

IMPLEMENTATION REPORT FOR THE EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL COOPERATION GOAL

PART A

IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL/FINAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

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Title	Interreg V-A - France-United Kingdom (Manche/Channel)
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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.

In 2014 and 2015, the programme has completed its preparation phase, with the completion of the following tasks:

- Negotiation and approval of the programme (Approved on the 27th of October 2015)
- Constitution of the monitoring committee and its sub-committees (First Monitoring Committee meeting took place on the 15th of December 2015)
- Establish programme rules (as set out in the programme manual)
- Support to project partners to build up a pipeline of projects
- Launch of 2 calls for projects and appraisal of the applications
- Recruitment of staff in the UK and France: advert, shortlisting, interviews, training.
- Development and launch of the programme's website
- Dissemination of information to potential applicants.

Decision making is delegated entirely to the Programme Monitoring Committee, which comprises representatives from the French and the English delegation.

The set-up of the programme has coincided with the reorganisation of the French Regions, which has seen 4 of the 5 French regions in the programme area restructured (Haute and Basse Normandie merged to form Normandie, and Picardie and Nord Pas-de-Calais merged to form Hauts de France). This reorganisation has delayed the engagement with Civil Society for the French delegation

By 31/12/2015, no 2nd stage application has been approved by the committee and thus no funding has yet been committed.

Due to the delayed start to the programme and implementation difficulties faced (elaborated upon in section 5 of the report), no projects have been approved, therefore there is no financial or indicator data to report. It is anticipated that the first projects will be approved in 2016, and the programme will begin reporting progress towards these indicators in the 2017 Annual Implementation Report.

The version of the Cooperation Programme (CP) that was approved in October 2015 was submitted without all the baselines for Result Indicators. Since this submission the relevant data gathering has been carried out.

Two calls for Phase 1 projects were held in 2015, resulting in a total of 62 Phase 1 applications. Of these 6 were approved after the 1st call to Develop Phase 2 applications, and a further 8 after the 2nd call. For the 6 approved after the 1st call, they

have a deadline of July 2016 to submit their full Phase 2 application, and those approved in the 2nd call have a deadline for February 2017.

The Joint Secretariat team is now fully recruited with the exception of a Communication Officer, and two further Finance and Appraisal Officer Posts to complement the current staff. Good progress has been made towards completing the Management and Control System, and the process of formal designation of authorities. The first draft was submitted to the Audit Authority for review in October 2015, and the JS/CA teams are currently working through the comments to produce a final version.

The programme has held 5 consultation events during the development of the CP, including a political event held in February 2014 to encourage political engagement in the development of the new Cooperation Programme. However due to delays caused by the need to avoid election periods in both member states, the formal launch event of the Programme has not taken place in the reporting period, and is planned for May 2016. The programme evaluation has not yet started, although an ex-ante evaluation was carried out during the programming process and submitted to the commission along with the CP.

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	Support innovation in order to address the economic and societal issues facing the FCE area.	Delayed start to the programme. The programme evaluation has not yet started. However, having received a large number of poor quality applications across all Priority Axis to the first 2 calls for proposals, the programme has published a document on its website detailing lessons learned following the first 2 calls. The JS has also planned 8 bid writing workshops throughout the programme territory to explain programme expectations to applicants. From feedback through the facilitation team, a lack of knowledge in the private sector of how to apply State Aid regulations as well as concerns around how to treat intellectual property within the programme have delayed and in some cases deterred private sector engagement. In order to redress this the JS attended training by Lexxion in relation to State Aid and have produced detailed programme guidance notes. The PMC agreed the General Block Exemptions to be applied by the programme and how to deal with IP within the programme. The JS has updated the programme guidance to clarify these points.
2	Support the transition to a low carbon economy in the FCE area.	Delayed start to the programme. The programme evaluation has not yet started. However, having received a large number of poor quality applications across all Priority Axis to the first 2 calls for proposals, the programme has published a document on its website detailing lessons learned following the first 2 calls. The JS has also planned 8 bid writing workshops throughout the programme territory to explain programme expectations to applicants.

