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Webinar for potential applicants of the 2nd Call for Proposals



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Interreg VI-A Lithuania-Poland 2021-2027 Cross-border Cooperation Programme

**30 January, 2024
online**



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Information about the Programme

The overall objective of the Interreg VI-A Lithuania-Poland 2021-2027 Cross-border Cooperation Programme is **improving wellbeing of cross-border communities through cross-border cooperation and sustainable use of cultural and natural heritage of the Lithuania and Poland cross-border area.**





Highlights

- The European Regional Development Fund's contribution to the Programme is 99 681 967 EUR (80% of the total budget). The national co-financing is EUR 24 920 494 EUR (20 % of the total budget). **The total amount allocated for the implementation of the Programme is 124 602 461 EUR.**
- New project submission and management system – Joint Electronic Monitoring System (JEMS).
- Simplified costs options (flat rates).
- Preparation costs.



Programme territory



- Alytus county
- Kaunas county
- Marijampolė county
- Tauragė county
- Vilnius county (*≠ Vilnius city*)

- Elcki subregion
- Suwalski subregion
- Białostocki subregion
- **Łomżyński subregion**
- **Olsztyński subregion**



Programme bodies

- Monitoring Committee (MC)
- Managing Authority (MA)
 - Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania
- National Authority (NA)
 - the Territorial Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy of the Republic of Poland.
- Audit Authority (AA)
 - Centralised Internal Audit Department of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania
- Joint Secretariat (JS) supported by Regional Contact Points (RCP) in Bialystok and Olsztyn
- Controllers



Programme priorities

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Priority	ERDF (EUR)	(%)
Priority 1. Promoting environmental wellbeing and strengthening crisis management Specific objective 1.1. RSO2.7.: Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution	24,476,215	26,3%
Priority 2. Promoting physical, emotional and cultural wellbeing Specific objective 2.1. RSO4.5.: Ensuring equal access to health care and fostering resilience of health systems, including primary care, and promoting the transition from institutional to family- and community-based care	12,584,145	13,5%
Specific objective 2.2. RSO4.6.: Enhancing the role of culture and sustainable tourism in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation	28,516,215	30,6%
Priority 3. Strengthening cooperation of local, regional and national stakeholders Specific objective 3.1.: ISO6.3. Build up mutual trust, in particular by encouraging people-to-people actions	6,292,072	6,8%
Specific objective 3.2.: ISO6.6. Other actions to support better cooperation governance	6,292,071	6,8%
<i>Specific objective 3.3. ISO7.4. Other actions to contribute to a safer and more secure Europe (ISO7.1. Border crossing management)</i>	4,658,035	5%
Priority 4. Improving connectivity Specific objective 4.1. RSO3.2. Developing and enhancing sustainable, climate resilient, intelligent and intermodal national, regional and local mobility, including improved access to TEN-T and cross-border mobility	10,341,965	11%
Total:	93,160,718	





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Priority 1. Promoting environmental wellbeing and strengthening crisis management

Specific objective 1.1. RSO 2.7:

Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution.





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Priority 2. Promoting physical, emotional and cultural wellbeing

Specific objective 2.1. RSO 4.5:

Ensuring equal access to health care and fostering resilience of health systems, including primary care, and promoting the transition from institutional to family- and community-based care





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Priority 2. Promoting physical, emotional and cultural wellbeing

Specific objective 2.2. RSO 4.6:

Enhancing the role of culture and sustainable tourism in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation.





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Priority 3. Strengthening cooperation of local, regional and national stakeholders

Specific objective 3.1. ISO 6.3.

Build up mutual trust, in particular by
encouraging people-to-people actions





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Priority 3. Strengthening cooperation of local, regional and national stakeholders

Specific objective 3.2. ISO 6.6.

Other actions to support better cooperation
governance





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Related types of action for each priority

Examples of activities that may be implemented under each priority:

↪ **part II.1. Description of Priorities and Indicators in the Programme Manual**

JTS homepage → Application → 2 Call for Proposals

<https://lietuva-polska.eu/2-call-for-proposals/>





General project requirements

- EU Regulations and Programme rules
 - Horizontal principles
 - Programme Document
- Partnership in the project
- Budget planning (Simplified Cost Options, Ineligible costs etc.)
 - Co-financing up to 80%
 - Grants in form of reimbursement
- Application and assessment process
- Project Idea and Lifecycle
 - Joint need ≠ common need
 - Link to strategies/policies; previous work; innovative aspects
 - Durability of the results
- Visibility and Publicity requirements!





