretely start

implementation activities.

PA-IP	Financed	ERDF allocation
<b>STANDARD PROJECTS</b>		
1b	8	8.292.299,58
2-4e	5	5.388.057,31
3-6c	3	6.926.346,92
3-6d	2	
3-6f	2	
4-11 ETC	7	5.709.877,37
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>26.316.581,19</b>

Furthermore, during 2018, all **27 standard projects**, approved in 2016 and involving 156 actors across the Programme area, continued through their full concrete implementation, with a regular process of implementation and spending. The annual event organized in May 2018 was an important occasion given by the Programme to the projects to share their experiences and foster collaboration. An example to be mentioned is the complementarity found by the project MOBITOUR and INTERBIKE2, both dealing with mobility and bike facilities. All projects are strictly grounded on good partnerships among different actors and targeted to tangible and long-lasting results in favour to all area of intervention.

Interreg Italy-Slovenia is considered a best practice in Europe as the unique Programme involving an Intermediate body as a **model of new governance driven by a crossborder EGTC**. Integrated approach to territorial development has been implemented through this innovative governance model made by the Intermediate body in charge of managing the I.T.I. instrument. Within the Programme this is a pilot project on IB governance, which effectively overcomes administrative barriers in the cross-border area.

The EGCT GO plays also the role of sole beneficiary of the two I.T.I projects funded by the Programme, another innovative, effective and unique example in Europe.

The ITI projects **SALUTE-ZDRASTVO** and **ISONZO-SOČA** regularly continued their implementation in 2018. Project Isonzo-Soča presents a quite unique example in Europe with one single contracting authority and joint crossborder investments implemented in Italy and Slovenia. For the first time, a subject of Italian law publishes a tender in Slovenia applying the Slovenian legislation. The Health project is building a pilot path of integration of services and health facilities by a network of existing excellences in the two territories. Three protocols were signed among implementing hospitals (autism, pregnancy, mental health) and three study visits were organized in European hospitals. Implementing bodies activated their own additional funds to enlarge the project as guarantee of continuity of services in Italy and Slovenia as durability of activities and results.

Following a gap analysis on Programme targets and indicators, the Monitoring Committee approved the **last targeted Call for standard projects** in December to be launched in 2019 for a total ERDF amount of more than M€ 11,7.

Most **communication activities** in 2018 focused on promoting funding opportunities and information for potential applicants, providing technical workshops/events supporting project and reporting activities by beneficiaries and informing the general public about Programme and projects' results throughout different communication channels (programme website, social media like twitter (@InterregITASLO)). The programme website is the main communication channel, operating in Italian, Slovene and English and hosting websites of all projects funded under the Programme.

With regard to the **designation procedure** of Programme authorities, the European Commission accepted it on February 2018.

As for **the e-cohesion**, the Programme carries out information through electronic data exchange systems. The main challenge for the Programme in 2018 (and still) was the management of the e-system by all actors involved, but the different solutions that have been put in place by Programme structures helped very much to reduce the initial difficulties.

By joining the **European Initiative “AEBR - Interreg volunteer youth”** in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps, the Programme hosted seven young volunteers on a rotational basis of six months each, giving a job opportunity to youth working in planning and organizing communication and information activities for the Programme.