



EUROPEAN UNION
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DEVELOPMENT FUND

CENTRAL EUROPE 2020 Programme

Concept for establishing result indicator baselines and measuring progress

Introduction and overall methodology

Similar to most European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) programmes, the INTERREG CENTRAL EUROPE 2020 Programme primarily develops and improves specific know-how and capacities in different thematic fields through transnational cooperation in the programme area. This will be achieved by creating an enabling environment through improving the policy, legal and institutional frameworks, as well as through developing human resources and strengthening managerial systems. Due to missing data concerning these issues on the level of the programme area, neither the state of play, nor their inter-linkages or changes compared to the baseline situation can be expressed in quantitative terms but only through a qualitative appraisal and description.

As a consequence, the result indicators covering the programme main results and capturing the desired change¹ in the programme area are based on a qualitative description of the situation at the time of measurement (baseline, progress and targets as foreseen in the Cooperation Programme). In order to ensure comparability of the baseline description with the progress achieved it is foreseen to apply a survey combined with a focus group approach which includes semi-quantitative elements². To this end, a rating system composed of a set of relevant criteria for a specific result indicator (ranging in a scale from 1 to 5) will be introduced within the frame of the qualitative appraisal.

This concept describes and details the methodological approach for collecting the baseline data and for monitoring progress (through measuring indicator values at a certain point in time). It is important to underline that data collection and monitoring will be conducted at programme level in the most objective and transparent way. However, this document does not outline the assessment of the collected data or of progress towards set objectives. This will be part of the programme evaluation (e.g. evaluation of effectiveness, efficiency and impacts of the programme) carried out according to the evaluation plan of the CENTRAL EUROPE 2020 Programme³.

¹ Cf. EC Guidance Document on Monitoring and Evaluation (EC DG Regio: The programming Period 2014-2020: Guidance Document on Monitoring and Evaluation – European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund, January 2014)

² I.e. to assign approximate quantities to data where a direct measurement is not possible; Monsen, Van Horn (2008): Research: Successful Approaches

³ The evaluation plan shall be submitted to the monitoring committee no later than one year after the adoption of the operational programme; Article 114, Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.

Priority axes 1-4

The qualitative result indicators in priorities 1-4 mostly depict changes of capacity of the target groups defined for each specific objective. The result indicators do not only refer to the direct programme beneficiaries, but cover also other stakeholders in the area. In this context a broad definition of capacity is applied that covers the policy, legal and economic frameworks, institutional and human resources development as well as managerial systems, addressing for example the following issues (not exhaustive):

- Information and knowledge
- Competences and skills
- Efficient use of resources (human, technical and financial)
- Governance
- Policy instruments (including legal frameworks, standards, economic instruments etc.)

Procedure for data collection, design of survey and questionnaire, aggregation of data

Baseline data and data for monitoring progress of the result indicators will be collected through a selected group of experts, constituting thematic expert panels, representing all nine CENTRAL EUROPE Member States. The following approach will be applied:

- Collection of semi-quantitative information on the national situation through a survey directed at national experts. Individual opinions of national experts will be collected through structured online surveys and collected data per result indicator and its related criteria will be aggregated on programme level.
- Consolidation of the aggregated data within transnational focus group discussions organised per Programme thematic priority, resulting in a qualitative and quantitative appraisal of the state of play for the entire programme area⁴.

Online survey

The design of the surveys will be based on a set of criteria covering the thematic scope of a specific result indicator (see Annex 8 of the CP). Using a semi-quantitative approach (by applying also rating scales) allows an aggregation of data collected from national expert statements at the programme level. Furthermore, the data collected could serve as a basis for further quantitative analysis and appraisal in the framework of the programme evaluation.

For setting up the baseline, the consulted national experts will be requested to appraise the current situation in their country (or, for Germany and Italy, the part of the country belonging to the CENTRAL EUROPE 2020 Programme area) with regard to a specific result indicator and its related criteria. In order to ensure a harmonised approach, further explanations will be provided for each criterion in form of guiding questions.

For monitoring progress the same approach will be applied. In addition, experts will be provided with an overview of projects supported by the CENTRAL EUROPE 2020 Programme including information on their main objectives and achievements so far as well as their territorial dimension.

