

# **DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR THE CONTENT OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME**

**Version 5 – 08.05.2014**

*This is a draft document based on the new ESIF Regulations published in OJ 347 of 20 December 2013 and on the most recent version of the relevant Commission's draft implementing and delegated acts. It may still require review to reflect the content of these draft legal acts once they are adopted.*

*The headings in this document correspond to the elements set out in Article 27 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>1</sup> (the Common Provisions Regulation or 'CPR') and Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>2</sup> (the 'ETC Regulation'). The text boxes provide guidelines on the drafting of the content of the cooperation programme.*

*It is recalled that the cooperation programme will be directly introduced in the SFC2014. The character limits proposed are based on the needs of most extensive programmes, the pages estimations are based on a standard page using the font 'Times new roman' and the font size '12'. The character limits referred to under the description of the priority axis, where information is required by investment priority, are set per investment priority.*

*In 2012 the Commission provided each Member State with a country position paper outlining the analysis of the Commission of the main challenges and funding priorities relevant for the ESI Funds in the programming period 2014-2020, including in relation to European Territorial Cooperation. These position papers should guide the ensuing dialogue with the Commission in particular in relation to the prioritisation of development needs and concentration of support, as well as in terms of the presentation of information.*

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320).

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on specific provisions for the support from the European regional Development Fund to the European territorial cooperation goal.

CCI	<0.1 type= 'S' maxlength= '15' input= 'S'> <sup>3</sup>
Title	<0.2 type= 'S' maxlength= '255' input= 'M'>
Version	<0.3 type= 'N' input= 'G'>
First year	<0.4 type= 'N' maxlength= '4' input= 'M'>
Last year	<0.5 type= 'N' maxlength= '4' input= 'M'>>
Eligible from	<0.6 type= 'D' input= 'G'>
Eligible until	<0.7 type= 'D' input= 'G'>>
EC decision number	<0.8 type= 'S' input= 'G'>>
EC decision date	<0.9 type= 'D' input= 'G'>>
MS amending decision number	<0.10 type= 'S' maxlength= '20' input= 'M'>>
MS amending decision date	<0.11 type= 'D' input= 'M'>>
MS amending decision entry into force date	<0.12 type= 'D' input= 'M'>>
NUTS regions covered by the cooperation programme	<0.13 type= 'S' input= 'S'>>

*The above table contains the basic information for the identification of the programme. It also allows keeping track of the latest version of the programme, as it indicates the dates of the Commission approval or amending decision or of the amending decision of the Member States for elements that are not approved by a Commission decision pursuant to Article 8(12) ETC Regulation.*

<sup>3</sup> Legend:  
type: N=Number, D=Date, S=String, C=Checkbox, P=Percentage, B=Boolean  
decision: N=Not part of the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme  
input: M=Manual, S=Selection, G=Generated by system  
“maxlength”= Maximum number of characters including spaces.

**SECTION 1 STRATEGY FOR THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME’S CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNION STRATEGY FOR SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND THE ACHIEVEMENT OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND TERRITORIAL COHESION**

(Reference: Article 27(1) CPR and point (a) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

**1.1 Strategy for the cooperation programme’s contribution to the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and to the achievement of economic, social and territorial cohesion**

*1.1.1. Description of the cooperation programme’s strategy for contributing to the delivery of the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and for achieving economic, social and territorial cohesion*

*The strategy of the cooperation programme for contributing to the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, outlining:*

- the geographical coverage of the programme area and an analysis of the situation of the programme area as a whole in terms of the needs, addressing where appropriate, missing links in cross-border infrastructure;*
- how the cooperation programme will address these needs and challenges and thereby contribute to the delivery of the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, where appropriate with reference to existing national, regional, cross-border/transnational/macro-regional/sea-basin strategies coherent with the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, and the ex-ante evaluation.*

*The cooperation programme’s strategy shall take account of the Common Strategic Framework, and the relevant elements of the Commission position paper for the countries involved. Where there have been changes in the programme geography, a justification in terms of the added value of these changes could be added. In particular, where Member States request the inclusion of additional areas to the programme area, the reasons and justification for this request need to be provided.*

*For outermost regions’ programmes combining cross-border and transnational allocations (including the additional allowance of Article 4(2) of the ETC Regulation), a justification as to how this combination increases the efficiency of programme implementation has to be provided. The specifics for the cross-border and the transnational allocation have to be presented separately throughout the programme.*

*<1.1.1 type= ‘S’ maxlength= ‘70000’ input= ‘M’>*

1.1.2. *Justification for the choice of thematic objectives and corresponding investment priorities, having regard to the Common Strategic Framework, based on an analysis of the needs within the programme area as a whole and the strategy chosen in response to such needs, addressing, where appropriate, missing links in cross-border infrastructure, taking into account the results of the ex-ante evaluation*

**Table 1: Justification for the selection of thematic objectives and investment priorities**

Selected thematic objective	Selected investment priority	Justification for selection
<i>&lt;1.1.2 type= 'S' input= 'S' &gt;</i>	<i>&lt;1.1.3 type= 'S' input= 'S'&gt;</i>	<i>&lt;1.1.4 type= 'S' maxlength= '1000' input= 'M'&gt;</i>
		<p><i>Examples:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>1) Need to increase participation (e.g. of older workers, vulnerable groups, youth) in the programme area</i></li> <li><i>2) Study for programme area setting out targets from baseline of x in 2010 to a target of y by 2020</i></li> <li><i>3) Severe bottlenecks in cross-border transport infrastructure due to insufficient intermodal links between rail, road, air and water transport</i></li> <li><i>4) Targets set out in the Action Plan for macro-regional and sea-basin strategies</i></li> <li><i>5) Need to improve the quality of integration of cross-border labour markets, including cross-border mobility</i></li> <li><i>6) Low efficiency of the cooperation between public administration</i></li> </ol>

## 1.2 Justification for the financial allocation

Justification for the financial allocation (i.e. Union support) to each thematic objective and, where appropriate, investment priority, in accordance with the thematic concentration requirements, taking into account the ex-ante evaluation<sup>4</sup>.

*This justification should primarily concern the level of thematic objectives.*

*The justification is to be set out with reference to, where appropriate:*

- need to ensure compliance with EU acquis;*
- substantial complementary investments from other public or private sources;*
- the funding priorities, with reference to the Commission services country position paper;*
- etc.*

*For cross-border and transnational cooperation programmes, at least 80% of the programme's resources shall be concentrated on up to 4 thematic objectives. Therefore, this section should explain how the chosen distribution of financial resources will lead to an optimal concentration of resources in order to increase the impact and the effectiveness of cohesion policy. The justification should be presented in percentage and qualitative terms (e.g. "approximately 1/3 of the ERDF allocation is allocated towards thematic objective 1, because..."), based on the relative weight of the allocation to a given thematic objective. It should be brief and proportionate, reflecting the total amount of programme resources.*

<1.2.1 type='S' maxlength='7000' input='M' >

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<sup>4</sup> The INTERACT and ESPON programmes may be implemented under a single priority axis (in addition to the one on technical assistance) covering one thematic objective and investment priority. Where this possibility is made use of, a detailed justification for different thematic objectives/investment priorities is not required.

