



OUTPUT INDICATOR GUIDANCE

INTERREG VA

Cross-border Programme for Territorial Co-operation 2014-2020, Northern Ireland, Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland

Thematic Objective 1
Strengthening research, technological development and innovation

Priority Axis 1
Research and Innovation

Investment Priority 1a
Enhancing research and innovation

Document Control

Document History		
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INTRODUCTION

INTERREG VA - United Kingdom - Ireland is a European Territorial Cooperation programme that aims to promote greater economic, social and territorial cohesion. The eligible region for this programme comprises Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland, and Western Scotland.

Ireland and Northern Ireland share a land border, whilst the border between Ireland and Scotland is a maritime border. Northern Ireland and Scotland are also separated by the North Channel. In all cases the regions concerned are peripheral to the main economic centres of their respective Member States. The contrasting nature of the borders within the eligible area means that different approaches to promoting cross-border co-operation need to be adopted, depending on the nature of the border and the sector involved.

The following strategic areas of investment have been prioritised by the Member States for the 2014-2020 period:

- Smart Growth Priority: Thematic Objective 1 – Strengthening Research, Technological Development and Innovation - The programme will contribute to the objective within EU2020 of increasing the spend on Research and Development (R&D) to 3% of GDP by 2020, by establishing increased cross-border R&D competence building, for Life and Health Sciences and Renewable Energy. Additionally, R&D into renewable energy technologies may contribute to EU2020 targets and lead to reductions in the use of carbon resources and emissions.
- Sustainable Growth Priority: Thematic Objective 6 – Preserving and Protecting the Environment and Promoting Resource Efficiency- The inclusion in the programme of the protection and preservation of habitats and species, an emphasis on water and marine management will contribute to enhancing the region’s sustainability and is congruent with the priority for sustainable growth outlined in strategy EU2020.
- Sustainable Growth Priority: Thematic Objective 7 – Promoting Sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures – The promotion of electric vehicles; greenways; and multimodal transport links have the purpose of reducing the reliance upon carbon forms of transport in the region and underpins the EU2020 strategic objective of creating sustainable growth.

- Inclusive Growth Priority: Thematic Objective 9 – Promoting Social Inclusion, Combating Poverty and any discrimination. The needs analysis of the region has identified inequalities in health care provision for those citizens living in the border area. The inclusion of improved access to cross-border health services is in line with the EU 2020 strategy to generate inclusive growth.

This document provides descriptions and definitions for the output indicators under specific objective 1.1 presented in the new INTERREG VA Programme 2014 – 2020.

Priority axes (PA) are the building blocks of programmes; the PAs are defined as follows: PA 1 – *Research and Innovation*, PA 2 – *Environment*, PA 3 – *Sustainable Transport*, and PA 4 – *Health*. This document includes a diagram highlighting the investment priorities, specific objectives, result and output indicators, as well as descriptions and definitions of the specific objective 1.1 output indicators in detail.

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

The Programme's impact will be monitored through the use of output and result indicators¹. This section provides a definition of output and result indicators. Projects receiving funding through INTERREG VA will be expected to report progress against output indicators only, as such this document goes on to outline definitions and guidance relating to output indicators only.

Output Indicators: Link to activities of operation. They are measured in physical or monetary units (e.g. Number of FTE researcher posts filled; number of firms financially supported) and contribute to result indicators.

Output indicators cover all investment priorities of a programme (art. 27.4(b), 96.2(b) CPR). They should be derived from the intervention logic of the programme, expressing its actions. Output indicators from the list of common indicators may be insufficient to reflect the actions of a certain programme; in this case it was necessary to also identify programme specific output indicators.

The programme shall set *cumulative targets* for output indicators for 2023 (art. 6, ERDF regulation; art. 5, CF regulation; art. 16, ETC regulation). Baselines for output indicators are not required.

Result Indicators: Relate to specific objectives and capture the expected change.