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
3	Enhance the attractiveness of territories within the FCE area.	<p>Delayed start to the programme. The programme evaluation has not yet started. However, having received a large number of poor quality applications across all Priority Axis to the first 2 calls for proposals, the programme has published a document on its website detailing lessons learned following the first 2 calls. The JS has planned 8 bid writing workshops throughout the programme territory to explain programme expectations to applicants. Late changes to this priority axis following feedback from the EC during the CP approval process resulted in applications coming forward that did not meet the new criteria. In order to help redress this, the JS has also organised 8 local workshops throughout the territory on this thematic. A cross-border event relating to coastal and transitional water eco-systems has also been organised and will take place in May.</p>
4	Technical Assistance	<p>Until the end of 2015 the programme has been focused on the set up of new systems and processes and has seen significant progress. Key developments include the development of the entire Management and Control System (MCS) required for designation and drafting our internal procedures.</p> <p>Recruitment and training of a whole new team has taken place including setting up a business in France in order to recruit facilitation staff based in France, setting up French payroll and getting an understanding of French employment law. Training for the team has been carried out throughout the year to improve our knowledge of State Aid, regulatory requirements, programme intervention logic as well as HIT tools and financial reporting.</p> <p>Significant problems include managing the exchange rate from Euros to Pounds, recruitment difficulties to the key post of Communications Officer, managing potential de-commitment resulting from the slow start to programming (which would have a serious impact on an already stretched TA budget), slow developments and poor responses from our MIS provider. We have put in place a risk management plan to control and mitigate against the impact of specific issues</p>

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
		identified.

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 - Support innovation in order to address the economic and societal issues facing the FCE area.
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	CO27	Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects	EUR	1,347,841.00	0.00	
S	CO27	Research, Innovation: Private investment matching public support in innovation or R&D projects	EUR	1,347,841.00	0.00	
F	CO42	Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects	Organisations	21.00	0.00	
S	CO42	Productive investment: Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects	Organisations	21.00	0.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2015	Observations
F	CO45	Labour Market and Training: Number of participants in projects promoting gender equality, equal opportunities and social inclusion across borders	Persons	7,000.00	0.00	
S	CO45	Labour Market and Training: Number of participants in projects promoting gender equality, equal opportunities and social inclusion across borders	Persons	7,000.00	0.00	
F	1.1	Number of innovative products, services, processes or systems designed	Number of products, services, processes or systems	30.00	0.00	
S	1.1	Number of innovative products, services, processes or systems designed	Number of products, services, processes or systems	30.00	0.00	
F	1.2	Number of innovative products, services, processes or systems produced	Number of products, services, processes or systems	10.00	0.00	
S	1.2	Number of innovative products, services, processes or systems produced	Number of products, services, processes or systems	10.00	0.00	
F	1.3	Number of businesses and business intermediaries cooperating with research institutions	Number of businesses and intermediaries	20.00	0.00	
S	1.3	Number of businesses and business intermediaries cooperating with research institutions	Number of businesses and intermediaries	20.00	0.00	
F	1.4	Number of innovative skill development and professional training schemes for disadvantaged people	Number of schemes	40.00	0.00	
S	1.4	Number of innovative skill development and professional training schemes for disadvantaged people	Number of schemes	40.00	0.00	
F	1.5	Number of institutions (public or private) supported to increase the quality and effectiveness of service delivery to disadvantaged groups	Number of Institutions	20.00	0.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2015	Observations
S	1.5	Number of institutions (public or private) supported to increase the quality and effectiveness of service delivery to disadvantaged groups	Number of Institutions	20.00	0.00	
F	1.6	Number of socially innovative services designed	Number of services	5.00	0.00	
S	1.6	Number of socially innovative services designed	Number of services	5.00	0.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2014
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	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	CO45	Labour Market and Training: Number of participants in projects promoting gender equality, equal opportunities and social inclusion across borders	0.00
S	CO45	Labour Market and Training: Number of participants in projects promoting gender equality, equal opportunities and social inclusion across borders	0.00
F	1.1	Number of innovative products, services, processes or systems designed	0.00