**Table 2: Overview of the investment strategy of the cooperation programme**

*The purpose of this section is to demonstrate in a synthetic manner the consistency between the needs identified, the thematic objectives and the investment priorities selected, as well as the specific objectives and the financial allocation proposed. It also provides an overview of the contribution of the cooperation programme to the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. For outermost regions' programmes combining cross-border and transnational allocations (including the additional allowance of Article 4(2) of the ETC Regulation), the table below will indicate the investment strategy separately for each of them.*

*This table is generated automatically by the SFC2014 based on information inserted under other sections of the cooperation programme.*

Priority axis	ERDF support (in EUR)	Proportion (%) of the total Union support for the cooperation programme (by Fund) <sup>5</sup>			Thematic objective <sup>6</sup>	Investment priorities <sup>7</sup>	Specific objectives corresponding to the investment priorities	Result indicators corresponding to the specific objective
		ERDF <sup>8</sup>	ENI <sup>9</sup> (where applicable)	IPA <sup>10</sup> (where applicable)				
<1.2.1 type='S' input='G'>	<1.2.2 type='S' input='G'>	<1.2.3 type='N' input='G'>	<1.2.4 type='S' input='G'><1.2.9 type='P' input='G'>	<1.2.5 type='S' input='G'><1.2.10 type='P' input='G'>	<1.2.6 type='S' input='G'>	<1.2.7 type='S' input='G'>	<1.2.8 type='S' input='G'>	<1.2.9 type='S' input='G'>

<sup>5</sup> Presentation of the shares corresponding to ENI and IPA amounts depends on management option chosen.

<sup>6</sup> Title of the thematic objective (not applicable to technical assistance).

<sup>7</sup> Title of the investment priority (not applicable to technical assistance).

<sup>8</sup> European Regional Development Fund.

<sup>9</sup> European Neighbourhood Instrument.

<sup>10</sup> Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance.

## SECTION 2. PRIORITY AXES

(Reference: points (b) and (c) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

### Section 2.A. Description of the priority axes other than technical assistance

(Reference: point (b) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*The description of the priority axis has to be provided for each priority axis and is, where indicated, broken down by investment priority. For each investment priority the corresponding specific objectives have to be set out, Article 8(2)(b)(i) of the ETC Regulation. The INTERACT and ESPON programmes have the possibility to choose only one thematic objective with an investment priority specifically foreseen for these programmes and may be implemented under a single thematic priority axis. For programmes involving outermost regions combining cross-border and transnational allocations, information required has to be presented separately for each allocation.*

*Each priority axis will be given an identification number (ID) and a title. It will also be indicated whether the priority axis will be implemented solely through financial instruments, solely through financial instruments set up at Union level or through community-led local development. Priority axes where one of the preceding is the case will benefit from a higher co-financing rate.*

#### 2.A.1 Priority axis (repeated for each priority axis)

<i>ID of the priority axis</i>	<2A.1 type='N' input='G'>
<i>Title of the priority axis</i>	<2A.2 type='S' maxlength='500' input='M'>

<input type="checkbox"/> The entire priority axis will be implemented solely through financial instruments	<2A.3 type='C' input='M'>
<input type="checkbox"/> The entire priority axis will be implemented solely through financial instruments set up at Union level	<2A.4 type='C' input='M'>
<input type="checkbox"/> The entire priority axis will be implemented through community-led local development	<2A.5 type='C' input='M'>

**2.A.2. Justification for the establishment of a priority axis covering more than one thematic objective** (where applicable)

(Reference: Article 8(1) of the ETC Regulation)

*As a general rule, programmes should set out priority axes covering only one thematic objective. The approach to combine investment priorities from different thematic objectives is a derogation from the general rule and should only be used ‘where appropriate and in order to increase impact and effectiveness in a thematically coherent integrated approach (...) in duly justified cases’.*

*Therefore, this section is required only in case the cooperation programme uses the possibility provided by Article 8(1) of the ETC Regulation to set up a priority axis covering more than one thematic objective. Where this option is not used, this section is not filled in.*

*The aim of this section is to explain how the chosen set-up of the priority axis contributes to an increase in the impact and the effectiveness of cohesion policy and why a simpler set-up of an axis or axes covering investment priorities from a single thematic objective would constitute a less effective choice. This section should justify how this will lead to the maximum contribution of the investment priorities concerned to the priority axis. Such approach would require a careful justification against the specific circumstances of the programme.*

<2.A.0 type= ‘S’ maxlength= ‘3 500’ input= ‘M’>

**2.A.3 Fund and calculation basis for Union support**

(Repeated for each fund under the priority axis)

<i>Fund</i>	<2A.6 type= ‘S’ input= ‘S’>
<i>Calculation basis (total eligible expenditure or eligible public expenditure)</i>	<2A.8 type= ‘S’ input= ‘S’>

**2.A.4 Investment priority** (repeated for each investment priority under the priority axis)

(Reference: point (b)(i) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

<i>Investment priority</i>	<2A.7 type= ‘S’ input= ‘S’>
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## 2.A.5. Specific objectives corresponding to the investment priority and expected results

(Repeated for each specific objective under the investment priority)

(Reference: points (b)(i) and (ii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*The aim of this section is to specify the specific objective linked to a particular investment priority and to outline the results sought.*

*The specific objective must be consistent with the investment priority in question, defining it as necessary to target the particular development needs of the programme area. The specific objective cannot be broader than the investment priority in question. The number of specific objectives per investment priority should be limited as far as possible, to facilitate the monitoring of progress and avoid the fragmentation of programmes. However, there is no formal limitation in this respect<sup>11</sup>.*

*The specific objective sought is meaningful only if there is an understanding of the reference situation i.e. what the situation is at the beginning of the programming period. Therefore, where section 2 is not sufficiently explicit on the identified development needs pertinent to the specific objective, this section may be used to outline the situation at the start of the programming period, including the challenges to be addressed, in more detail.*

*"Results" in general refer to the changes sought (in the reference situation) in view of the specific objective to be achieved. "Result indicators" are used to capture the measureable dimension(s) of the result – to facilitate the assessment of whether progress has been made towards the achievement of the specific objectives and whether a change has taken place in the direction desired. Result indicators measure only some of the relevant dimensions of the result. Depending on the indicator, external factors part from Union intervention may to a lesser or higher degree influence the results reported and the attainment of the specific objectives and targets.*

<i>ID</i>	<2A.1.1 type='N' input='G'>
<i>Specific objective</i>	<2A.1.2 type='S' maxlength='500' input='M'>
<i>The results that the Member States seek to achieve with Union support</i>	<2A.1.3 type='S' maxlength='3500' input='M'>

<sup>11</sup> It may be useful to establish more specific objectives for INTERACT and ESPON if implemented under a single thematic objective/investment priority.

**Table 3: Programme specific result indicators (by specific objective)**

(Reference: point (b)(ii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*One (if possible) and no more than two result indicators should be used for each specific objective.*

<b>ID</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Measurement unit</b>	<b>Baseline value</b>	<b>Baseline year</b>	<b>Target value (2023)<sup>12</sup></b>	<b>Source of data</b>	<b>Frequency of reporting</b>
<2A.1.4 type='S' maxlength='5' input='M'>	<2A.1.5 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M'>	<2A.1.6 type='S' input='M'>	Quantitative <2A.1.8 type='N' input='M'>  Qualitative <2A.1.8 type='S' maxlength='100' input='M'	<2A.1.9 type='N' input='M'>	Quantitative <2A.1.10 type='N' input='M'>  Qualitative <2A.1.10 type='S' maxlength='100' input='M'>	<2A.1.11 type='S' maxlength='200' input='M'>	<2A.1.12 type='S' maxlength='100' input='M'>
	Programme Specific Result Indicator S.1, with quantitative target  e.g. for the integration of cross-border labour market the number of cross-border workers	Number of persons regularly crossing the border to go to work	20,000	2012	Increase by 10 or 15%	statistical data	e.g. Once a year
	Programme Specific Result Indicator S.2 with a qualitative target  e.g. Perception of quality of accessibility of cross-border area	Accessibility perception by population, expressed on a scale from 1 to 10, 1 being very well accessible	6	2013	2 or 3	Survey	Every two years

<sup>12</sup> Target values may be qualitative or quantitative.