⁴ Focus groups are group discussions which are arranged to examine a specific set of topics and have the primary aim to describe and gain a common understanding of a specific issue from the perspective of the group participants (Liamputtong, 2009: Qualitative Research Methods). This methodology is widely adopted in cross-cultural and international contexts.

The expert appraisal will be both qualitative (i.e. a brief statement focusing on key points, to be delivered in English) and quantitative (i.e. using the following rating scale from 1 to 5: “1 - very low”, “2 - low”, “3 - medium/average”, “4 - high”, “5 - very high”) for each criterion. The aggregated (through summation) and normalised scores of a specific criterion will result in an overall score (between 1 and 5, rounded on one decimal value) for the result indicator per Member State. Further, experts will have to provide an overall qualitative conclusion (short and concise, to be delivered in English language) summarising their individual judgement per result indicator.

The structured online survey for data collection will be developed and implemented by the MA/JS which will also support the experts in case of technical questions. The aggregation of data by the MA/JS will follow a transparent and objective procedure without including any appraisal or judgement of data.

Focus groups

As a second step, on the basis of the survey outcomes, transnational focus group discussions for each of the thematic programme priorities⁵, will be organised in order to enable an active exchange between experts on the individually identified issues. Focus groups will allow formulating a joint position for the status of the respective result indicators. Focus groups are also expected to issue a brief and concise qualitative description highlighting the key aspects characterising the situation of the entire programme area for the respective result indicator at the moment of measurement (i.e. the reference year). This will be accompanied by commonly agreed scores.

The focus group discussions will be organised making use of online tools to the possible extent or, if required, as personal meetings (e.g. linked to programme events). The expert discussions will be facilitated by the MA/JS (at least for establishing the baseline situation) and/or by the appointed programme independent evaluators (if so decided by the programme Monitoring Committee).

The application of the approach described above will allow comparing indicator levels at different points in time (thus reflecting different stages of the programme implementation) and will provide evidence of changes, both in quantitative and qualitative terms. This will allow getting a clear and impartial perception on progress made and on results achieved by the programme compared to the initial situation as described in the baseline.

This approach is building on experiences made already during the preparation phase of the CENTRAL EUROPE 2020 Cooperation Programme, when dedicated interviews with thematic experts covering all CENTRAL EUROPE Member States (9 for each of the Priority Axes 1-4) were conducted in the frame of the ex-ante evaluation. These interviews brought forward valuable findings which were further integrated into the programme intervention logic, and were considered for the definition of criteria for the result indicators.

Profiles of national experts to be consulted

The surveys will address a panel of selected experts composed of at least one thematic expert per Member State for each thematic priority axis (1-4). With regard specifically to Priority 3, dealing with natural and cultural heritage, a second expert per Member State should be appointed in order to adequately cover both dimensions of this priority.

Experts will be proposed by each Member State and nominated by the CENTRAL EUROPE 2020 Steering Group or Monitoring Committee. When selecting national experts, the thematic experts

⁵ In case of Priority 3 two focus groups, one covering natural heritage, the other cultural heritage

already involved in the interviews in the frame of the ex-ante evaluation of the Cooperation Programme could be considered. Furthermore for ensuring a smooth implementation of the data gathering, preferably also proxies (replacing experts in case of non-availability) should be nominated.

General criteria for the identification of suitable experts are the following:

- Proven thematic expertise in the respective field
- Knowledge of the relevant policy framework at regional, national and EU level
- Experience in Structural Funds and the European Territorial Cooperation objective, preferably the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme
- Profound knowledge of the national situation regarding the concerned topic and ability to assess changes realised through transnational cooperation activities and results
- Fluency in English

The thematic fields in which expert knowledge and expertise are required are the following:

Priority axis	Theme	Specific thematic expertise and knowledge required
Priority 1: Cooperating on innovation to make CENTRAL EUROPE more competitive	Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • innovation systems • cluster & innovation networks • innovation support of enterprises • workforce skills • entrepreneurship • social innovation
Priority 2: Cooperating on low-carbon strategies in CENTRAL EUROPE	Low-carbon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • energy efficiency and renewable energy use in public infrastructure • energy efficiency standards and certification systems • local and regional low carbon energy planning • energy performance in the public and private sector • low carbon mobility and governance systems in functional urban areas • low-carbon technologies for public urban transport
Priority 3: Cooperating on natural and cultural resources for sustainable growth in CENTRAL EUROPE	Natural heritage and resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • integrated environmental management and protection • resource efficiency in public entities and enterprises • land use management and planning • rehabilitation and reactivation of brownfields • integrated urban environmental management
	Cultural heritage and resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cultural and creative industries potentials • cultural heritage as regional development and job creation factor • international linkages between cultural heritage sites and institutions
Priority 4: Cooperating on transport to better connect CENTRAL EUROPE	Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regional passenger transport linked to national and TEN-T networks • coordination of regional passenger transport across borders • multimodal environmentally friendly freight transport including stakeholder coordination • greening the last mile of freight transport

Estimated work load for the national thematic experts

2014 - Baseline establishment: ~0,5 working days per expert

- Preparation work: Reading CP section 1 and partly section 2 referring to the part of the respective thematic priority (1,5 hours)
- Participation in online survey (0,5 hours)
- Online-Focus group discussion: participation and eventual preparation (2 hours)

Monitoring Progress in 2018, 2020, 2023: ~1 working day per expert per each of the 3 monitoring exercises

- Preparation work: Reading CP section 1 and partly section 2 referring to the part of the respective priority, reading the baseline description as prepared in 2014, reading the overview of thematic outputs and results of CE 2020 funded projects (overview prepared by MA/JS and relevant parts of eventual evaluation reports) (5 hours)
- Participation in online survey (0,5 hours)
- Online-Focus group discussion: participation and eventual preparation (2 hours)

In total the expected workload per expert is estimated to be of around 3,5 working days for the entire duration of implementation of the CE2020 programme. Considering that per Member State five experts are required (1 per priority and 2 in the case of priority 3) this sums up to a total of around 17,5 working days for experts in each Member State until 2023.⁶

⁶ In case, physical meetings for focus group discussions will be considered necessary, 0,5 working days per expert and monitoring exercise need to be added as well as the related reimbursement of travel and accommodation costs. Such physical meeting could be considered for the monitoring of progress, preferably in 2020, where already sufficient data on project results are expected to be available which would allow a more in-depth review.

Priority Axis 5 (Technical Assistance)

Results defined for Priority 5 concern the satisfaction of beneficiaries as a consequence of sound programme management (including amongst other reduced administrative burden and improved programme reach of relevant partners), the capacity of applicants and beneficiaries to participate in the programme, as well as the direct involvement of relevant partners (as defined in Article 5 CPR).

For collecting baseline data and monitoring progress, specific approaches tailored to each result indicator and its criteria will be applied.

Result indicator 5.1: “Satisfaction rate of beneficiaries with programme management”

The satisfaction of beneficiaries is linked to programme support to project implementation, to effective communication between the programme bodies and beneficiaries as well as to reduced administrative burden and shortened timeframes for reimbursement. In addition, it is assumed that beneficiaries will be satisfied if the programme efficiently reaches out to relevant partners to make them aware of aggregated project results.

Data about the degree of satisfaction of beneficiaries will be generated through structured surveys directed at project partners. The surveys will measure their:

- Degree of satisfaction on information and support provided by MA/JS on content and administrative topics concerning project implementation.
- Degree of satisfaction on information and support provided by the Network of Contact Points (NCP) on project implementation.
- Degree of satisfaction with awareness raised through transnational communication actions among relevant target groups on aggregated project achievements.

The surveys will follow the same semi-quantitative approach applied to thematic priorities (1 to 4). The baseline situation will be derived from an initial survey directed at beneficiaries of the CENTRAL EUROPE 2007-2013 Programme in 2014. Progress towards achieving the result will be measured through identical surveys in 2018, 2020 and 2023 directed at beneficiaries of the CENTRAL EUROPE 2020 Programme. The structured online survey for data collection will be developed and implemented by the MA/JS. The aggregation of data by the MA/JS will follow a transparent and objective procedure without including any appraisal or judgement of data.