Each priority axis includes one or more investment priorities according to their specific needs and context. The specific objective is the expression of what each investment priority aims to achieve (see art.2.34, CPR for legal definition of a specific objective). The change sought by the specific objective is expressed in one *result indicator*, or as few as possible.²

Result indicators shall meet certain quality criteria. They should be:

- a) responsive to policy: closely linked to the policy interventions supported. They should capture the essence of a result according to a reasonable argument about which features they can and cannot represent;

¹ Ecorys Academy. (2014). Training to Managing Authorities: Intervention logic - Explaining the result orientation of 2014-2020.

² EC (2014). The programming period 2014-2020: Guidance document on monitoring and evaluation. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/2014/working/wd_2014_en.pdf

- b) normative: having a clear and accepted normative interpretation (i.e. there must be agreement that a movement in a particular direction is a favourable or an unfavourable result);
- c) robust: reliable, statistically validated;
- d) timely: available when needed, with room built in for debate and for revision when needed and justified.

GUIDANCE FOR MEASURING AND RECORDING ACHIEVEMENT FOR INDICATORS

The following is some general advice to take into account when recording achievement against output indicators on the database relating to project monitoring for the 2014-2020 Programme (DB2014). The purpose of this is to ensure that all projects record accurately and consistently; ensuring that Programme level reporting on progress against indicators is reflective of each of the projects that have received funding and are contributing to Programme aims and objectives.

- The lead partner is the source of data for all indicators, as they should collect and/or collate relevant data from project partners and managers to report against each of the output indicators relevant to their project.
- Achievement should be updated on a quarterly basis, even if there is nothing to report (in this case a '0' should be entered).
- Please note, when collecting data relating to individuals (e.g. numbers trained, numbers treated, numbers participating etc...) a breakdown by gender should also be collected and recorded.
- In addition to indicators and targets, Lead Partners will also have to agree milestones, where relevant. These will be project specific, included in the Letter of Offer and will have to be reported against regularly to show progress towards achieving an output indicator.
- Level of recording - Activity/achievement should only be entered at one level i.e. the lead partner will enter any achievement against their project, to avoid any possibility of duplicate recording and ensure consistency. Entries will then be quality assured by the Joint Secretariat and the Financial Control Unit in SEUPB. Where monitoring data is being collected by, for instance, service providers as opposed to the lead partner; the lead partner should take responsibility for collating monitoring data from the various sub-projects/project managers/service providers, and record activity on DB2014 on a quarterly basis.
- Cumulative within year - Entries of achievement against a project can be made several times over the course of a calendar year; however new entries will overwrite previous entries so they should be on cumulative basis for each year i.e. each new

entry should include all achievement so far that year even if a report has already been made. However, between years, achievement should be on a non-cumulative basis.

