

PROGRAMME INDICATORS

Indicators are relevant to measure whether the CBC programme has achieved its objectives or not. The choice of appropriate indicators is important for the programme and its adoption by the Joint Monitoring and Steering Committee (JMSC).

The aim of the indicators is to assess the continuous validity of the strategy, measure the progress made compared to the initial situation and to measure the effectiveness of the chosen intervention. Therefore the continuous validity of the strategy will be monitored by context indicators, whereas the achievement of specific objectives of the programme will be measured by **specific context, impact, output and result including the co-operation indicators**:

- **Context indicators** should reflect the structure of the socio-economic analysis of the programme, especially its SWOT analysis. They are relevant in order to assess regional needs through a socio-economic analysis of a country or region concerned, and in order to monitor the evolving general context of the programme. They should be updated in annual reports and used when the programme strategy is evaluated. They are means to carry out systematic reporting and analysis throughout the lifetime of the programme.
- **Impact indicators** refer to the consequences of the programme beyond the immediate effects. Impact indicators are linked to global/overall objectives. Two concepts of impact can be defined: Specific impacts are those effects occurring after a certain lapse of time but which are, nonetheless, directly linked to the action taken and the direct beneficiaries. Global impacts are longer-term effects affecting a wider population.
- **Result indicators** relate to the direct and immediate effect on direct beneficiaries brought about by a programme on its direct beneficiaries. They are quantified on priority level. They provide information on changes to, for example, the behaviour, capacity or performance of beneficiaries. Such indicators can be of a physical (reduction in journey times, number of successful trainees, number of roads accidents etc.) or financial (leverage of private sector resources, decrease in transportation cost etc.) nature. Result indicators are linked to specific objectives/purposes.
- **Output indicators** relate to activity. They can be quantified for measures and projects. The measure level is referred to a single or a group of activities directly related to the content of projects under that measure. They are measured in physical or monetary units (e.g. length of railroad constructed, number of firms financially supported etc.). They are linked to operational objectives/results of the programme.

Context indicators

The context indicators listed below should give a picture on the socio economic environment of this territorial Co-operation programme and how this environment changes during programme implementation. It is unlikely that the context indicators will be influenced significantly by the programme activity, however they serve as a monitoring basis to justify continuity or changes of the programme strategy. Context indicators are proposed according to their annual availability on NUTS III level and to their comparability for the programme region.

The following indicators will be integrated as context indicators in the annual reports:

- GRP per inhabitant in PPP;
- GRP per inhabitant change in % in relation to the starting year 2006;
- Unemployment rate per gender;
- Employment rate per gender;
- Change in the population per gender in % of the starting year 2006.

Output, Result and Impact Indicators

Result and impact indicators measure output, result and impact of a project or programme. By concentrating on a set of basic indicators a basis for the qualitative evaluation of projects and the programme impact as a whole should be possible.

Those indicators are distinguished on different levels: the **programme, the priority and the project level**. Starting with the output indicators all necessary data is collected on project level. The data will be collected at three stages: project application, interim reports and final report. The information will be entered into the central monitoring system (CMS). All data collected for the indicators must contain

country and region specific information (e.g. location of beneficiaries, publicity activities, institutions/persons reached by project activities).

On priority level, project specific information on output indicators is aggregated to result indicators. The same goes for the impact indicators on the programme level (aggregated information on result indicators). To observe the programme output and the impact indicators on programme level, an ongoing qualitative evaluation will be organised by the Managing Authority, relying on information from the CMS.

In order to keep the system easy to handle, most of the indicators fit to all objectives (see Table 12: Overview and quantification of Output, Result and Impact Indicators). Just for measurement of the improvement of eco-mobility, transport and regional accessibility as well as the management of natural resources (which is a special focus of the programme) additional specific indicators are set. The impact indicators contribute to measure whether the programme could reach its objectives. If the information gained from the indicator system in this respect does not seem sufficient, impact monitoring and evaluation can also be supported by qualitative methods (see chapter 7.3 Evaluation).

In general, the indicator system focuses on the character of the programme – which is territorial co-operation. Therefore outputs, results and impacts measured reflect mainly on typical products of co-operation. The indicator system is therefore quite distinctive from a typical mainstream programme indicator system.