**2.A.6. Actions to be supported under the investment priority (by investment priority)**

**2.A.6.1. A description of the type and examples of actions to be supported and their expected contribution to the specific objectives, including, where appropriate, identification of the main target groups, specific territories targeted and types of beneficiaries**

(Reference: point (b)(iii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*This description should provide an overview of the types of interventions planned to support, complemented by more concrete examples, as appropriate. In particular it should explain how types of actions planned contribute to specific objectives e.g. through targeting of specific target groups or territories, focus on particular themes or issues etc. Therefore this section should provide a clear understanding of how the objectives will be pursued and the results attained in practice, with the types of actions planned.*

*Note that the choice of output indicators and categories of intervention must be consistent with this description.*

*Specific arrangements in relation to beneficiaries for some of the interregional cooperation programmes (for example in relation to the INTERACT points) should be indicated here.*

*Where appropriate, this description should also include steps to take into account the principles of equality between men and women, non-discrimination and sustainable development.*

*NB: Where appropriate, this description should include an indication whether the entire priority axis is dedicated solely to community-led local development in the meaning of Article 32 CPR (which allows an increase in the Union co-financing rate by 10 percentage points as set out in Article 120(5) of the CPR).*

Investment Priority	<2A.2.1.1 type='S' input='S'>
<2A.2.1.2 type='S' maxlength='14000' input='M'>	

**2.A.6.2. Guiding principles for the selection of operations**

(Reference: point (b)(iii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*This section should include a brief description of:*

- The principles applied to ensure the selection of quality operations contributing to the delivery of the specific objectives and achievement of the result. This description is required for each investment priority, but where it is the same for several investment priorities, a cross-reference may be used to avoid repetition. Reference may be made to specific "flagship projects", where appropriate.*

- For ESPON and INTERACT, the granting procedure may be specified.

<i>Investment priority</i>	<2A.2.2.1 type= 'S' input= 'S'>
<2A.2.2.2 type= 'S' maxlength= '3500' input= 'M'>	

### **2.A.6.3. Planned use of financial instruments** (where appropriate)

(Reference: point (b)(iii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*Where it is envisaged to use financial instruments, this section should include a description of the planned financial instruments. It should outline the planned scope for the use of financial instruments and the intentions of the programme in this regard. As financial instruments can be set-up in mid-period, and the ex-ante assessment required for each instrument is not necessarily completed at the time of submission of the cooperation programme, the description should be clear where the use of financial instruments is definite (e.g. has been already subject to ex-ante assessment and instrument is being set up) and where it is under consideration or planned.*

*NB: Where appropriate, this section should indicate that the entire priority axis will be implemented solely:*

- *through financial instruments within the meaning of Article 37 CPR (which allows an increase in the Union co-financing rate by 10 percentage points as set out in Article 120 (5) CPR), or*
- *through financial instruments set up at Union level and referred to in Article 38(1)a CPR (which allows increasing the Union co-financing rate up to 100%).*

<i>Investment priority</i>	<2A.2.3.1 type= 'S' input= 'S'>
<i>Planned use of financial instruments</i>	<2A.2.3.2 type= 'C' input= 'M'>
<2A.2.3.3 type= 'S' maxlength= '7000' input= 'M'>	

#### 2.A.6.4. Planned use of major projects<sup>13</sup> (where appropriate)

(Reference: point (b)(iii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*A description of how the major projects to be supported will contribute to the specific objectives corresponding to this investment priority. Where no major projects are planned, this section may be left blank.*

*Each operational programme will include a list of major projects planned to be implemented, which are linked to priority axes and investment priorities under section 9.*

<i>Investment priority</i>	<2A.2.4.1 type= 'S' input= 'S'>
<2A.2.4.2 type= 'S' maxlength= '3500' input= 'M'>	

#### 2.A.6.5. Output indicators (by investment priority)

(Reference: point (b)(iv) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*Output indicators are required for each investment priority. Outputs relate to the operations supported. The indicators should measure outputs of a majority of the interventions supported under the investment priority and thus enable an assessment of progress of implementation. These data sets can be used as a basis to assess progress towards achieving the specific objectives.*

**Table 4: Common and programme specific output indicators**

<b>ID</b>	<b>Indicator (name of indicator)</b>	<b>Measurement unit</b>	<b>Target value (2023)</b>	<b>Source of data</b>	<b>Frequency of reporting</b>
<2A.2.5.1 type= 'S' input= 'S'>	<2A.2.5.2 type= 'S' input= 'S'>	<2A.2.5.3 type= 'S' input= 'S'>	<2A.2.5.6 type= 'N' input= 'M'>	<2A.2.5.7 type= 'S' maxlength= '200' input= 'M'>	<2A.2.5.8 type= 'S' maxlength= '100' input= 'M'>

<sup>13</sup> Not applicable to INTERACT and ESPON.

## 2.A.7. Performance framework

(Reference: point (b)(v) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation and Annex II of the CPR)

*Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 215/2014<sup>14</sup> lays down detailed arrangements to ensure a consistent approach for determining the milestones and targets. Guidance will be available for the set-up of the performance framework and the use of different types of indicators for this purpose.*

*The indicators used for the performance framework are in most cases likely to be a sub-set of the indicators defined for the priority axes, possibly at an aggregate level (if the same indicator is used for multiple investment priorities within the priority axis). The exception to this is the use of "key implementation steps", which are not part of the general indicator system and financial indicators.*

*Key implementation steps indicate progress in the implementation processes, e.g. preparation of major projects, launch of tendering procedures or specific calls for proposals for key operations, progress in the implementation process etc. Such key implementation steps can be used as milestones in circumstances where the early stage of implementation does not allow the use of output indicators. In such cases, measurement units are not always used, hence measurement units are listed as "where appropriate".*

*Annex II CPR on the performance framework requires the milestones and targets used in the performance framework to be "directly linked" to the achievement of the specific objective of a priority. They are required to be –amongst others- relevant, capturing essential information on the progress of a priority. Therefore the indicators and implementation steps chosen should be representative of the priority axis i.e. reflect the implementation, outputs and, where appropriate, results of the majority of interventions undertaken under that priority axis. The last column of the performance framework table provides a possibility to explain this, where this is not evident from the description of the priority axes.*

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<sup>14</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 215/2014 of 7 March 2014 laying down rules for implementing Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund with regard to methodologies for climate change support, the determination of milestones and targets in the performance framework and the nomenclature of categories of intervention for the European Structural and Investment Funds (OJ L 69, 08.03.2014, p. 65).

**Table 5: Performance framework of the priority axis**

Priority axis	Indicator type  (Key implementation step, financial, output or, where appropriate, result indicator)	ID	Indicator or key implementation step	Measurement unit, where appropriate	Milestone for 2018	Final target (2023)	Source of data	Explanation of relevance of indicator, where appropriate
<2A.3.1 type='S' input='S'>	<2A.3.2 type='S' input='S'>	Implementation Step or Financial <2A.3.3 type='S' maxlength='5' input='M'>  Output or result<2A.3.3 type='S' input='S'>	Implementation Step or Financial <2A.3.4 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M'>  Output or Result <2A.4.4 type='S' input='G' or 'M'>	Implementation Step or Financial <2A.3.5 type='S' input='M'>  Output or Result <2A.3.5 type='S' input='G' or 'M'>	<2A.3.7 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M'>	<2A.3.8 type='S' input='M'>  Output or Result <2A.3.8 type='S' input='M'>	<2A.3.9 type='S' maxlength='200' input='M'>  Output or Result <2A.3.9 type='S' input='M'>	<2A.3.10 type='S' maxlength='500' input='M'>

Additional qualitative information on the establishment the performance framework

(optional)

<2A.3.11 type='S' maxlength='7000' input='M'>



## 2.A.8. Categories of intervention

(Reference: point (b)(vii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

Categories of intervention corresponding to the content of the priority axis, based on a nomenclature adopted by the Commission, and indicative breakdown of Union support.