(1)	ID	Indicator	2014
S	1.1	Number of innovative products, services, processes or systems designed	0.00
F	1.2	Number of innovative products, services, processes or systems produced	0.00
S	1.2	Number of innovative products, services, processes or systems produced	0.00
F	1.3	Number of businesses and business intermediaries cooperating with research institutions	0.00
S	1.3	Number of businesses and business intermediaries cooperating with research institutions	0.00
F	1.4	Number of innovative skill development and professional training schemes for disadvantaged people	0.00
S	1.4	Number of innovative skill development and professional training schemes for disadvantaged people	0.00
F	1.5	Number of institutions (public or private) supported to increase the quality and effectiveness of service delivery to disadvantaged groups	0.00
S	1.5	Number of institutions (public or private) supported to increase the quality and effectiveness of service delivery to disadvantaged groups	0.00
F	1.6	Number of socially innovative services designed	0.00
S	1.6	Number of socially innovative services designed	0.00

Priority axis	1 - Support innovation in order to address the economic and societal issues facing the FCE area.
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 - To increase the delivery and uptake of innovative products, processes, systems and services in shared smart specialisation sectors

Table 1: Result indicators

	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	Observations
1.1	Level of delivery and take-up of innovative products, systems and services	%	52.95	2015	54.05	52.95		

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
1.1	Level of delivery and take-up of innovative products, systems and services	52.95	

Priority axis	1 - Support innovation in order to address the economic and societal issues facing the FCE area.
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 - Increase the quality and the effectiveness of service delivery to the most socially and economically disadvantaged groups through social innovation

Table 1: Result indicators

	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	Observations
1.2	Level of quality and effectiveness of the service provided to disadvantaged groups	%	0.00	2015	0.00	0.00		

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
1.2	Level of quality and effectiveness of the service provided to disadvantaged	0.00	

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
	groups		

Priority axis	2 - Support the transition to a low carbon economy in the FCE area.
Investment priority	4f - Promoting research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2015	Observations
F	2.1	Number of new or enhanced low carbon products, services, processes or systems designed	Number of products, services, processes or systems	20.00	0.00	
S	2.1	Number of new or enhanced low carbon products, services, processes or systems designed	Number of products, services, processes or systems	20.00	0.00	
F	2.2	Number of new or enhanced low carbon products, services, processes or systems produced	Number of products, services, processes or systems.	5.00	0.00	
S	2.2	Number of new or enhanced low carbon products, services, processes or systems produced	Number of products, services, processes or systems.	5.00	0.00	
F	2.3	Number of supported LCT multisectoral networks	Number of networks.	5.00	0.00	
S	2.3	Number of supported LCT multisectoral networks	Number of networks.	5.00	0.00	
F	2.4	Number of participants in awareness raising or training events for take up and development of low carbon technologies	Number of participants	16,000.00	0.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2015	Observations
S	2.4	Number of participants in awareness raising or training events for take up and development of low carbon technologies	Number of participants	16,000.00	0.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2014
F	2.1	Number of new or enhanced low carbon products, services, processes or systems designed	0.00
S	2.1	Number of new or enhanced low carbon products, services, processes or systems designed	0.00
F	2.2	Number of new or enhanced low carbon products, services, processes or systems produced	0.00
S	2.2	Number of new or enhanced low carbon products, services, processes or systems produced	0.00
F	2.3	Number of supported LCT multisectoral networks	0.00
S	2.3	Number of supported LCT multisectoral networks	0.00
F	2.4	Number of participants in awareness raising or training events for take up and development of low carbon technologies	0.00
S	2.4	Number of participants in awareness raising or training events for take up and development of low carbon technologies	0.00

Priority axis	2 - Support the transition to a low carbon economy in the FCE area.
Investment priority	4f - Promoting research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies
Specific objective	2.1 - Increase the development and uptake of existing or new low-carbon technologies in the sectors that have the highest potential for a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions

Table 1: Result indicators

	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	Observations
2.1	Level of performance in the development and uptake of new or existing low-carbon technologies and services.	%	0.00	2015	0.00	0.00		

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
2.1	Level of performance in the development and uptake of new or existing low-carbon technologies and services.	0.00	

Priority axis	3 - Enhance the attractiveness of territories within the FCE area.
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	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	Visits/year	240,000.00	0.00	
S	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	Visits/year	240,000.00	0.00	
F	3.1	Number of innovative products/services that result from projects enhancing common cultural & natural assets	Number of new or enhanced products/services.	55.00	0.00	
S	3.1	Number of innovative products/services that result from projects enhancing common cultural & natural assets	Number of new or enhanced products/services.	55.00	0.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2014
F	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	0.00