Table 9: Overview and quantification of Output, Result and Impact Indicators

Indicator	Quantification		
Output	Technical	Number of projects per activity	Minimum 1/activity
		Type of project (investment type, % of costs: infrastructure/soft measure)	
		Type of achievement (network, tool/product ¹⁰ , local action ¹¹ , people to people)	
	Publicity	Total number of direct beneficiaries per target group	
		Number institutions/persons reached by project activities	
		Number of participants in cross border training/education ¹²	
		Number of dissemination and publicity activities ¹³	
		Type of transport infrastructure: border crossings, km of new or reconstructed road, bike routes etc.	5 projects on transport infrastructure
		Additional capacity of renewable energy production (MWh)	10 projects for renewable energy production
	Co-operation	Intensity of co-operation (respecting 2-4 of the following criteria: joint development ¹⁴ , joint implementation ¹⁴ , joint financing ¹⁵ , joint staffing ¹⁶)	75 % fulfil 3 criteria 5% fulfil 4 criteria
		Number of frequency of co-operation and communication between the organisations and of partnership activities (shape ¹⁷ and dimension)	
	Cross sections	Type of impact on equal opportunities ¹⁸ (neutral ¹⁹ , promotional ²⁰ , focused on ²¹)	
Type of impact on environment ²² (neutral ²³ , promotional ²⁴ , focused on ²⁵)			

¹⁰ The output/result can be used and adopted for other regions like for example training course, planning instrument.

¹¹ A project concerning a local action in some particular place. The achievement can be used only in one place like for example a construction for flood protection, information centre.

¹² Minimum demand: participants from both sides of the border.

¹³ Publications, websites, newsletter, leaflets, articles, conferences, congresses etc.

¹⁴ No joint financing – partner financed with other funding

¹⁵ Adequate (to be justified at project level) contribution from objective 3 programme

¹⁶ Staff/employees (no subcontractors) are paid from both sides of the border.

¹⁷ Ad hoc forums, regular meetings, co-operation agreements and formal cross border structures.

¹⁸ Equal opportunity is a descriptive term for an approach intended to give equal access to a certain social environment, or to ensure people are not specifically excluded from participating in activities such as education, employment, or health care on the basis of immutable traits. The activities undertaken in projects take into account the discrimination some individuals suffer owing to their race or ethnic origin, religion or beliefs, age, gender, sexual orientation or disability, all of which are grounds for discrimination.

¹⁹ Projects with neither positive nor negative effects on equal opportunities. The project application includes a statement to justify no negative effects will occur.

²⁰ Projects which have positive effects on equal opportunities. The different needs of users are taken into account during project implementation. Actions for the enhancement of equal opportunities are included in the project.

²¹ The aim of the project is to enhance equal opportunities. It has equal opportunity goals and measures. All data collected for the indicators and monitoring include sex and age.

²² An environment is a complex of surrounding circumstances, conditions or influences in which a thing is situated or is developed, or in which a person or organism lives, modifying and determining its life or character.

Environmental sustainability aims to protect a local ecosystem or the biosphere as a whole due to human activities and to minimize negative effects, and other causes, to halt and, ideally, reverse the processes they lead to.

²³ Projects with neither positive nor negative effects on the environment. The project application includes a statement to justify no negative effects will occur.

Result	Ratio of infrastructure projects/soft measures	20% infrastructure projects, 80% soft measures	
	Number of permanent networks per activity established ²⁶		
	Number of tools and products per activity adopted		
	Number of local actions of strategic importance ²⁷ per activity		
	Number of people to people actions		
	Number of results focused on equal opportunities per activity ²⁸		5 results focused on equal opportunities 15 results focused on environment
	Number of results focused on environment per activity ²⁹		
Impact	Increased co-operation among institutions		
	Increased institutional and personal exchange on the labour market		
	Increased number of people served and reached by public services and benefiting from emergency management		
	Increased use of alternative solutions to road transport means		
	Increased common social and cultural capital		
	Increased sustainable utilisation of natural resources		

²⁴ Projects which have positive effects on the environment. Actions for the improvement of the environment are included in the project.

²⁵ The aim of the project is to improve the environment. It has sustainable environmental goals and measures.

²⁶ Networks still existing two years after end of project.

²⁷ For local actions the strategic importance is a crucial impact, because the cross border aspect is a guiding principle for all projects. Local actions without strategic importance will not be supported by the programme.

²⁸ Except people to people actions.

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