*The categories of intervention are based on a nomenclature adopted by the Commission, which will include 7 dimensions relevant for the ERDF. The nomenclature is set out in the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 184/2014<sup>15</sup>.*

*The first 5 dimensions correspond to the first three used for the period 2007-2013 and set out in Annex II of the Commission regulation 1828/2006, albeit changes in certain categories and codes have been made.*

*An additional dimension covers "territorial delivery mechanisms" allowing the analysis of the use of community-led local development, ITIs and integrated approaches to sustainable urban development.*

*Another dimension aims to track the allocation of Union support to each thematic objective (where priority axes cover multiple thematic objectives) and thus to the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.*

*In accordance with Article 8(12) ETC Regulation, this information is not subject to the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme, but remains under the responsibility of the participating Member States.*

### Tables 6-9: Categories of intervention

Table 6: Dimension 1 Intervention field		
Priority axis	Code	Amount (EUR)
<2A.4.1.1 type='S' input='S' Decision=N>	<2A.4.1.1 type='S' input='S' Decision=N >	<2A.4.1.3 type='N' input='M' Decision=N >

<sup>15</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 184/2014 of 27.02.2014 laying down pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, the terms and conditions applicable to the electronic data exchange system between the Member States and the Commission and adopting pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on specific provisions for the support from the European Regional Development Fund to the European territorial cooperation goal, the nomenclature of the categories of intervention for support from the European Regional Development Fund under the European territorial cooperation goal (OJ L 57, 27.02.2014, p. 7).

<b>Table 7: Dimension 2 Form of finance</b>		
<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Amount (EUR)</b>
<2A.4.1.4 type='S' input='S' Decision=N>	<2A.4.1.5 type='S' input='S' Decision=N >	<2A.4.1.6 type='N' input='M' Decision=N >

<b>Table 8: Dimension 3 Territory type</b>		
<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Amount (EUR)</b>
<2A.4.1.7 type='S' input='S' Decision=N>	<2A.4.1.8 type='S' input='S' Decision=N >	<2A.4.1.9 type='N' input='M' Decision=N >

<b>Table 9: Dimension 6 Territorial delivery mechanisms</b>		
<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Amount (EUR)</b>
<2A.4.1.10 type='S' input='S' Decision=N>	<2A.4.1.11 type='S' input='S' Decision=N >	<2A.4.1.12 type='N' input='M' Decision=N >

*For the remaining dimensions of categorisation, data is requested for information purposes through electronic data exchange system during implementation.*

**2.A.9. A summary of the planned use of technical assistance including, where necessary, actions to reinforce the administrative capacity of authorities involved in the management and control of the programmes and beneficiaries and, where necessary, actions to enhance the administrative capacity of relevant partners to participate in the implementation of programmes (where appropriate)**

(Reference: point (b)(vi) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*This section should be included in the description of the priority axis, where appropriate, to identify specific gaps in the administrative capacity of specific authorities or specific beneficiaries who implement this priority axis. It should set out specific actions to be supported from technical assistance to reinforce the administrative capacity of authorities and beneficiaries to ensure an effective implementation of the priority axis as well as the level of the available resources. Therefore, this section is dedicated to the actions which are specific and limited to improving the implementation capacity related to a single priority axis.*

*In ETC context: for example specific capacity-building measures for the implementation of cross-border infrastructure projects.*

*Where the use of technical assistance for the purpose of developing the administrative capacity of authorities and beneficiaries does not involve any specific actions linked to the priority axis concerned, this section does not need to be filled in.*

*This section should not overlap in content with the description of the priority axis for technical assistance. The section here is to highlight the specific use of technical assistance for the reinforcement of administrative capacity for a specific priority axis. Technical assistance itself will be programmed in section 2.B.*

<i>Priority axis</i>	<3A.5.1 type= 'S' input= 'S'>
	<2A.5.2 type= 'S' maxlength= '2000' input= 'M'>

## 2.B. Description of the priority axes for technical assistance

(Reference: point (c) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*The following information should be provided and, where indicated, broken down by specific objective. There are no corresponding thematic objectives or investment priorities for technical assistance.*

### 2.B.1. Priority axis

<i>ID</i>	<2B.0.1 type= 'N' maxlength= '5' input= 'G'>
<i>Title</i>	<2B.0.2 type= 'S' maxlength= '255' input= 'M'>

### 2.B.2. Fund and calculation basis for Union support (repeated for each fund under the priority axis)

<i>Fund</i>	<2B.0.3 type= 'S' input= 'S'>
<i>Calculation Basis (total eligible expenditure or eligible public expenditure)</i>	<2B.0.4 type= 'S' input= 'S'>

### 2.B.3. Specific objectives and expected results

(Reference: points (c)(i) and (ii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*The description of the expected results is required only where the Union support to the priority axis or axes for technical assistance exceeds EUR 15 million.*

### Specific objective (repeated for each specific objective)

<i>ID</i>	<2B.1.1 type= 'N' maxlength= '5' input= 'G'>
<i>Specific objective</i>	<2B.1.2 type= 'S' maxlength= '500' input= 'M'>

<i>Results that the Member States seek to achieve with Union support</i> <sup>16</sup>	<2B.1.3 type= 'S' maxlength= '3500' input= 'M'>
--	---

*The description of the expected results is required only where the Union support to the priority axis or axes for technical assistance in an operational programme exceeds EUR 15 million.*

## 2.B.4. Result indicators<sup>17</sup>

**Table 10: Programme-specific result indicators** (by specific objective)

(Reference: point (c)(ii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value <sup>18</sup> (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
<2.B.2.1 type= 'S' maxlength= '5' input= 'M'>	<2.B.2.2 type= 'S' maxlength= '255' input= 'M'>	<2.B.2.3 type= 'S' input= 'M'>	Quantitative <2.B.2.4 type= 'N' input= 'M'>	<2.B.2.5 type= 'N' input= 'M'>	Quantitative <2.B.2.6 type= 'N' input= 'M'>  Qualitative <2A.1.10 type= 'S' maxlength= '100' input= 'M'>	<2.B.2.7 type= 'S' maxlength= '100' input= 'M'>	<2.B.2.8 type= 'S' maxlength= '100' input= 'M'>

<sup>16</sup> Required where the Union support to technical assistance in the cooperation programme exceeds EUR 15 million.

<sup>17</sup> Required where objectively justified by the given the content of the actions and where the Union support to technical assistance in the cooperation programme exceeds EUR 15 million.

<sup>18</sup> The target values can be qualitative or quantitative.

**2.B.5. Actions to be supported and their expected contribution to the specific objectives**  
(by priority axis)

(Reference: point (c)(iii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

**2.B.5.1. Description of actions to be supported and their expected contribution to the specific objectives**

(Reference: point (c)(iii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*This section should include a description of actions to be supported and describe the link between the outputs generated by these actions and the specific objectives/ results sought.*

<i>Priority axis</i>	<2.B.3.1.1 type= 'S' input= 'S'>
<2.B.3.1.2 type= 'S' maxlength= '7000' input= 'M'>	

**2.B.5.2 Output indicators expected to contribute to results** (by priority axis)

(Reference: point (c)(iv) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

**Table 11: Output indicators**

<b>ID</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Measurement unit</b>	<b>Target value (2023)<sup>19</sup></b> <b>(optional)</b>	<b>Source of data</b>
<2.B.3.2.1 type= 'S' maxlength= '5' input= 'M'>	<2.B.2.2.2 type= 'S' maxlength= '255' input= 'M'>	<2.B.3.2.3 type= 'S' input= 'M'>	<2.B.3.2.4 type= 'N' input= 'M'>	<2.B.3.2.5 type= 'S' maxlength= '100' input= 'M'>

**2.B.6. Categories of intervention**

(Reference: point (c)(v) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

Corresponding categories of intervention based on a nomenclature adopted by the Commission, and an indicative breakdown of Union support.