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General requirements

2nd Call for Proposals (for small projects)



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The Guidance note

<https://lietuva-polska.eu/news/the-2nd-call-for-proposals-small-projects-is-open/>

terms and conditions specifically to the
2nd call for proposals





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Call duration
Total budget for the call
Applicable priorities
Type of a project
Project size and duration
Co-financing rate





2nd call for proposals

Duration of the call	Start: 9 January 2024 End: 29 February 2024
Total call budget (ERDF)	5 000 000,00 euro
Applicable priorities	3 Programme priorities
Type of project	Small projects
Other	Reimbursement based payments
	Application <i>via</i> JEMS
	Specific objectives RSO2.7., RSO4.5., RSO4.6., ISO6.3., ISO6.6.



Priorities	Indicative ERDF support for the 2nd call, euro
1 Promoting environmental wellbeing and strengthening crisis management	1 132 075,00
2 Promoting physical, emotional and cultural wellbeing	1 603 775,00
3 Strengthening cooperation of local stakeholders	2 264 150,00
Total:	5 000 000,00





Small Projects	
Total project budget	Min: 20.000,00 euro Max: 160.000,00 euro
ERDF	Up to 80% ERDF co-financing, minimum 20% partner contribution
Duration	Up to 12 months
Partners	At least 2, not more than 4 (1 in case the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation is a sole partner)





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Eligible partners

Partnership

**2nd Call for Proposals
(for small projects)**

Good partnership

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Successful partnership is one of the key features of a good cross-border cooperation project.

Project partners should have:

- ★ shared needs and common interests;
- ★ strong commitment to take part in the project;
- ★ mutual trust;
- ★ adequate administrative and financial resources required to participate in a cross-border project.



Points of attention

- ✓ all expenditures in the project must be covered by own funds
- ✓ the only reporting period settled in JEMS is 6 months



Good partnership

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- ❖ get to know each other, your common needs, interests and ideas; you are partners in the project and not competitors;
- ❖ talk to each other, while planning and the entire period of project implementation;
- ❖ make jointly all decisions – Lead Partner is a liaison with JS/MA, but the best decisions are made jointly;
- ❖ know the contents of your project and documents for the call for proposals;
- ❖ meet mutual obligations;
- ❖ show initiative.



Who participates in a project?

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Project Partnership! Comply with eligibility requirements!

PPs

Project Partners – organisations that are directly participating in the preparation (development) and implementation of the project and are officially listed in the special section of the application form (AF).

LP

Lead Partner – each project appoints one Partner to act as Lead Partner, which:

- ✓ takes full responsibility for the implementation of the entire project;
- ✓ serves as a link between the project and Programme bodies, especially with regards to communication between the project and the JS;
- ✓ is responsible for the application procedure and coordinates the project on behalf of the whole project partnership; it means the Lead Partner is responsible for delivery of project reports and documentation, achievement of project outputs and financial management of the project.

AO

Associated Organisations – organisations, which are not able to comply with the eligibility requirements for Project partners, or which do not want to become financially involved in the project for any reasons, but are willing to take part in the projects.

Eligible partners

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Each project has to involve at least 1 Lithuanian and at least 1 Polish partner, which are registered as legal persons.

Project Partners from **both countries** should be represented.

Note: Polish budgetary units are eligible, but shall confirm their status.

Each project should involve at least 2 partners but not more than 4.

Exception! There can be only 1 partner in case the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation is a sole applicant.

Partners registered outside the Programme area, but within the EU area, can also apply for funding as Lead Partner/Project Partner. However such partners have to bring a clear benefit to the Programme and contribute to the implementation of the overall objective of the Programme.

Still, eligibility requirements for the whole partnership and for each such partner shall be met!



Eligible partners

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The main types of partners that can participate in the Programme

Local, regional and
national authorities

Public bodies and
bodies governed by
the public law

Associations;
NGOs; EGTCs

SMEs (only
Partner in SO2.2!)