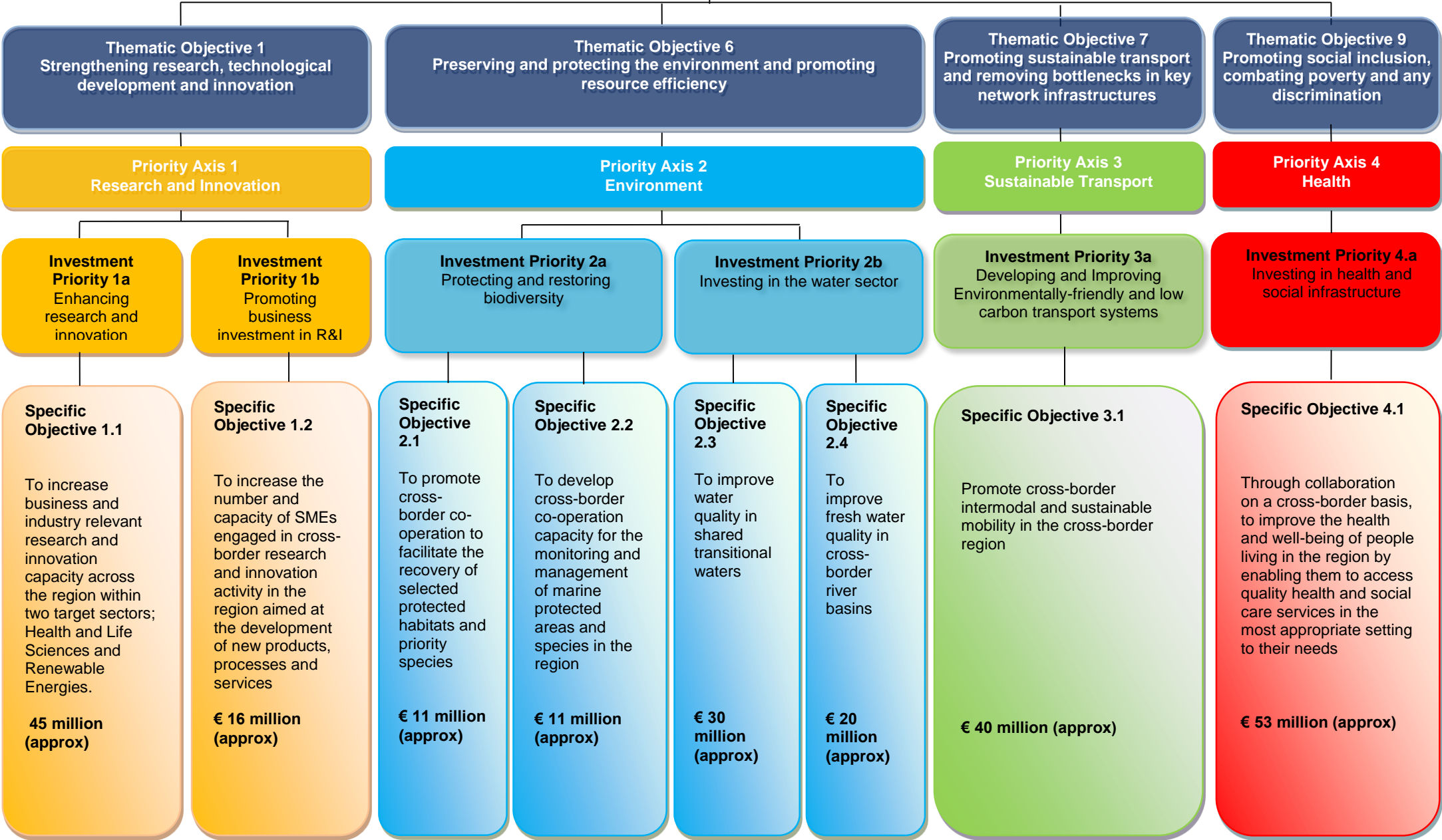
For example: Number of enterprises receiving one to one advice – there could be 3 entries against this indicator in the 2015 calendar year, so if in the first 3 months 4 enterprises received advice the project lead partner should record 4; then if another 2 enterprises receive advice in the following 6 months, a total of 6 should be reported; and if another 3 enterprises received advice in the last 3 months of 2015, a total of 9 enterprises should be entered. That will make a total achievement of 9 enterprises in 2015, and the counter should reset to 0 for 2016.

- Projects should also note that activity should be recorded in the year to which it relates, rather than the date it was entered, i.e. if an activity took place in December of 2017 but not recorded until January 2018, the entry should be made under 2017. Achievement should only be recorded upon completion of the target activity (e.g. enterprises supported, researchers in supported enterprises completing FTE years etc) and not in anticipation of its completion (e.g. enterprises recruited for support or researchers appointed to posts),
- In all cases the term year refers to the calendar year January to December.
- Record achievement as information becomes available - Achievement against output indicators at the INTERREG Programme level is reported on at several times during the year (including Spring and Autumn Programme Monitoring Committees and the Annual Implementation Report that is produced by calendar year). Ideally, projects should not wait until the year end to enter all achievement in one go. It would be more beneficial to report achievement at regular intervals, ideally not later than the end of each quarter, to ensure that Programme level reports are as accurate and up to date as possible, reflecting the output achievement of all projects at that point in time. Projects should note that even if there is no achievement against certain output indicators there is still the need to update monitoring entries. In this case projects, should enter zero.
- Check wording and definitions - this document contains a list of the relevant indicators and associated definitions and units. Please ensure you are reporting

accurate, relevant information, avoiding double counting and using the correct unit (e.g. enterprises, patients, percentage etc).