*As set out in Article 8(12) CPR, this section (categories of intervention) is not subject to the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.*

<sup>19</sup> Target values for output indicators under technical assistance are optional.

## Tables 12-14: Categories of intervention

Table 12: Dimension 1 Intervention field		
Priority axis	Code	Amount (EUR)
<2B.4.1.1 type='S' input='S' Decision=N >	<2B.4.1.2 type='S' input='S' Decision=N >	<2B.4.1.3 type='N' input='M' Decision=N '>

Table 13: Dimension 2 Form of finance		
Priority axis	Code	Amount (EUR)
<2B.4.2.1 type='S' input='S' Decision=N >	<2B.4.2.2 type='S' input='S' Decision=N >	<2B.4.2.3 type='N' input='M' Decision=N >

Table 14: Dimension 3 Territory type		
Priority axis	Code	Amount (EUR)
<2B.4.3.1 type='S' input='S' Decision=N >	<2B.4.3.2 type='S' input=' Decision=N S'>	<2B.4.3.3 type='N' input='M' Decision=N '>

*For the remaining dimensions of categorisation data is requested for information purposes through electronic data exchange system during implementation.*

## SECTION 3 FINANCING PLAN

(Reference: point (d) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

### 3.1 Financial appropriation from the ERDF (in EUR) <sup>20</sup>

(Reference: point (d)(i) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

**Table 15**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Total</b>
<3.1.1 type='S' input='G'>								
<b>ERDF</b>	<3.1.3 type='N' input='M'>	<3.1.4 type='N' input='M'>	<3.1.5 type='N' input='M'>	<3.1.6 type='N' input='M'>	<3.1.7 type='N' input='M'>	<3.1.8 type='N' input='M'>	<3.1.9 type='N' input='M'>	<3.1.10 type='N' input='G'>
<b>IPA amounts</b> (where applicable)								
<b>ENI amounts</b> (where applicable)								
<b>Total</b>								

<sup>20</sup> Where outermost regions combine cross-border and transnational allocations in one programmes, the respective allocations need to be presented separately.



### 3.2.A Total financial appropriation from the ERDF and national co-financing (in EUR)

(Reference: point (d)(ii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

1. The financial table sets out the financial plan of the cooperation programme by priority axis. Where outermost regions' programmes combine cross-border and transnational allocations, separate priority axes will be set out for each of these.
2. The financial table shall show for information purposes, any contribution from third countries participating in the cooperation programme (other than contributions from IPA and ENI).
3. The European Investment Bank (EIB) contribution is presented at the level of the priority axis.

**Table 16<sup>21</sup>: Financing plan**

Priority axis	Fund	Basis for calculation of Union support (Total eligible cost or public eligible cost)	Union support (a)	National counterpart (b) = (c) + (d)	Indicative breakdown of the national counterpart		Total funding (e) = (a) + (b)	Co-financing rate (f) = (a)/(e) (2)	For information	
					National public funding (c)	National private funding (d) (1)			Contributions from third countries	EIB contributions
<3.2.A.1 type='S' input='G'>	<3.2.A.2 type='S' input='G'>	<3.2.A.3 type='S' input='G'>	<3.2.A.4 type='N' input='M'>	<3.2.A.5 type='N' input='G'>	<3.2.A.6 type='N' input='M'>	<3.2.A.7 type='N' input='M'>	<3.2.A.8 type='N' input='G'>	<3.2.A.9 type='P' input='G'>	<3.2.A.10 type='N' input='M'>	<3.2.A.11 type='N' input='M'>
Priority axis 1	ERDF (possibly incl. amounts transferred from IPA and ENI) <sup>22</sup>									
	IPA									

<sup>21</sup> Special allocation for outermost regions pursuant to Article 4(2) of the ETC Regulation needs to be reflected in a separate priority axis.

<sup>22</sup> Presentation of amounts transferred from ENI and IPA depends on management option chosen cfr. fiche no. 28 on Elements related to proposed integration of allocations under external financing instruments into ETC programmes.

	ENI									
<i>Priority axis N</i>	ERDF (possibly incl. amounts transferred from IPA and ENI)									
	IPA									
	ENI									
Total	ERDF									
	IPA									
	ENI									
Total	Total all Funds									

(1) To be completed only when priority axes are expressed in total costs.

(2) This rate may be rounded to the nearest whole number in the table. The precise rate used to reimburse payments is the ratio (f).

### 3.2.B. Breakdown by priority axis and thematic objective

(Reference: point (d)(ii) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*This breakdown is required in order to fulfil the requirement set out under (Article 8(2) (d) (ii) to specify for priority axes, which combine investment priorities from different thematic objectives, the amount of total financial appropriation and the national co-financing for each of the corresponding thematic objectives.*

**Table 17**

Priority axis	Thematic objective	Union support	National counterpart	Total funding
<3.2.B.1 type= 'S' input= 'G'>	<3.2.B.2 type= 'S' input= 'G'>	<3.2.B.3 type= 'N' input= 'M'>	<3.2.B.4 type= 'N' input= 'M'>	<3.2.B.5 type= 'N' input= 'M'>
<b>TOTAL</b>				

**Table 18: Indicative amount of support to be used for climate change objectives**

(Reference: Article 27(6) CPR)<sup>23</sup>

*This table is generated automatically by SFC2014 based on categorisation tables included under each of the priority axes.*

*The information provided in this table is based on uniform conditions on the implementation of a methodology for each of the ESI Funds adopted by the Commission in accordance with the third paragraph of Article 8 of the CPR<sup>24</sup>.*

<b>Priority axis</b>	<b>Indicative amount of support to be used for climate change objectives (€)</b>	<b>Proportion of the total allocation to the programme (%)</b>
<3.2.B.8 type= 'S' input= 'G' >	<3.2.B.9 type= 'N' input= 'G' Decision=N >	<3.2.B.10 type= 'P' input= 'G' Decision=N >
<b>Total</b>		

<sup>23</sup> This table is generated automatically on the basis of tables on categories of intervention under each priority axis.

<sup>24</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 215/2014 of 7 March 2014 (OJ L 69, 08.03.2014, p. 65).

## SECTION 4. INTEGRATED APPROACH TO TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT<sup>25</sup>

(Reference: Article 8(3) of the ETC Regulation)

Description of the integrated approach to territorial development, taking into account the content and objectives of the cooperation programme, including in relation to regions and areas referred to in Article 174(3) TFEU, having regard to the Partnership Agreements of the participating Member States, and showing how it contributes to the accomplishment of the programme objectives and expected results

*A description of the approach to territorial development outlining:*

- *The main territorial development needs and bottlenecks to be addressed, and main territorial development potentials, with reference to section 2, where appropriate, and the means to achieve an integrated approach.*
- *The contribution of the territorial approach to the specific objectives and expected results of the cooperation programme.*

<4.0 type='S' maxlength='3500' input='M'>

### 4.1. Community-led local development (where appropriate)

Approach to the use of community-led local development instruments and principles for identifying the areas where they will be implemented

(Reference: point (a) of Article 8(3) of the ETC Regulation)

*A description outlining:*

- *Where a cooperation programme plans to use the community-led local development approach, a description of:*
  - *the principles for the identification of the areas in which community led local development will be implemented;*
  - *the principles for the selection, approval and funding of community-led local development strategies and local development groups under Article 33(2-5) CPR.*

*As the use of community-led local development is optional, filling in this section is not mandatory, where no community-led local development is planned under the cooperation programme.*

<sup>25</sup>

Information required to be adapted to URBACT, INTERACT and ESPON.