Bodies governed by the public law means entities that have **all** of the following characteristics:

✓they are established for the specific purpose of meeting needs in the general interest, not having an industrial or commercial character;

✓they have a legal personality;

✓they are financed, for the most part, by the State, regional or local authorities, or by other bodies governed by the public law; or are subject to management supervision by those authorities or bodies; or have an administrative, managerial or supervisory board, more than half of whose members are appointed by the State, regional or local authorities, or by other bodies governed by the public law.

NB! Project activities of the Bodies governed by public law shall only be related to performance of the public functions.

Bodies governed by public law from Poland shall confirm their eligible status.



SMEs

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1. Only Project partners only in applications for Priority 2 SO2.2/RSO4.6.
2. Cannot act as the Lead Partners.
3. Established at least 3 full calendar years before the Call announcement.
4. Described in the Application, provide the same documents as all other partners. **Additionally**, fill-in and submit the Statement by SME Project partner (Annex 8).
5. Participation in project - for the needs of the general interest and for public benefit.
6. Have sound financial standing, full legal capacity, their activities shall be in line with the respective national legislation.
7. Involvement in the project should be justified in the Application as bringing added value, relevant and necessary for the achievement of the project outputs and results.

NB! SME **cannot join a project partnership**, if its only or main activity within its business profile, and/or main role in the project relates to project development, coordination, management, project communication, and consulting!



Eligible partners, Examples

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Type of eligible partner	Examples
National, regional and local authorities and their organisational units having legal personality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - administrations of municipalities, councils, ministries, - local or regional development agency, environmental agency, etc.
Bodies governed by public law as defined in Directive 2014/24/EU on public procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - public schools and universities, - training institutions, - culture centres, etc.
Associations formed by one or several regional or local authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - associations of municipalities, - Euroregions, European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC), etc .
Associations formed by one or several bodies governed by public law.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - heritage associations, - environment associations, etc.
Non-governmental and not-profit seeking entities having legal personality and established for the specific purpose of meeting needs in the general interest, not having an industrial or commercial character.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - foundations and associations for fighting discrimination, decreasing poverty or social exclusions, - social support centres, - churches, religious association, having legal personality and established according to the national law, etc.
Small and Medium Enterprises (only as a Project partner for Priority 2, Specific Objective 2.2/RSO4.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) specialising in tourism, culture, other relevant fields, etc.

Cooperation criteria

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Each project must meet at least 3 mandatory out of 4 cooperation criteria

Joint development (obligatory)	Joint implementation (obligatory)	Joint staffing	Joint financing (obligatory)
<p>project application is prepared by the representatives from all partner organisations together. Ideas, priorities, needs and expectations as well as contributions from all partners have to be integrated in the project proposal</p>	<p>each project activity is implemented in close cooperation between all of the partners and there must be a balanced division of tasks and responsibilities between the partners</p>	<p>the project has staff with clearly divided tasks between the partners and its structure should not duplicate functions</p>	<p>all partner budgets form together the joint budget for the whole project</p>



Associated Organisations (AO)

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AOs do not share the project budget: they dedicate their own resources to the project. Participate in the activities of the project, but are not directly involved in the design and implementation of the project; if needed, can provide guidance.

Specific features of Associated Organisations:

- AOs **cannot be subcontracted** by the Project partners to carry out parts of their activities in a project;
- **Another Project partner can cover travel and accommodation expenditure** of the AO if needed for the project and if this complies with the State aid rules. These costs should be included in the AF;
- **AOs must not generate any revenues** from the project implementation and from its outcomes;
- **AOs act as supporter**, when the project seeks to increase its outreach and seeks the endorsement of its outputs;
- **AOs are end-users, takers or final beneficiaries**, which are interested in implementing, transferring the project achievements.

To participate in a project, AO fills-in and submit only the Statement by Associated Organisation.