For example, 'number of enterprises engaging an intern'; the unit here is enterprises, so you should not record the number of interns as this may lead to double counting if an enterprise employs more than one intern. It should be the number of enterprises and each enterprise should only be counted once.

INTERREG Cross-Border Programme 2014-2020
€240 million ERDF (plus 15% match funding)
Max 85% intervention rate



Thematic Objective 1
Strengthening research, technological development and innovation

Priority Axis 1 – Research and Innovation

Investment Priority 1.a
 Enhancing research and innovation

Investment Priority 1.b
 Promoting business investment in R&I

Specific Objective 1.1

To increase business and industry relevant research and innovation capacity across the region within two target sectors; Health and Life Sciences and Renewable Energy

Result Indicator: The annual number of peer reviewed journal and conference publications in two target sectors (Health and Life Sciences and Renewable Energy) with cross-border authorship and with the potential to create economic impact.

Output Indicators (all common indicators)

- Number of enterprises receiving support
- Number of enterprises receiving grants
- Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support
- Number of new researchers in supported entities
- Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions
- Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects
- Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects

Specific Objective 1.2

To increase the number and capacity of SMEs engaged in cross-border research and innovation activity in the region aimed at the development of new products, processes and services

Result Indicator: The percentage of SMEs in the eligible region involved in research and innovation involving cross-border collaborations.

Output Indicators

- Number of enterprises receiving support (common indicator)
- Number of enterprises receiving grants (common indicator)
- Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support (common indicator)
- Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions (common indicator)
- Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects (common indicator)
- Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects (common indicator)
- Number of enterprises receiving one to one innovation advice
- Number of enterprises in receipt of an Innovation Capability Development Programme
- Number of enterprises engaging an Innovation Intern

Specific Objective 1.1: Increase business and industry relevant research and innovation capacity across the region within the sectors of Health and Life Sciences, and Renewable Energies

This specific objective is exclusively aimed at an overall increase in research and development (R&D) activities in the eligible region. It will encourage the creation of new and the further development of existing cross-border R&I partnerships to utilise collaboration to increase the level of research and innovation competence and activity across the programme area in a strategic way designed to contribute towards the development of a more competitive, high value added economy.

The term R&D encompasses three types of activities: basic research³, industrial research and experimental development. However, only **industrial research** and **experimental development** are applicable under the INTERREG V programme. These two activities are defined as follows⁴:

Industrial research = The planned research or critical investigation aimed at the acquisition of new knowledge and skills for developing new products, processes or services or for bringing about a significant improvement in existing products, processes or services. It comprises the creation of components parts of complex systems, and may include the construction of prototypes in a laboratory environment or in an environment with simulated interfaces to existing systems as well as of pilot lines, when necessary for the industrial research and notably for generic technology validation.⁵

Experimental Development = acquiring, combining, shaping and using existing scientific, technological, business and other relevant knowledge and skills with the aim of developing new or improved products, processes or services. This may also include, for example, activities aiming at the conceptual definition, planning and documentation of new products, processes or services.

³ **Excluded**; Basic Research is experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundation of phenomena and observable facts, without any particular application or use in view.

⁴ OECD. (2002). *Frascati Manual: Proposed standard practice for surveys on research and experimental development*. Paris, France: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Retrieved from http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/tubitak_content_files/BTYPD/kilavuzlar/Frascati.pdf

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/competition/state_aid/modernisation/rdi_framework_en.pdf

Experimental development may comprise prototyping, demonstrating, piloting, testing and validation of new or improved products, processes or services in environments representative of real life operating conditions where the primary objective is to make further technical improvements on products, processes or services that are not substantially set. This may include the development of a commercially usable prototype or pilot which is necessarily the final commercial product and which is too expensive to produce for it to be used only for demonstration and validation purposes. Experimental development does not include routine or periodic changes made to existing products, production lines, manufacturing processes, services and other operations in progress, even if those changes may represent improvements;⁶.

Research activities to be supported under this objective will emanate from two sectors: **Health and Life Sciences**, and **Renewable Energies**. The intention is to further develop research areas in which there is existing critical mass and those where the region has distinct advantages. This approach aligns with the EU Smart Specialisation Platform.