Result indicator 5.2.1: “Status of capacities of applicants to participate in the programme”

The capacity of applicants to participate in the programme is linked to the awareness of relevant partners including potential applicants about funding opportunities and to the knowledge of lead applicants about application procedures.

Data about the degree of awareness⁷ on funding opportunities created among relevant partners including potential applicants following support offered by the programme will be gathered based on the following assumption: If multipliers share information about the programme, more relevant partners including (potential) applicants will be reached and become aware of the programme. Therefore, it will be measured how many relevant partners are reached through the programme’s communication. The baseline value will be derived in 2014 from an analysis of data of yearly reach⁸ of the programme’s digital communication channels and of its reach at events that selected

⁷ In communication, awareness is understood as the state or ability to perceive, to feel, or to be conscious of something. In this level of consciousness, sense data can be confirmed by an observer without necessarily implying understanding. Understanding is ultimately linked to knowledge.

⁸ In media analysis, reach refers to the total number of different people or households exposed, at least once, to a medium during a given period.

programme bodies (i.e. MA/JS and NCP) organised or actively participated in. Progress will be measured by monitoring the same yearly reach in the years 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 (the latter if needed, depending on the timing of future calls for proposals). Progress will be reported in the years 2018, 2020, and 2023.

Data about the degree of knowledge on application procedures created among lead applicants following support offered by the programme will be generated through structured surveys directed at lead applicants that will have participated in programme events for lead applicants on the national and transnational level. The baseline situation will be derived in 2014 from qualitative information provided in the independent evaluation of the CENTRAL EUROPE 2007-2013 Programme on application-related support (e.g. application manuals etc.) as well as from semi-quantitative data collected at programme events for lead applicants of the CENTRAL EUROPE 2007-2013 Programme. Progress will be measured by surveys which will follow the same semi-quantitative approach as described in the previous chapter on PA 1-4 and which will be run after CENTRAL EUROPE 2020 events directed at lead applicants in the years 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 (the latter if needed). Progress will be reported in the years 2018, 2020, and 2023. The surveys for data collection will be developed and implemented by the MA/JS. The aggregation of data by the MA/JS will follow a transparent and objective procedure without including any appraisal or judgement of data.

Result indicator 5.2.2: “Status of capacities of beneficiaries to participate in the programme”

The capacity of beneficiaries to participate in the programme is linked to the knowledge of project partners about project implementation.

Data on the degree of knowledge created among beneficiaries about implementation and reporting requirements will be generated through structured surveys directed at project partners. The design of the surveys will follow the same semi-quantitative approach as described in the previous chapter on priorities 1-4. The baseline situation will be derived from an initial survey directed at project partners of the CENTRAL EUROPE 2007-2013 Programme (to be combined with a survey foreseen for collecting data on result indicator 5.1). Progress towards achieving the result will be measured through identical surveys in 2018, 2020 and 2023 directed at project partners of the CENTRAL EUROPE 2020 Programme.

Timeline and next steps

Schedule for measuring thematic results (all result indicators of PA 1-4):

The expert panel will be addressed through dedicated structured surveys and focus group discussions conducted at different stages of programme implementation:

- Setting up the baseline situation in 2014
- Monitoring and reporting progress in 2018, 2020 and in 2023

Schedule for measuring results related to PA 5 (TA):

- Beneficiaries' satisfaction and knowledge (result indicators 5.1 and 5.2.2):

The project partners will be addressed through dedicated structured surveys conducted at different stages of the programme implementation:

- Setting up the baseline situation in 2014
- Monitoring and reporting progress in 2018, 2020 and in 2023

- Relevant partners' awareness and lead applicants' knowledge (result indicator 5.2.1):

The reach of relevant partners (including potential applicants) will be measured through programme communication channels. The baseline situation for lead applicants' knowledge will be derived from information on application-related support available for the CENTRAL EUROPE 2007-2013 Programme (qualitative information provided in the independent evaluation and feedback data collected on programme events directed at lead applicants). In addition, for monitoring progress lead applicants will be addressed through dedicated structured surveys conducted at different stages of the programme implementation:

- Setting up the baseline situation in 2014
- Monitoring progress in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 (the latter if needed)
- Reporting of progress in 2018, 2020 and 2023

As mentioned in previous chapters the measurement of the progress refers only to the collection of data for the respective result indicators but does not include an appraisal of the changes achieved through programme implementation. These evaluation tasks making use of collected data will be defined in the CE2020 programme evaluation plan.