(1)	ID	Indicator	2014
S	CO09	Sustainable Tourism: Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	0.00
F	3.1	Number of innovative products/services that result from projects enhancing common cultural & natural assets	0.00
S	3.1	Number of innovative products/services that result from projects enhancing common cultural & natural assets	0.00

Priority axis	3 - Enhance the attractiveness of territories within the FCE area.
Investment priority	6c - Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage
Specific objective	3.1 - Realise the potential of the common natural and cultural assets to deliver innovative and sustainable growth

Table 1: Result indicators

	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	Observations
3.1	Level of performance in the delivery of innovative and sustainable economic activities which enhance common cultural and natural assets	%	0.00	2015	0.00	0.00		

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
3.1	Level of performance in the delivery of innovative and sustainable economic activities which enhance common cultural	0.00	

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
	and natural assets		

Priority axis	3 - Enhance the attractiveness of territories within the FCE area.
Investment priority	6d - Protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure

Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2015	Observations
F	3.2	Number of institutions (public or private) supported to enhance and protect the coastal and transitional water ecosystems	Number of institutions.	65.00	0.00	
S	3.2	Number of institutions (public or private) supported to enhance and protect the coastal and transitional water ecosystems	Number of institutions.	65.00	0.00	
F	3.3	Number of pilot operations aimed at the enhancement and protection of the coastal and transitional water ecosystems	Number of pilot operations	10.00	0.00	
S	3.3	Number of pilot operations aimed at the enhancement and protection of the coastal and transitional water ecosystems	Number of pilot operations	10.00	0.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2014
F	3.2	Number of institutions (public or private) supported to enhance and protect the coastal and transitional water ecosystems	0.00

(1)	ID	Indicator	2014
S	3.2	Number of institutions (public or private) supported to enhance and protect the coastal and transitional water ecosystems	0.00
F	3.3	Number of pilot operations aimed at the enhancement and protection of the coastal and transitional water ecosystems	0.00
S	3.3	Number of pilot operations aimed at the enhancement and protection of the coastal and transitional water ecosystems	0.00

Priority axis	3 - Enhance the attractiveness of territories within the FCE area.
Investment priority	6d - Protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure
Specific objective	3.2 - Enhance and protect the coastal and transitional water ecosystems

Table 1: Result indicators

	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	Observations
3.2	Percentage of transitional and coastal water bodies with good or high ecological status	%	0.00	2015	0.00	0.00		

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
3.2	Percentage of transitional and coastal water bodies with good or high ecological status	0.00	

Priority axes for technical assistance

Priority axis	4 - Technical Assistance
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Table 2: Common and programme specific output indicators

(1)	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value	2015	Observations
F	5.1.1	Number of animation measures to stimulate the generation of projects	Number		41.00	
S	5.1.1	Number of animation measures to stimulate the generation of projects	Number		0.00	
F	5.1.2	Number of crossborder applications submitted to the Programme	Number		62.00	
S	5.1.2	Number of crossborder applications submitted to the Programme	Number		0.00	
F	5.1.3	Number of crossborder cooperation projects selected	Number		0.00	
S	5.1.3	Number of crossborder cooperation projects selected	Number		0.00	
F	5.2.1	Number of progress reports monitored and leading to payment	Number		0.00	
S	5.2.1	Number of progress reports monitored and leading to payment	Number		0.00	

(1)	ID	Indicator	2014
F	5.1.1	Number of animation measures to stimulate the generation of projects	12.00
S	5.1.1	Number of animation measures to stimulate the generation of projects	0.00
F	5.1.2	Number of crossborder applications submitted to the Programme	0.00
S	5.1.2	Number of crossborder applications submitted to the Programme	0.00
F	5.1.3	Number of crossborder cooperation projects selected	0.00
S	5.1.3	Number of crossborder cooperation projects selected	0.00
F	5.2.1	Number of progress reports monitored and leading to payment	0.00
S	5.2.1	Number of progress reports monitored and leading to payment	0.00

Priority axis	4 - Technical Assistance
Specific objective	4.1 - To support the development of high quality projects, built by robust partnerships focusing on delivering the change and intended outcomes of the programme objectives.