Health Sciences = group of disciplines of applied science dealing with human and animal health. There are two parts to Health Sciences: the study and research knowledge of health and the application of that knowledge to improve health, prevent and cure diseases, and understand how humans and animals function.⁷

Life Sciences = any one of the branches of science concerned with the structure and behaviour of living organisms, such as biology, botany, zoology, physiology, or biochemistry.⁸ In this context it further encompass the fields of biotechnology, biomedical technologies, life systems technologies, pharmaceutical, nutraceuticals, food processing, environmental and biomedical devices.

Renewable Energies = Energy derived from natural processes (e.g. sunlight and wind) that are replenished at a faster rate than they are consumed. Solar, wind, geothermal, hydro, and some forms of biomass are common sources of renewable energy⁹.

⁶ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014R0651&from=EN>

⁷ Definition retrieved from www.pennstatehershey.org/web/uhsc/home/healthsciences/definition

⁸ Definition retrieved from <http://www.thefreedictionary.com/life+science>

⁹ <http://www.iea.org/aboutus/faqs/renewableenergy/>

Renewable energy replaces conventional fuels in four distinct areas: electricity generation, hot water/space heating, motor fuels, and rural (off-grid) energy services.¹⁰

Priority Axis 1 is aimed at ***economic development*** and all activities supported have to be aligned with this goal.

The following is an indicative list of the target research areas (this should not be considered exhaustive):

- Medical engineering related to connected health;
- Personalised medicine;
- Experimental medicine;
- Mass energy storage;
- Wave and tidal energy;
- Renewable energy production;
- Advanced manufacturing research;
- Projects within the above mentioned areas, which incorporate ICT as an enabler technology.

Target groups for this call include (but are not limited to) the following types of organisations, working in cross-border partnerships, to deliver the outputs and provide benefits to the eligible area:

- Universities and Institutes of Technology
- Colleges of Further Education
- Health Care sector partners including Trusts and Boards
- Private sector partners in the fields of Health and Life Sciences and/or Renewable Energy
- Third level institutions and / or research centres outside of the eligible area if their expertise and capacities are exceptional and essential for the successful delivery of the project
- Appropriate public sector bodies

¹⁰ REN21 – Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st century. (2010). *Renewables 2010: Global status report*. p. 15.

Retrieved from http://www.harbertaxgroup.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/REN21_GSR_2010_full_revised-Sept2010.pdf

SPECIFIC INDICATORS

The following is a list of the indicators relevant to this call, with associated targets, definitions and reporting details.

The following section includes guidance on reporting monitoring data against priority axis 1.1 specific output indicators, including who or what should be counted, how indicators relate to each other and when activity can be considered achievement.

The aim of this call is to increase the research and innovation capacity in the region by creating effective cross-border partnerships between those with existing capacity and those with more limited experience.

Indicator CO01	Number of enterprises receiving support
Measurement Unit	Enterprises
Target Value (2023)	20
Source of Data	Lead Partner
Frequency of Reporting	Quarterly
Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enterprise: Organisation producing products or services to satisfy market needs in order to reach profit.¹¹ • Support Receiving support in any form from Structural Funds (whether the support represents state aid or not)¹². Support can be financial or non-financial. <p>Additional Information: Enterprises can either be involved in research projects being led by a higher education institution, or be Lead Partner themselves. Likewise, they can either be actively involved in research activities and therefore in receipt of funding, or they may be in receipt of advice from a higher education institution on a piece of research, or the institution may be carrying out research for the enterprise.</p>
Achievement	<p>Indicators CO02 and CO04 are subsets of indicator CO01 'Number of enterprises receiving support' i.e. CO01 should be equal to or less than, the sum of CO02 and CO04 (as the same enterprise can be recorded under both CO02 and CO04)</p> <p>Multiple counting needs to be eliminated, i.e. an enterprise receiving support more than once under one project, even if it is in a different way (e.g. non-financial and financial support) is still only one enterprise receiving support.</p> <p>Achievement should be recorded upon completion of support given.</p>