<4.1 type='S' maxlength='7000' input='M' >

#### 4.2. Integrated actions for sustainable urban development (where appropriate)

Principles for identifying the urban areas where integrated actions for sustainable urban development are to be implemented and the indicative allocation of the ERDF support for these actions.

(Reference: point (b) of Article 8(3) of the ETC Regulation)

*This section should include:*

- *The approach to sustainable urban development to tackle economic, environmental, climate, demographic and social challenges affecting urban areas, taking into account the need to promote urban rural linkages, including the principles for identifying the urban areas (for example joint characteristics of "twin cities" in a cross-border areas).*
- *The indicative amount of the ERDF support for integrated actions for sustainable urban development (Table 19).*
- *In addition other aspects related to the approach to sustainable integrated urban development may be outlined (where appropriate, the use of ITIs, or other specific implementation arrangement such as for example the use of EGTCs and the extent of the involvement of urban authorities in the management of these actions).*

*Not all cooperation programmes include sustainable urban development actions, therefore the filling in of this section is not mandatory, where no such actions are planned.*

<4.2.1 type='S' maxlength='3500' input='M' >

**Table 19: Integrated actions for sustainable urban development – Indicative amounts of ERDF support**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Indicative amount of ERDF support (EUR)</b>
<4.2.2 type='S' input='G' >	<4.2.3 type='N' input='M' >
ERDF	

**4.3. Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI)** (where appropriate)

Approach to the use of Integrated Territorial Investments (ITI) (as defined in Article 36 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013) other than in cases covered by 4.2, and their indicative financial allocation from each priority axis.

(Reference: point (c) of Article 8(3) of the ETC Regulation)

*An indication of whether the programme will apply the approach outlined in Article 36 of the Common Provisions Regulation to other areas in addition to sustainable urban development referred to in point 5.2 and where relevant:*

- *whether ITIs will constitute a significant or a widely used implementation tool for the cooperation programme;*
- *the areas where ITIs will be used (where this is known) or types of areas, if the areas are to be selected, specifying how and by when the areas covered by ITIs will be decided, where relevant;*
- *an indicative financial allocation to ITI other than those mentioned under point 4.2 (Table 20);*
- *the arrangements for the management and implementation of the ITI, such as the use of EGTCs or other joint legal bodies taking account of Art. 10 ETC Regulation, including where appropriate the coordination between the managing authorities of the programmes contributing financially to the implementation of an ITI.*

*The use of ITIs is optional. Therefore the filling in of this section is not mandatory, where no ITIs will be used to implement the cooperation programme.*

<4.3.1 type= 'S' maxlength= '5000' input= 'M' >

**Table 20: Indicative financial allocation to ITI other than those mentioned under point 4.2 (aggregate amount)**

Priority axis	Indicative financial allocation (Union support) (EUR)
<4.3.2 type= 'S' input= 'G' >	<4.3.3 type= 'N' input= 'M' >
TOTAL	

**4.4 Contribution of planned interventions towards macro-regional and sea basin strategies, subject to the needs of the programme area as identified by the relevant Member States and taking into account, where applicable, strategically important projects identified in those strategies (where appropriate)**

**(Where Member States and regions participate in macro-regional and sea basin strategies)**

(Reference: point (d) of Article 8(3) of the ETC Regulation)

*Where appropriate, a description, of how the macro regional and sea basin strategies have been taken into account in the definition of specific objectives and elaboration of types of actions to be supported. Reference could be made to strategically important projects agreed in the context of macro-regional and sea-basin strategies where a cooperation programme will implement one of these. Where a cooperation programme involves regions that are part of different strategies, references could be made to either of the strategies, or to both, depending on the objectives of the programme.*

*This section should also set out the coordination mechanisms established to link up to the implementation of macro-regional and sea-basin strategies. Where appropriate, the Managing Authority should ensure that National Contact Points and Priority Areas coordinators are involved in the planning and the implementation of the programmes.*

*As not all cooperation programmes are covered by macro-regional or sea-basin strategies, this section may be left unfilled. However, where the programme area is covered, this section should be filled in. Where the strategy is not relevant for a particular programme, it should also be explained in this section.*

. <4.4.1.2 type='S' maxlength='7000' input='M' >



## SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS FOR THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME

(Reference: Article 8(4) of the ETC Regulation)

### 5.1 Relevant authorities and bodies

(Reference: Article 8(4) of the ETC Regulation)

**Table 21: Programme authorities<sup>26</sup>**

(Reference: point (a)(i) of Article 8(4) of the ETC Regulation)

Authority/body	Name of authority/body and department or unit	Head of authority/body (position or post)
Managing authority	. <5.1.1 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M' decision='N' >	. <5.1.2 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M' decision='N' >
Certifying authority, where applicable	. <5.1.3 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M' decision='N' >	. <5.1.4 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M' decision='N' >
Audit authority	. <5.1.5 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M' decision='N' >	. <5.1.6 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M' decision='N' >

### The body to which payments will be made by the Commission is:

(Reference: point (b) of Article 8(4) of the ETC Regulation)

<input type="checkbox"/> the certifying authority	<5.1.8 type type='C' input='M' >
---	----------------------------------

<sup>26</sup> In accordance with Article 8(12) of the ETC Regulation, the information on the identification of the managing authority, the certifying authority, where appropriate, and the audit authority is not subject to the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme, but remain under the responsibility of the participating Member States.

**Table 22: Body or bodies carrying out control and audit tasks**

(Reference: points (a)(ii) and (iii) of Article 8(4) of the ETC Regulation)

Authority/body	Name of authority/body and department or unit	Head of authority/body (position or post)
Body or bodies designated to carry out control tasks	<5.1.9 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M' >	<5.1.10 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M' >
Body or bodies designated to be responsible for carrying out audit tasks	<5.1.11 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M' >	<5.1.12 type='S' maxlength='255' input='M' >

## 5.2 Procedure for setting up the joint secretariat

(Reference: point (a)(iv) of Article 8(4) of the ETC Regulation)

*This section should explain the process for the establishment of the joint secretariat (e.g. information on planned location, host institution where applicable, planned procedure for recruitment of staff etc.). Where arrangements are already in place at the time of programme submission (for example because implementation arrangements are kept from the 2007-2013 programming period) these should be indicated.*

<5.2 type='S' maxlength='3500' input='M' >

## 5.3 Summary description of the management and control arrangements

(Reference: point (a)(v) of Article 8(4) of the ETC Regulation)

*This section should briefly set out the joint implementation structure and the division of tasks between the different bodies involved in programme implementation, in particular in relation to the tasks attributed to the joint secretariat (cf. Article 22(2) ETC Regulation). This also includes information on the organisation of the assessment and selection of operations and the procedure for the signature of the document setting out the conditions of support (“grant offer letter”, “subsidy contract”).*

*This section should also set out the arrangements for management verifications and related quality controls to ensure comparable standards across the programme area. In case the managing authority carries out the verifications itself or where this task is attributed to the secretariat, the managing authority should also ensure the necessary quality control (e.g. by providing the necessary templates). In case the management verifications are carried out through designated controllers in different Member States, the role of the managing authority is to verify that the expenditure has been verified. In addition, procedures should be in place to ensure the necessary coordination and quality control of the verifications in order to avoid deficiencies in the system. It should also be*

*indicated if the designated controllers are the same bodies as those responsible for carrying out management verifications for operational programmes under the Investment for Growth and Jobs Goal or, where applicable, reasons given for why this is not the case.*