Further information

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More details and further information:

Programme Manual, sections II.3.1, II.3.2, II.3.3, III.2.2





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Programme and project intervention logic

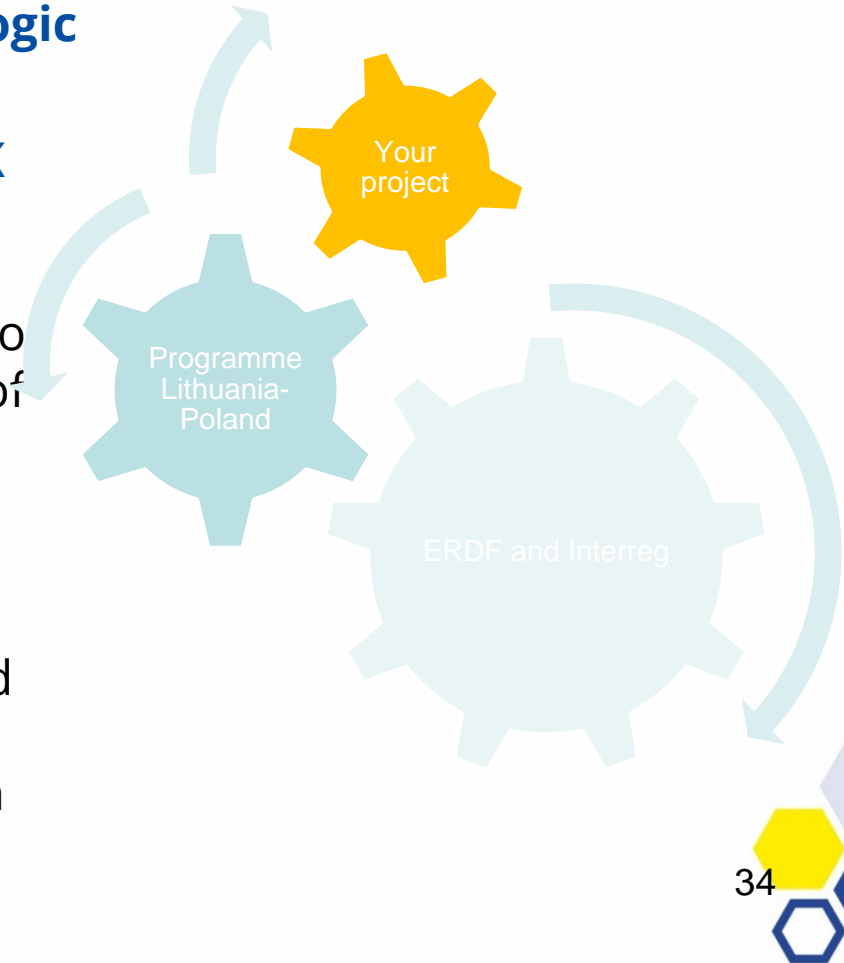
Programme and project intervention logic

BEFORE STARTING WITH A PROJECT ASK YOURSELF:

- How **my project** could contribute to Programme and improve wellbeing of cross-border communities?

REMEMBER!

- We are a part of **big Interreg family** and important element **of the Programme**. Project result of cross border cooperation actions shall be specifically directed at improving the development of the Programme area.



Programme and project intervention logic

Lithuania – Poland

PREPARING A PROJECT

- ☞ Analysis of the problem or challenge
- ☞ Project idea
- ☞ The bigger picture
 - Links to other strategies/policies on the regional, national and EU levels
 - Previous work and knowledge in the area of interest
 - Innovative aspects
- ☞ Pilot actions → testing new approach
- ☞ Capitalisation → continuation, possible share and replication of activities and associated results
- ☞ Horizontal principles
- ☞ EU Green Deal and New European Bauhaus



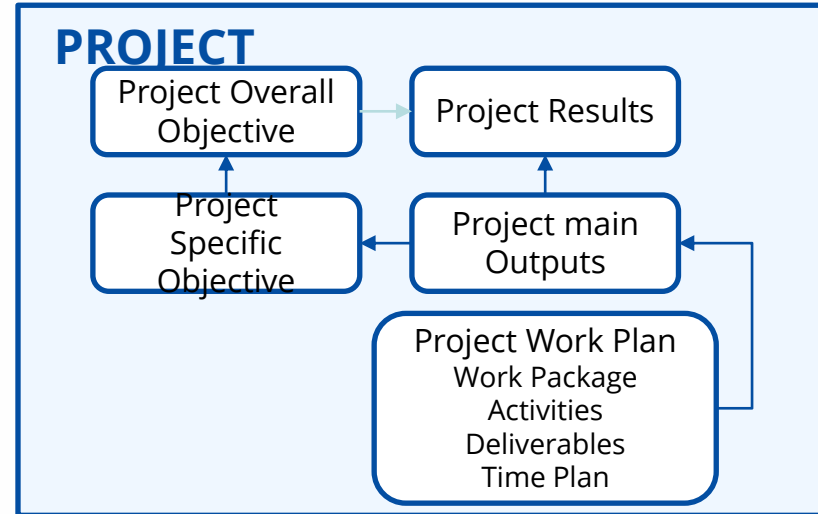
EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION



Programme and project intervention logic



- Project Overall Objective** Overall context for what the project is trying to achieve, and aligns to programme priority-specific objective. Relates to the strategic aspects of the project.
- Project Specific Objective** A tangible statement describing what the project is trying to achieve. It refers to the project's main outputs.
- Project Results** Advantage of carrying out the project, the benefit of using the project's main outputs. Change the project is aiming for!
- Project main Outputs** The main achievement of a set of project activities, contributes to achievement of project specific objective.
- Project Work Package** A group of related project activities required to produce the project's main outputs.



- Project Activities** Specific task performed for which resources are used. Results in a deliverable and output.
- Project Deliverables** A tangible side-product or service of the project that contributes to the development of a project's main output (report, equipment etc.)



Programme and project intervention logic

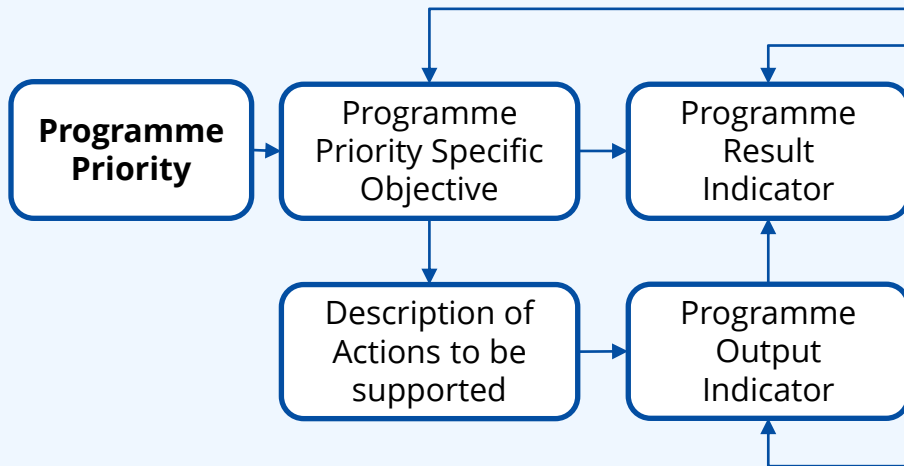
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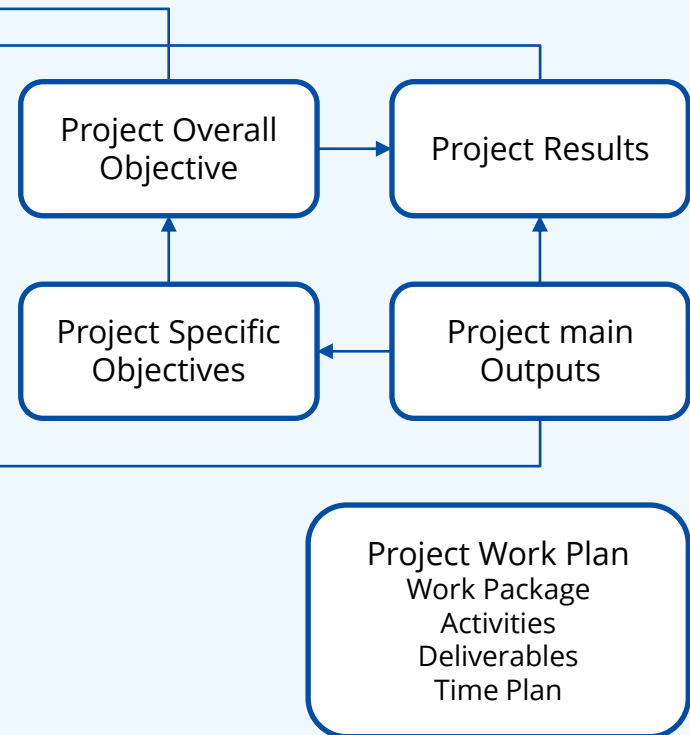
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PROGRAMME