¹¹ European Commission. (2014). Guidance Document on Monitoring and Evaluation. European Cohesion Fund and European Regional Development Fund; Concepts and Recommendations

¹² European Commission. (2012). Regional Policy. Common indicators: Innovation and productive investment. Definitions and discussion. Retrieved from ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/.../4_aa_common_indic_innov.ppt

Indicator CO02	Number of enterprises receiving grants
Measurement Unit	Enterprises
Target Value (2023)	10
Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant <p>Enterprises receiving support in form of non-refundable direct financial assistance conditional only on completion of project (grants).</p> <p>Enterprises should be involved in a collaborative partnership with a research institution and conducting activities that means they will be in receipt of funding i.e. actively carrying out research projects</p>
Achievement	<p>Indicators CO02 is a subset of indicator CO01 'Number of enterprises receiving support' i.e. CO02 should be equal to, or less than the total recorded under CO01</p> <p>Multiple counting needs to be eliminated i.e. an enterprise can only be counted once even if receiving grants more than once.</p> <p>Achievement should be recorded upon completion of expenditure of grant on agreed activities, as opposed to upon award of grant (in case of termination of activities before completion)</p>

Indicator CO04	Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support
Measurement Unit	Enterprises
Target Value (2023)	20
Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-financial support <p>Enterprises may receive guidance/expert advice, research support, use of equipment etc. from research institutions and/or a Development Agency. Such non-financial support should leverage their own active R&I activities.</p> <p>Enterprises should be involved in a collaborative partnership with a higher education institution and public sector development agencies, and conducting activities that means they will be in receipt of funding i.e. actively carrying out research projects</p>
Achievement	<p>Indicators CO04 is a subset of indicator CO01 'Number of enterprises receiving support' i.e. CO04 should be equal to, or less than the total recorded under CO01</p> <p>Multiple counting needs to be eliminated i.e. an enterprise receiving different kinds of non-financial support more than once under one project is still only one enterprise receiving support.</p>

	Achievement should be recorded upon completion of support activities i.e. after advice has been given, facilities have been used etc.
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Any enterprise receiving support must be counted under CO01 firstly, then categorised into CO02 (financial support), CO04 (non-financial support), or potentially both CO02 and CO04.

Indicator CO01 is the overall sum of enterprises receiving financial and/or non-financial support. CO02 and CO04 record the specific numbers receiving financial support and non-financial support, respectively, but are not mutually exclusive i.e. an enterprise can be in receipt of both financial and non-financial support. Therefore the sum of CO02 and CO04 may be greater than achievement recorded under CO01, but should never be less.

The targets for CO01 and CO04 are the same as it is expected that all supported enterprises should be receiving non-financial support, and 10 of these should be receiving financial support in addition to non-financial support.

Non-financial support can include guidance/expert advice, research support, use of equipment etc. Projects will be asked to provide evidence for support given to enterprises such as documentation of advice given, role in the research project, any written agreements between higher education institutions and enterprises etc. Such evidence will be examined by SEUPB during the claim verification process.

Within each indicator the enterprise should only be counted once. For example if an enterprise receives financial support twice they can only be counted once under CO02. If they receive different kinds of non-financial support i.e. advice, training and an intern; they can only be counted once under CO04. There should be no double counting under CO01 – regardless of the number of different kinds of support an enterprise is in receipt of on different occasions, each enterprise included should be unique, appearing only once. Achievement should only be recorded when support being given is complete.