Next steps for the establishment of the baselines:

Task/month	June 2014	July 2014	August 2014	September 2014	October 2014	November 2014	December 2014
Nomination of national thematic experts by MS							
Development of questionnaires and set-up of online survey tool							
Online surveys collecting data at MS level and aggregation (P1-4)							
Analysis of CENTRAL EUROPE 2007-2013 Programme data (P5 - TA)							
Online survey collecting data from project partners of the CENTRAL EUROPE 2007-2013 Programme (P5 - TA)							
Transnational focus group discussions - online forum (P1-4)							
Aggregation of data at programme level (P1-5)							
Available baselines for the CP CE2020							

Annex 1 - Explanation of result indicators and main criteria (see also Annex 8 of the CP)

Result indicator	Explanation	Main criteria
<p>1.1 Status of linkages among actors of the innovation systems in central European regions</p>	<p>This indicator measures the degree and quality of linkages among the actors in the innovation system at a certain point in time. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>Thereby, linkages are to be understood as: The innovative activities of a firm partly depend on the variety and structure of its links to sources of information, knowledge, technologies, practices, and human and financial resources. Each linkage connects the innovating firm to other actors in the innovation system: government laboratories, universities, policy departments, regulators, competitors, suppliers, and customers. (UNESCO - Measuring innovation, 2009).</p> <p>Innovation system is to be understood as “the network of institutions in the public and private sectors whose activities and interactions initiate, import, modify and diffuse new technologies (Freeman, 1987)”.</p> <p>Actors of the innovation system include stakeholders from the research and business sector, policy makers and public authorities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree and quality of cooperation between actors in the innovation systems resulting in knowledge and technology transfer between research and the business (in particular SMEs) within and between regions • Degree of transnational cluster & innovation networks (including SMEs) and their internationalisation • Degree of available services including finance for innovation support of enterprises, in particular SMEs • Degree of transfer of project results (including tested pilot solutions) to concerned stakeholders
<p>1.2 Status of skills of employees and entrepreneurial competences driving economic and social innovation in central European regions</p>	<p>This indicator measures the skills of employees and entrepreneurs as well as their entrepreneurial competences at certain point in time. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>Skills are to be understood as “productive assets of the workforce that are acquired through learning activities (OECD: Workforce skills and innovation, 2011).</p> <p>Entrepreneurship is the mind set and process to create and develop economic activity by blending risk-taking, creativity and/or innovation with sound management, within a new or an existing organisation. (European Commission, Green Paper Entrepreneurship in Europe, 2003).</p> <p>Innovation is the implementation of a new or significantly improved product (good or service), or process, a new marketing method,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of workforce skills adapted to market needs and innovation processes contributing to regional smart specialisation strategies • Degree of entrepreneurial mind set and technological and management competences of entrepreneurs • Degree of skills and competences of employees and entrepreneurs for social innovation