PROJECT



Programme and project intervention logic Lithuania – Poland

Priority Specific Objective	Programme Output Indicator	Programme Result Indicator
1.1., 2.1., 2.2., 3.1., 3.2.	RCO87 Organisations cooperating across borders	RCR84 Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion
1.1., 2.1., 2.2., 3.2.	RCO116 Jointly developed solutions	RCR104 Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations
2.1.	RCO69 Capacity of new or modernised health care facilities	RCR73 Annual users of new or modernised health care facilities
2.2.	RCO77 Number of cultural and tourism sites supported	RCR77 Visitors of cultural and tourism sites supported
3.1.	RCO81 Participations in joint actions across borders	RCR85 Participations in joint actions across borders after project completion
3.1.	RCO115 Public events across borders jointly organised	-
3.2.	RCO85 Participations in joint training schemes	RCR81 Completion of joint training schemes

Programme and project intervention logic (example)

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PROGRAMME

PROJE

Programme Priority 1
Promoting environmental wellbeing and strengthening crisis management

Programme Priority Specific Objective
1.1: Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution

Programme Result Indicator
Solutions taken up or up-scaled

Project Overall Objective

Improvement of waste management and waste segregation in X and Y municipalities

Project Results

Administrations of X and Y municipalities approve the food waste collection strategy for further implementation

Description of Actions to be supported

Development of the joint strategy for food waste collection, purchase of containers

Programme Output Indicator

Jointly developed solutions

Project Specific Objectives

Increase of food waste collection by 5 % in X and Y municipalities by end of 2025

Project main Output

Food waste management solution created in X and Y municipalities

Project Work Plan

Work Package
Activities
Deliverables
Time Plan



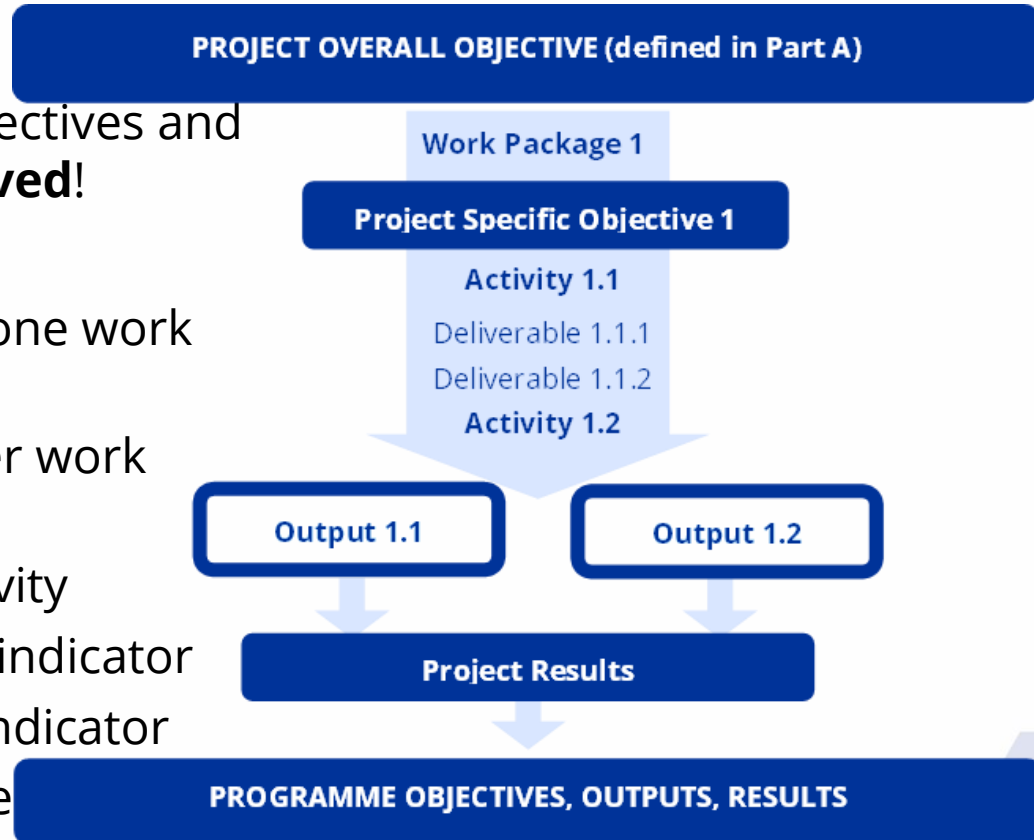
Programme and project intervention logic