Table 1: Result indicators

	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	Observations
N/A	N/A	N/A	1.00	2014	2.00			

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
N/A	N/A		

Priority axis	4 - Technical Assistance
Specific objective	4.2 - To provide a compliance, audit and payment regime with high standards of probity systems that will minimise risk to the European Union and Member State funds

Table 1: Result indicators

	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value (2023) Total	2015 Total	2015 Qualitative	Observations
N/A2	N/A2	N/A2	1.00	2014	2.00			

ID	Indicator	2014 Total	2014 Qualitative
N/A2	N/A2		

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	149,760,094.00	70.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0
2	ERDF	Total	59,904,037.00	70.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0
3	ERDF	Total	89,856,057.00	70.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0
4	ERDF	Total	15,744,490.00	85.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0
Total	ERDF		315,264,678.00	70.75	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0
Grand total			315,264,678.00	70.75	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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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
1	ERDF												
2	ERDF												
3	ERDF												
4	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)
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(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

No evaluations of the Programme have been carried out in 2014 and 2015

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

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

Implementation difficulties:

The drafting of the CP was hindered by the poor quality service from the procured CP drafters. The French and UK delegations therefore had to completely redraft the CP with the support of the MA/JS, including substantially changing the wordings of the Specific Objective (SO) titles.

This led to the Commission not adopting the new Cross-border Programme between France and the UK until the 27 th of October 2015. This delay had a number impacts, including difficulty in promoting the programme to potential applicants.

The new programme period has included a new Managing Authority based in the UK, which has required;

- Set up of new systems and processes, including the entire Management and Control System (MCS) required for designation.
- Recruitment and training of a whole new team
- Setting up a business in France in order to recruit facilitation staff based in France, including setting up French payroll and getting an understanding of French employment law.

Member States have to agree on how to share liability in case of an irregularity being deemed systematic and the associated financial correction extrapolated. EC extrapolate errors across all project partners of the project concerned, irrespective of their geographical location, meaning that one Member State could be asked to pay money that cannot be tracked to errors in the member state. This is not in line with the principles of First Level Control (which is clear that member states are responsible and accountable for expenditure on their own territories) and it is unlikely DCLG would sign off the MCS if this risk remains.

The set-up of the programme has coincided with the reorganisation of the French Regions, which has seen 4 of the 5 French regions in the programme area restructured (Haute and Basse Normandie merged to form Normandie, and Picardie and Nord Pas-de-Calais merged to form Hauts de France). This reorganisation has delayed the engagement with Civil Society for the French delegation.

There have been delays in agreeing terms of reference for the PMC and SSC in relation to conflict of interest. An exchange on this point has taken place with the European Commission.

Following the May 2015 election in the UK it was announced that there would be a referendum on EU membership, to be held in June 2016. This has potentially reduced the willingness of potential applicants to approach the programme as they are uncertain

of the future of the programme in the event of a vote to leave the EU.

In addition, the need to avoid clashing with the campaign periods for the national UK elections and French Regional elections in 2015 has delayed the Programme launch event, which will now take place on the 19th of May 2016.

Measures taken by the programme to deal with the implementation difficulties:

In order to ensure that the delays to the launch of the first projects do not impact on the programme's ability to deliver its full allocation of financing, the programme has reviewed its decommitment targets and has designed measures to reduce potential decommitment. These include; using Simplified costs and decentralised FLC system to speed up claim processing and accuracy of claims, close monitoring of project spend to ensure early awareness of issues, and including terms in the Grant Offer Letter that automatically decommit project funding if they spend too little to allow rapid recommitment of funds.

The programme has experienced difficulty in recruiting a Communication Officer, despite having run several advertisements for the position, and offering the position to 4 different individuals. The programme is currently advertising the position again with an increased salary to try and overcome this. The absence of a specialist communication officer has slowed down the delivery of the communication strategy, although this has now been approved by the PMC.

Initially the Programme decided to make use of the Synergie CTE system, as it was believed to be the most cost effective way to meet the requirements of e-cohesion. However the delivery of the system has undergone substantial delays, and it has not been guaranteed that it would ever deliver the full functionality required by the France (Channel) England programme, including the delivery of a fully functional Phase 2 application form in time for the first Phase 2 submissions.