Result indicator	Explanation	Main criteria
	<p>or a new organisational method in business practices, workplace organisation or external relations (OECD, Oslo Manual: Guidelines for collecting and interpreting innovation data, 2005).</p> <p>Social innovations are new ideas (products, services and models) that simultaneously meet social needs (more effectively than alternatives) and create new social relationships or collaborations (Murray et. al: Open Book of Social Innovation, 2010).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of transfer of project results (including tested pilot solutions) to concerned stakeholders
<p>2.1 Status of capacities of the public sector and related entities for increased energy efficiency and renewable energy use in public infrastructures</p>	<p>This indicator measures capacities of the public sector and related entities for increased energy efficiency and renewable energy use in public infrastructures. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>Energy efficiency improvements refer to a reduction in the energy used for a given service (heating, lighting, etc.) or level of activity. The reduction in the energy consumption is usually associated with technological changes, but not always since it can also result from better organisation and management or improved economic conditions in the sector ("non-technical factors") (World Energy Council: Energy Efficiency Policies around the World: Review and Evaluation, 2008).</p> <p>Renewable energy sources are a diverse group of technologies that capture their energy from existing flows of energy, from on-going natural processes, such as sunshine, wind, flowing water, biological processes, and geothermal heat flows.</p> <p>Public infrastructure comprises infrastructure that is owned by the public and/or is for public use, including public buildings.</p> <p>Capacities are to be understood as the enabling policy, legal and institutional environment including human resources development and the respective managerial systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of expertise of the public sector and related entities on energy efficiency methods and renewable use in public infrastructure • Degree of harmonisation of standards and availability of certification systems for public infrastructures • Degree of knowledge of the public sector and related entities on financing schemes for the implementation of energy efficiency measures and renewable energy use in public infrastructure • Degree of transfer of project results (including tested pilot solutions) to concerned stakeholders
<p>2.2 Status of capacities of the public sector and related entities for territorially based low carbon energy planning and policies</p>	<p>This indicator measures capacities of the public sector and related entities for territorially based low carbon energy planning and policies. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>Energy planning at the territorial level provides a framework linked to policies and economic development which considers the specific local/regional patterns of energy needs and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of expertise of the public sector and related entities on local and regional low carbon energy planning • Degree of knowledge on management strategies for improving energy

Result indicator	Explanation	Main criteria
	<p>resources serving as a tool to mitigate climate change and enhancing sustainability.</p> <p>Capacities are to be understood as the enabling policy, legal and institutional environment including human resources development and the respective managerial systems.</p>	<p>performance in the public and private sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of knowledge and expertise of the use of regional endogenous energy potentials • Degree of transfer of project results (including tested pilot solutions) to concerned stakeholders
<p>2.3 Status of capacities of the public sector and related entities for low-carbon mobility planning in functional urban areas</p>	<p>This indicator measures capacities of the public sector and related entities for low-carbon mobility planning in functional urban areas. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>Low carbon mobility planning is to be understood as a set of interrelated measures designed to satisfy the mobility needs of people and businesses. They are the result of an integrated planning approach and address low carbon forms of transport in cities and their surrounding areas.</p> <p>A functional urban area is a functional economic unit characterised by densely inhabited “urban cores” and “hinterlands” whose labour market is highly integrated with the cores (OECD, 2012). This definition originating from labour market and commuting considerations provides a spatial delimitation beyond administrative borders which is relevant for a multitude of thematic fields.</p> <p>Capacities are to be understood as the enabling policy, legal and institutional environment including human resources development and the respective managerial systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of expertise of the public sector and related entities on integrated low carbon mobility concepts and governance systems in functional urban areas • Degree of knowledge on implementation of novel low-carbon technologies for public urban transport • Degree of transfer of project results (including tested pilot solutions) to concerned stakeholders
<p>3.1 Status of integrated environmental management capacities of the public sector and related entities for the sustainable use of natural heritage and resources</p>	<p>This indicator measures the integrated environmental management capacities of the public sector and related entities at a certain point in time. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>Integrated environmental management thereby means a comprehensive approach to natural resource planning and management that encompasses ecological, social, and economic objectives. It considers the interrelationships among different elements and incorporates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of integrated management capacities for the protection of high value natural heritage • Degree of integrated environmental management capacities for sustainable use of natural resources for