Indicator CO24	Number of new researchers in supported entities
Measurement Unit	Full time equivalents
Target Value (2023)	514
Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Researchers Gross new working positions (that did not exist before) to directly perform R&D activities, in full time equivalents. The post must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - be a consequence of project implementation or completion; - be filled (vacant posts are not counted) and increase the total number of research jobs in the organisation; <p>Support staff for R&D (i.e. jobs not directly involved in R&D activities) is not counted.</p> <p>Gross: Not counting the origin of the jobholder as long as it directly contributes to the increase of total research jobs in the organisation (i.e. the researcher could be an existing employee).</p> <p>Researchers should be PHD level or above.</p> <p>Projects should focus on industry directed research with economic relevance in one or both of the two target sectors.</p> <p>Researchers should be encouraged to publish their work and be supported to travel to present it at conferences.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full time equivalents Full-time equivalent: Jobs can be full time, part time or seasonal. Seasonal and part time jobs are to be converted to FTE using ILO/statistical/other standards. <p>The ratio of the total number of paid hours during a period (part time, full time, contracted) by the number of working hours in that period.</p> <p>The ratio units are FTE units or equivalent employees working full-time. In other words, one FTE is equivalent to one employee working full-time.¹³</p> <p>In this instance, the number of FTEs are based on an annualised figure – that is an FTE of 1 is equal to 1 person working full-time for one year, or any combination of a number of people working part-time hours that combine to the equivalent of 1 full-time.</p> <p>Example: A three year project employs three researchers:</p> <p>Researcher 1 works 75% of full-time hours, then by project end FTE=2.25 Researcher 2 works full-time for 2 years, then by project end FTE =2 Researcher 3 works 50% full-time hours for 1 year, then by project end FTE=0.5 Researcher 4 work full-time for 9 months, then by project end FTE = 0.75</p> <p>Total FTEs by end of project = 2.25+2+0.5+0.75 = 5.5</p>

¹³ Read more: <http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/full-time-equivalent-FTE.html#ixzz3Qb9QPEkB>

Achievement

In R&D the duration of jobs tends to be shorter (“project support”). The jobs created for different projects should be added up even if they involve the same staff (providing that all projects are distinct and receive support); this is not regarded as multiple counting.

CO24 specifically relates to new working positions (that did not exist before) to directly perform R&D activities, counted in full time equivalents, within the enterprises identified under CO01 as receiving support. This will relate to the number of **posts** filled and their FTE basis; as opposed to individuals. Therefore, theoretically, a person could work for one enterprise, complete the project, then be employed by another enterprise receiving support – in this case the posts will be counted (which would be 2 if both posts were full-time) rather than 1 individual.

Note: only new posts created as a result of INTERREG funding should be counted and reported on, not existing posts or total number of research posts in the third level institutions being supported.

Achievement (FTE years) should be recorded on an annual basis according to completed FTEs for the year past, as opposed to upon appointment to a post. An individual could be appointed to a yearlong, full-time post but may only end up completing six months of the contract for various reasons, in this case if they had been counted upon appointment the post would have been recorded as 1 FTE year, however, in reality the actual achievement could be anywhere between 0.5 and 1 depending on if and when a replacement is recruited to complete the year contract.

Please note that for the purposes of reporting and monitoring that only whole FTEs will be considered by SEUPB. Whilst combining researchers as outlined within the definition section still holds true, targets and their associated achievement will and should only be recorded in whole numbers.

Indicator CO26	Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions
Measurement Unit	Enterprises
Target Value (2023)	10
Definition	<p>Cooperation: Number of enterprises that cooperate with research institutions/higher education institutions on research projects. At least one enterprise and one research institution <u>must</u> participate in the project. One or more of the cooperating parties (research institution or enterprise) may receive the support but it must be conditional to the cooperation. The cooperation may be new or existing. The cooperation should last at least for the duration of the project.</p> <p>Enterprise: Organisation producing products or services to satisfy market needs in order to reach profit. In case one enterprise takes the formal lead and others are subcontractors but still interacting with the research institution, all enterprises should be counted. Enterprises cooperating in different projects should be added up (provided that all projects receive support); this is not regarded as multiple counting.</p> <p>Research institution: an organisation of which R&D is a primary activity.</p>
Achievement	<p>CO26 and CO41 both measure the number of enterprises – this should relate back to the 20 enterprises being supported (CO01).</p> <p>All enterprises counted under CO26 should already have been counted under CO01; and CO02 and/or CO04.</p> <p>One enterprise can cooperate with research institutions on a number of different projects but should still only be counted once.</p> <p>Achievement should be recorded upon completion of the project as evidence of that cooperation lasting for the duration of the project.</p>