*In the case of an EGTC as a managing authority, the management verifications have to be carried out by the EGTC at least in those Member States or third countries from which there are members in the EGTC. The description should therefore, where applicable, indicate whether the responsibility of the managing authority extends beyond this requirement or not. For the remaining Member States or third countries participating in the programme, management verifications will be carried out by the designated controllers. As set out above, the description should in that case indicate if the designated controllers are the same bodies as those responsible for carrying out management verifications for operational programmes under the Investment for Growth and Jobs Goal or, where applicable, reasons given for why this is not the case.*

*In relation to the organisation of audits, this section should set out how coordination among the members of the group of auditors will be organised if audits are not carried out solely by the audit authority. Should the tasks of the systems audits and/or the audits of operations be externalised to one or more external bodies, mechanisms for the review to ensure the quality of the work should be indicated.*

<5.3. type= 'S' maxlength= '35000' input= 'M' >

#### **5.4 Apportionment of liabilities among participating Member States in case of financial corrections imposed by the managing authority or the Commission**

(Reference: point (a)(vi) of Article 8(4) of the ETC Regulation)

*Article 27 of the ETC Regulation already contains rules in relation to recoveries. This section should set out in a complementary manner how amounts lost to the programme budget because of financial corrections are shared out among Member States for example in cases where a financial correction by the Commission is made at a stage where the reduction in the programme budget would affect the amounts already allocated to operations (e.g. where a large share or 100% of the programme budget has already been allocated) or where the irregularity concerns a systemic weakness of the implementation system for which Member States bear joint responsibility. For example, the agreement could be to share liability equally between Member States or by following the financial allocation key of funds. The apportionment of liabilities should also include arrangements in relation to third countries.*

<5.4 type= 'S' maxlength= '10500' input= 'M' >

## 5.5 Use of the Euro (where applicable)

(Reference: Article 28 of the ETC Regulation)

*Art. 28 ETC Regulation provides for three options for when expenditure incurred in a currency other than the Euro can be converted into Euro, in case of participation of regions from countries that have not adopted the Euro. The option chosen will apply for the programme as a whole and has to be indicated in the programme.*

Method chosen for the conversion of expenditure incurred in another currency than the Euro

<5.5. type='S' maxlength='2000' input='M' >

## 5.6 Involvement of partners

(Reference: point (c) of Article 8(4) of the ETC Regulation)

***Actions taken to involve the partners referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 in the preparation of the cooperation programme, and the role of those partners in the preparation and implementation of the cooperation programme, including their involvement in the monitoring committee***

*This section should be filled in having regard to the principles set out in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 240/2014 of 7 January 2014 on the European code of conduct on partnership in the framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds<sup>27</sup>.*

*1) A short summary of the process of the preparation of the cooperation programme, with a specific focus on partnership, including:*

- *the authority which has coordinated the preparation of the OP and the public institutions directly involved in this exercise (such as, for example, the ministries);*
- *a description of the involvement of the partners referred to in Article 5 CPR in the preparation of the cooperation programme. This description should include:*
  - o *how partners have been selected;*
  - o *the list of the partners involved (cf. Annex 9.3), possibly including EGTCs or other joint legal bodies operating in the programme area and relevant authorities or bodies that are involved in the development or implementation of a macro-regional or sea-basin strategy in the programme area;*
  - o *the actions taken to facilitate a wide involvement and an active participation of the partners, including in terms of accessibility;*
  - o *the main added value of the partnership in the preparation of the cooperation programme, in particular instances where the strategic choices have been significantly influenced by partners.*
  - o *the main results of the consultation with partners, including significant*

<sup>27</sup>

OJ L 74, 14.03.2014, p. 1.

*concerns, comments and recommendations raised by multiple partners.*

*2) A description of how the relevant partners referred in Article 5 CPR will be involved in the implementation, of the cooperation programme, including their involvement in the monitoring committee.*

*For larger transnational and interregional programmes, the involvement of the umbrella organisations at Union/transnational level in the monitoring committee or prior involvement of partners in coordination committees at national level to prepare the monitoring committee meetings at transnational/interregional level may be considered.*

*In accordance with Article 8(12) of the ETC Regulation, this information is not subject to the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme, but remains under the responsibility of the participating Member States.*

<5.6 type='S' maxlength='14000' input='M' Decisions=N>

## SECTION 6. COORDINATION<sup>28</sup>

(Reference: point (a) of Article 8(5) of the ETC Regulation)

The mechanisms that ensure effective coordination between the ERDF, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and other Union and national funding instruments, including the coordination and possible combination with the Connecting Europe Facility, the ENI, the European Development Fund (EDF) and the IPA and with the EIB, taking into account the provisions laid down in the Common Strategic Framework as set out in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013. Where Member States and third countries participate in cooperation programmes that include the use of ERDF appropriations for outermost regions and resources from the EDF, coordination mechanisms at the appropriate level to facilitate effective coordination in the use of these resources

*A description how coordination will be ensured:*

- *with the other ESI Funds (ERDF, ESF, Cohesion Fund, EAFRD, EMFF), particularly in relation to programmes under the Investment for Growth and Jobs Goal;*
- *with other Union instruments (Horizon 2020, LIFE +, the Connecting Europe Facility, COSME, Erasmus for All, Asylum and Migration Fund, Programme for Social Change and Innovation etc.);*
- *with CEF, ENI, IPA and EDF. The establishment of coordination mechanisms is a particular requirement for cooperation involving outermost regions when the use of resources from the EDF is envisaged;*
- *with relevant national funding instruments that contribute to the same or similar objectives as the cooperation programme or complement its interventions;*
- *with the EIB.*

*This should include:*

- *an identification of the areas where support under the cooperation programme can be used in a complementary manner with the funding sources listed above to achieve the thematic objectives selected;*
- *an explanation of how synergies and complementarities will be exploited to ensure effectiveness, including e.g. by combining support from different instruments to support individual operations;*
- *a description of coordination mechanisms for each of the relevant funding sources listed above identifying the bodies responsible for coordination in these areas and outlining the structures or arrangements (e.g. committees, consultation procedures) used for this purpose.*

*In accordance with Article 8(12) of the ETC Regulation, this information is not subject to the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme, but remains under the responsibility of the participating Member States.*

<sup>28</sup>

Information required to be adapted to URBACT, INTERACT and ESPON.

<6.1 type='S' maxlength='14000' input='M' Decisions=N >

## SECTION 7. Reduction of administrative burden for beneficiaries

(Reference: point (b) of Article 8(5) of the ETC Regulation<sup>29</sup>)

A summary of the assessment of the administrative burden for beneficiaries and, where necessary, the actions planned accompanied by an indicative timeframe to reduce the administrative burden.

*A summary assessment of the administrative burden and actions to planned to achieve a reduction including:*

- *an assessment of the administrative burden of beneficiaries, including the identification of main sources of administrative burden in the period 2007-2013, the main actions already taken to reduce that burden for the period 2014-2020, and potential scope for further reduction, referring to statistical data, and results of evaluations and studies, where possible;*
- *main (not all – only a summary is required) actions planned to achieve a reduction in administrative burden with an indicative timeframe (e.g. end date) including the use of simplified costs, where appropriate.*

*In accordance with Article 8(12) of the ETC Regulation, this information is not subject to the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme, but remains under the responsibility of the participating Member States.*

<7..0 type='S' maxlength='7000' input='M' decision=N >

<sup>29</sup> Not required for INTERACT and ESPON.



## SECTION 8. HORIZONTAL PRINCIPLES

(Reference: Article 8(7) of the ETC Regulation)

### 8.1. Sustainable development<sup>30</sup>

Description of specific actions to take into account environmental protection requirements, resource efficiency, climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster resilience and risk prevention and management, in the selection of operations.