WORK PLAN STRUCTURE

The work plan shows the project objectives and results, and **how they will be achieved!**

- One work package per project
- One project specific objective = one work package
- No more than 4 to 6 activities per work package
- At least one deliverable per activity
- At least one programme output indicator
- At least one programme result indicator
- At least one communication objective
- Communication measures should not be listed as stand-alone activities **but are included as part of the activity, and reflected in the deliverables for this activity**



Programme and project intervention logic

EXAMPLE OF A WORK PLAN

Specific objective	To increase food waste collection by 5 % in X and Y municipalities
Communication objective	To inform educational and health care institutions’ staff about importance of food waste segregation and collection
Activity 1.1	Development of a joint strategy for food waste collection in educational and health care institutions
Deliverable 1.1.1	Workshops for educational and health care institutions’ staff (2 per country, duration – one day, in total – 120 persons).
Deliverable 1.1.2	Joint working meeting to analyse results of workshops and to develop proposals (one day, 30 participants).
Deliverable 1.1.3	Prepared e-version of joint strategy in LT and PL languages
Activity 1.2	Creation of infrastructure for food waste collection
Deliverable 1.2.1.	Purchases of 50 smart waste containers for LP
Output 1. RCO116: Jointly developed solutions	Food waste management solution created in X and Y municipalities
Investments (investment 1.1)	Smart food waste containers, 50 pieces per partner, in total 100.



Programme and project intervention logic

FREQUENTLY MADE MISTAKES

- ☞ Problem or challenge – too global or too narrow.
- ☞ The project tends to solve purely local or national problems; no need for cross border cooperation.
- ☞ Objectives and results do not demonstrate quality change of the situation, cannot be objectively verified.
- ☞ Poor or no link between activities, investments, results, objectives, eg. investments are stand-alone (i.e. isolated), not used in the project activities, and therefore – not necessary for the project.
- ☞ Description of indicators is improper.
- ☞ Method of implementation (selection of activities) is inappropriate or economically inefficient.
- ☞ Annual, regular or statutory activities are included in the project; no novelty or added value.
- ☞ Communication measures are not described in project activities and deliverables, or they are underdeveloped and ineffective to reach the target groups.
- ☞ The project results will not continue beyond the implementation stage.





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Project Communication and Publicity Requirements



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Communication Objectives:

- ✓ inform the target groups and society about the project results and benefits;
- ✓ highlight contribution of the EU;
- ✓ ensure transparent use of the EU funds;
- ✓ ensure smooth operation of the project.



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How communication will help you achieve your project results?

- ✓ at least **1 communication objective** and related **target audience** in WP
- ✓ communication activities – smaller steps in the “Activity description”
- ✓ in specific cases – a separate activity



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Assessment criteria

The communication objectives are **relevant** and are expected to **contribute to project specific objective**. The communication activities are clearly explained and are **appropriate to reach the relevant target groups and stakeholders**, to achieve the communication objectives.



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Minimum requirements:

- ✓ **Statement** highlighting the support (= Programme logo)
- ✓ Information on **websites and social media accounts**
- ✓ Durable **plaque / billboard** (equipment, exceeding 100 000 EUR)
- ✓ **Poster** / el. display at partners' locations
- ✓ Additional obligations for **PL partners (information boards)**
- ✓ The **EU flag, stickers** for equipment, etc.

The minimum requirements are not enough!



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Plan necessary resources:

- ✓ Human resources
- ✓ Budget
- ✓ **Allocate at least 2 % of the total project budget**



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