Indicator CO41	Number of enterprises participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects
Measurement Unit	Enterprises
Target Value (2023)	10
Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation <p>At least one enterprise and one research institution <u>must</u> partake in activity and action in relation to cross-border research activity. The partnership may be new or existing and each partner must demonstrate how they are contributing to the partnership. Participation should last for the duration of the project.</p> <p>Both enterprises and Research Institutes <u>must</u> engage in cross-border activity. Cross-border activities include project development and/or project implementation as well as joint financing and staffing of projects.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-border <p><i>Cross-border</i> in the context of the INTERREG VA Programme means collaboration across the border of Ireland and UK; therefore, only cooperation between entities in Ireland and UK (Northern Ireland and/or Western Scotland) will be eligible for application and funding. Cross-border cooperation covers activities such as finance, staffing, project development and project implementation.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research activity/ projects <p>Activities and projects falling in one of the two research categories (applied research; experimental development¹⁴), which are on a cross-border basis.</p>
	<p>CO41 is a variant of indicator CO26 'Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions' with the difference that the research project must qualify as cross border. If a participating enterprise has departments operating in different places, the location of the participating department(s) should be taken into account to qualify as cross border project.¹⁵</p>
Achievement	<p>To avoid multiple counting an enterprise receiving support under the same project must be counted only once. However, an enterprise can be counted more than once if received support from different, distinct projects that are under different applications.</p> <p>All enterprises counted under CO41 should already have been counted under CO01; and CO02 and/or CO04.</p> <p>Achievement should be recorded upon completion of the project as evidence of that participation lasting for the duration of the project.</p>

¹⁴ **Applied research** = original investigation undertaken in order to acquire *new* knowledge. It is, however, directed primarily towards a specific *practical aim or objective*.

Experimental Development =systematic work, drawing on existing knowledge gained from research and/or practical experience, which is directed to producing new materials, products or devices, to installing new processes, systems and services, or to improving substantially those already produced or installed.

¹⁵ European Commission. (2014). Guidance Document on Monitoring and Evaluation. European Cohesion Fund and European Regional Development Fund; Concepts and Recommendations

Indicator CO42	Number of research institutions participating in cross-border, transnational or interregional research projects
Measurement Unit	Organisations
Target Value (2023)	5
Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation <p>At least one enterprise and one research institution must partake in activity and action in relation to cross-border research activity. The partnership may be new or existing and each partner must demonstrate how they are contributing to the partnership. Participation should last for the duration of the project.</p> <p>Both enterprises and Research Institutes must engage in cross-border activity. Cross-border activities include project development and/or project implementation as well as joint financing and staffing of projects.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-border <p><i>Cross-border</i> in the context of the INTERREG VA Programme means collaboration across the border of Ireland and UK; therefore, only cooperation between entities in Ireland and UK (Northern Ireland and/or Western Scotland) are eligible for application. Cross-border cooperation covers activities such as finance, staffing, project development and project implementation.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research activity <p>Activities and projects falling in one of the two research categories (applied research; experimental development), which are on a cross-border basis.</p>
	<p>CO42 is similar to indicator CO41 'Number of enterprises participating in cross border research projects' with the difference that it counts cooperating research institutions instead of enterprises. If a participating organisation has departments operating in different places, the location of the participating department(s) should be taken into account to qualify as cross border project.¹⁶</p>
Achievement	<p>Research Institutions counted under this indicator should be unique, even if participating in more than one research project.</p> <p>Achievement should be recorded upon completion of the project as evidence of that participation lasting for the duration of the project.</p>

CO26 and CO41 both measure the number of enterprises – this should relate back to the 20 enterprises being supported (CO01) – therefore the number cooperating with research institutions (CO26) should be a sub-set of the total number on enterprises receiving support.

Likewise, the number participating in cross-border research projects (CO41) should also be a sub-set of the total number of enterprises receiving support.

¹⁶ European Commission. (2014). Guidance Document on Monitoring and Evaluation. European Cohesion Fund and European Regional Development Fund; Concepts and Recommendations

Enterprises should only be counted once and research institutions should only be counted once. All units should be unique, regardless of the combination. For example: 2 enterprises could be collaborating with 1 research institution – in this case 2 should be recorded under both CO26 and CO41, and 1 should be recorded under CO42.