*A description of how the aspects listed above are taken into account in project selection, with reference to particular priority axes, where appropriate.*

*This section is subject to the duly justified assessment of the participating Member States of the relevance of the objectives to the content and objectives of the programme.*

*If the Member States consider that the horizontal principle is not relevant for the cooperation programme concerned, this section should provide a justification for such an assessment.*

*In accordance with Article 8(12) of the ETC Regulation, this information is not subject to the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme, but remains under the responsibility of the participating Member States.*

<7.1 type= 'S' maxlength= '5500' input= 'M' decision=N>

### 8.2. Equal opportunities and non-discrimination<sup>31</sup>

Description of the specific actions to promote equal opportunities and prevent any discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation during the preparation, design and implementation of the cooperation programme and, in particular, in relation to access to funding, taking account of the needs of the various target groups at risk of such discrimination, and in particular, the requirements of ensuring accessibility for persons with disabilities.

*A description covering, but not limited to:*

- *identification of particular targets groups, which may have a reduced access to support or are at risk of discrimination and identification of the measures to mitigate these risks;*
- *any initiatives aimed at mainstreaming these principles in project selection and implementation e.g. uniform requirements for accessibility for already existing and new or reconstructed public buildings and established services;*
- *any specific monitoring and evaluation measures envisaged to ensure the follow-up of the implementation of these principles and how these results of monitoring*

<sup>30</sup> Not applicable to URBACT, INTERACT and ESPON.

<sup>31</sup> Not applicable to URBACT, INTERACT and ESPON.

*and evaluation will be taken into account;*

- *where appropriate, specific actions to be taken to promote equal opportunities and prevent discrimination with reference to the specific investment priority;*
- *actions to ensure accessibility to all citizens, including those with disabilities to all goods, services and infrastructure, in particular to the physical environment, transport and ICT.*

*This section is subject to the duly justified assessment of the participating Member States of the relevance of the objectives to the content and objectives of the programme.*

*If the Member States consider that the horizontal principle is not relevant for the cooperation programme concerned, this section should provide a justification for such an assessment.*

*In accordance with Article 8(12) of the ETC Regulation, this information is not subject to the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme, but remains under the responsibility of the participating Member States.*

<7.2 type='S' maxlength='5500' input='M' decision=N>

### **8.3. Equality between men and women**

Description of the contribution of the cooperation programme to the promotion of equality between men and women and, where appropriate, the arrangements to ensure the integration of the gender perspective at cooperation programme and operation level.

*A description covering, but not limited to:*

- *the contribution of the cooperation programme to the promotion of equality between men and women, with reference to specific challenges faced in this area, as appropriate;*
- *the actions planned to ensure the integration of the gender perspective at operational level including any initiatives aimed at mainstreaming this principle in project selection and implementation;*
- *any specific monitoring and evaluation measures based, if possible, on gender specific data and indicators envisaged to ensure the follow-up of the implementation of this principle and how these results of monitoring and evaluation will be taken into account;*
- *where appropriate, specific actions to be taken to promote gender equality with reference to the specific investment priority.*

*If the Member State considers that the horizontal principle is not relevant for the cooperation programme concerned, this section should provide a justification for such an assessment.*

*In accordance with Article 8(12) of the ETC Regulation, this information is not subject to the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme, but remains under the responsibility of the participating Member States.*

*<7.3 type='S' maxlength='5500' input='M' decision=N>*

## SECTION 9. SEPARATE ELEMENTS

### 9.1. Major projects to be implemented during the programming period

(Reference: point (e) of Article 8(2) of the ETC Regulation)

*In accordance with Article 8(12) of the ETC Regulation this information is not subject to the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme but remains under the responsibility of the participating Member States.*

**Table 23: List of major projects** <sup>32</sup>

Project	Planned notification/submission date (year, quarter)	Planned start of implementation (year, quarter)	Planned completion date (year quarter)	Priority axes/investment priorities
<9.1.1 type='S' maxlength='500' input='S' decision=N>	<9.1.2 type='D' input='M' decision='N' >	<9.1.3 type='D' input='M' decision='N' >	<9.1.4 type='D' input='M' decision='N' >	<9.1.5 type='S' input='S' decision='N' >

### 9.2. Performance framework of the cooperation programme

*The summary table is generated automatically by the SFC2014 based on the tables outlined by priority axis.*

**Table 24: Performance framework (summary table)**

Priority axis	Indicator or key implementation step	Measurement unit, where appropriate	Milestone for 2018	Final target (2023)
<9.2.1 type='S' input='G'>	<9.2.3 type='S' input='G'>	<9.2.4 type='S' input='G'>	<9.2.5 type='S' input='G'>	<9.2.6 type='S' input='G'>

<sup>32</sup> Not applicable to INTERACT and ESPON.

### 9.3 Relevant partners involved in the preparation of the cooperation programme

*This list will complement the description of partnership arrangements and the involvement of partners outlined in section 5.6.*

*In accordance with Article 8(12) of the ETC Regulation, this information is not subject to the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme, but remains under the responsibility of the participating Member States.*

<9.3 type='S' maxlength='15000' input='M' decision=N>

### 9.4 Applicable programme implementation conditions governing the financial management, programming, monitoring, evaluation and control of the participation of third countries in transnational and interregional programmes through a contribution of ENI and IPA resources

(Reference: Article 26 of the ETC Regulation)

*Where a transnational or interregional programme benefits from ENI and/or IPA resources, this section should set out the respective implementation conditions for the financial management, programming, monitoring, evaluation and control. These implementation conditions have to be consistent with Union cohesion policy rules.*

*The applicable conditions should largely correspond to the rules applicable to the ERDF part of the programme, except where specific arrangements are necessary (for example concerning arrangements for public procurement or management verifications).*

<9.4 type='S' maxlength='14000' input='S'>

**ANNEXES (uploaded to electronic data exchange systems as separate files):**

- Draft report of the ex-ante evaluation, with an executive summary (mandatory)  
(Reference: Article 55(2) of the CPR)
- Confirmation of agreement in writing to the contents of the cooperation programme (mandatory)  
(Reference: Article 8(9) of the ETC Regulation)

*All countries participating in the programme have to confirm in writing their agreement to the contents of the programme. The agreement will also include the commitment to provide the co-financing necessary to implement the cooperation programme and, where applicable, the commitment for the financial contribution of the third countries or territories. The Aide Memoire on the strategy & management, financial & control arrangements provided by the Commission may be useful in this respect. In the case of cooperation programmes of outermost regions, the agreement to the contents of the cooperation programme and the possible contribution of the third countries can be expressed in the formally approved minutes of consultations meetings with the third countries or the deliberations of the regional cooperation organisations.*

- A map of the area covered by the cooperation programme (as appropriate)
- A citizens' summary of the cooperation programme (as appropriate)

*A citizens' summary is an optional element. The Member States are not obliged to submit it to the Commission and it is not covered by the Commission decision approving the cooperation programme. It can be used to outline, in the format chosen by the Member States, the objectives and the content of the cooperation programme, including the intervention logic, as appropriate, for the purposes of consultation and communication.*

*Where necessary, this section can also outline the content of each individual priority axis.*

*The format proposed (upload to the SFC2014 as a separate file, no structured data) enables the Member States to use the structure and the formatting it considers most appropriate for communication purposes. It also entails no restrictions on the number of characters used.*

*NB: This document complements the mandatory elements of the cooperation programme. It does not replace any of the elements for which format requirements have been outlined in the model to be adopted by way of implementing acts. All data required in a structured format must be submitted to comply with the requirements of Article 8 of the ETC Regulation.*

*In the case of inconsistencies between the structured data submitted (i.e. the formal content of the cooperation programme) and the citizens summary (not part of the formal content of the cooperation programme under Article 8 of the ETC Regulation), the structured data submitted in the required format shall prevail.*