Therefore the programme has had to accept Phase 2 applications via email in Word, PDF and Excel, and then upload copies of these for SSC members to be able to access. Although this has allowed decision making and applications to move forward, it has created additional work for the JS and applicants.

In order to resolve these difficulties the programme has planned to change its Information System and to use the eMS system developed by INTERACT. However this requires additional resources, both financial to pay for server space and a maintenance contract to support the system, and staff time to manage the procurements and oversee the setup of the new system. The overall TA allocation for the Information system is however unchanged compared to the initial provision.

The programme has had a high rejection rate of projects compared to the previous programme period. The focus on results and the related changes from the previous programme period have not been sufficiently understood by programme applicants resulting in poor quality applications. This was particularly the case in call 1 where many applicants had begun preparing their projects before information about the new programme was available, and were unwilling or unable to adapt their projects

sufficiently to meet the new requirements.

In order to improve the acceptance rate, the following measures have been taken. The team of eight facilitators has been recruited as early as possible and spread throughout the eligible area to support applicants. The JS has published clear and transparent guidance notes on-line along with all programme templates including application forms and appraisal criteria. Project ideas are reviewed by the facilitation team before submission to give feedback regarding weaknesses in the application. Feedback is given at all stages of the application, and in the event that an application is rejected detailed reasons for rejection are given to allow partners to develop new applications with the knowledge of where they need to improve. Lessons learned from each call are published on the website. Links to best practice are published on the programme twitter and Linked-in accounts. In the spring of 2016 8 bid writing workshops for potential applicants have been planned to explain what a good application looks like.

In addition, to address a specifically identified weakness in projects relating to SO 3.2 (on protecting Coastal and Transitional Water ecosystems), 8 local events focused on 3.2 have been planned, with a cross border roadshow planned on the 16th of June in Caen 2016.

(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.

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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

(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).

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 - Support innovation in order to address the economic and societal issues facing the FCE area.
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Priority axis	2 - Support the transition to a low carbon economy in the FCE area.
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Priority axis	3 - Enhance the attractiveness of territories within the FCE area.
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Priority axis	4 - Technical Assistance
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9.2. Specific actions taken to promote equality between men and women and to promote non-discrimination, in particular accessibility for persons with disabilities, and the arrangements implemented to ensure the integration of the gender perspective in the cooperation programme and operations (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 14(4), subparagraph 2, (d) of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013)

An assessment of the implementation of specific actions to take into account the principles set out in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 on promotion of equality between men and women and non-discrimination, including, where relevant, depending on the content and objectives of the cooperation programme, an overview of specific actions taken to promote equality between men and women and to promote non-discrimination, including accessibility for persons with disabilities, and the arrangements implemented to ensure the integration of the gender perspective in the cooperation programme and operations

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9.3.Sustainable development (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 14(4), subparagraph 2, (e) of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013)

An assessment of the implementation of actions to take into account the principles set out in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 on sustainable development, including, where relevant, depending on the content and objectives of the cooperation programme, an overview of the actions taken to promote sustainable development in accordance with that Article

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

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9.5 Role of partners in the implementation of the cooperation programme (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 14(4), subparagraph 1, (c) of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013)

Assessment of the implementation of actions to take into account the role of partners referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, including involvement of the partners in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the cooperation programme

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10. OBLIGATORY INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT ACCORDING TO ARTICLE 14(4), SUBPARAGRAPH 1 (A) AND (B), OF REGULATION (EU) No 1299/2013

10.1 Progress in implementation of the evaluation plan and the follow-up given to the findings of evaluations

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

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

11.1 Progress in 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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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)

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

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13. SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

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

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14. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND MEASURES TAKEN — PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013)

Where the assessment of progress made with regard to the milestones and targets set out in the performance framework demonstrates that certain milestones and targets have not been achieved, Member States should outline the underlying reasons for failure to achieve these milestones in the report of 2019 (for milestones) and in the final implementation report (for targets).

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Documents

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent By
Citizens' Summary 2014/2015	Citizens' summary	13-May-2016		Ares(2016)25188 60	Citizens' Summary 2014/2015	31-May-2016	ntighema