Result indicator	Explanation	Main criteria
	<p>concepts of carrying capacity, resilience and sustainability.</p> <p>As natural heritage are considered natural features, geological and physiographical formations (including habitats) and natural sites or precisely delineated natural areas. (UNESCO: Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1972).</p> <p>Natural resources are produced by nature, commonly subdivided into non - renewable resources, such as minerals and fossil fuels, and renewable natural resources that propagate or sustain life and are naturally self-renewing when properly managed, including plants and animals, as well as soil and water (IUCN definitions⁹).</p> <p>Capacities are to be understood as the enabling policy, legal and institutional environment including human resources development and the respective managerial systems.</p> <p>Sustainable use is to be understood as a usage respecting the principles of sustainability.</p>	<p>regional development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of management competences for efficient use of natural resources in public entities and enterprises • Degree of transfer of project results (including tested pilot solutions) to concerned stakeholders
<p>3.2 Status of capacities of the public and private sector for the sustainable use of cultural heritage and resources</p>	<p>This indicator measures the capacities of the public and private sector for the sustainable use of cultural heritage and resources at a certain point in time. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>Cultural heritage is composed of tangible heritage including buildings and historic places, monuments, etc.¹⁰ and intangible cultural heritage which refers to practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills etc. (UNESCO 2003: Convention for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage).</p> <p>Cultural resources comprise both elements, the tangible and intangible cultural heritage, encompassing current culture, including progressive, innovative and urban culture. These resources can be valorised among others in cultural and creative industries.</p> <p>Capacities are to be understood as the enabling policy, legal and institutional environment including human resources development and the respective managerial systems.</p> <p>Sustainable use is to be understood as a usage respecting the principles of sustainability.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of awareness on economic potentials and expertise for the development of cultural and creative industries • Degree of knowledge and implementation capacity on sustainable use of cultural heritage for regional development and job creation • Degree of transnational linkages between cultural heritage sites and institutions • Degree of transfer of project results (including tested pilot solutions) to concerned stakeholders

⁹ IUCN definitions: http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/en_iucn_glossary_definitions.pdf

¹⁰ UNESCO: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/cairo/culture/tangible-cultural-heritage/>

Result indicator	Explanation	Main criteria
<p>3.3 Status of integrated environmental management capacities of the public sector and related entities in functional urban areas for making them more liveable places</p>	<p>This indicator measures the integrated environmental management capacities of the public sector and related entities in functional urban areas at a certain point in time. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>Integrated environmental management thereby means a comprehensive approach to natural resource planning and management that encompasses ecological, social, and economic objectives. It considers the interrelationships among different elements and incorporates concepts of carrying capacity, resilience and sustainability. In the urban context is also means tackling related issues together such as urban management and governance, integrated spatial planning, economic wellbeing and competitiveness, social inclusion, and environmental stewardship (European Commission, 2005: Integrated environmental management).</p> <p>A functional urban area is a functional economic unit characterised by densely inhabited “urban cores” and “hinterlands” whose labour market is highly integrated with the cores (OECD, 2012). This definition originating from labour market and commuting considerations provides a spatial delimitation beyond administrative borders which is relevant for a multitude of thematic fields.</p> <p>Capacities are to be understood as the enabling policy, legal and institutional environment including human resources development and the respective managerial systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of competences of the public sector and related entities for integrated management in order to avoid land use conflicts in functional urban areas • Degree of knowledge and implementation capacity of the public sector and related entities for the rehabilitation and reactivation of brownfields in functional urban areas • Degree of knowledge and implementation capacity of the public sector and related entities for integrated strategies to improve the environmental quality (air, water, waste, soil, climate) in functional urban areas • Degree of transfer of project results (including tested pilot solutions) to concerned stakeholders
<p>4.1 Status of coordinated planning capacities of the public sector and related entities for regional passenger transport systems linked to national and European transport networks</p>	<p>This indicator measures capacities of the public sector and related entities for coordinated planning of regional passenger transport systems linked to national and European transport networks. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>A regional passenger transport system can be defined as the combination of vehicles, infrastructure, and operations that enable the movements or satisfy the travel demand of people within a defined region.</p> <p>European transport networks are to be understood in the sense of the Trans-European transport network (TEN-T) consisting of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of expertise and implementation capacity for linking regional passenger transport systems to national and TEN-T networks • Degree of coordination of passenger transport actors within and between regions for improved regional transport services

Result indicator	Explanation	Main criteria
	<p>infrastructure for railways, inland waterways, roads, maritime and air transport, thereby ensuring the smooth functioning of the internal market and strengthening economic and social cohesion¹¹. The core network consists of the strategically most important parts and constitutes the backbone of the multi-modal mobility network. It concentrates on those components of TEN-T with the highest European added value: cross border missing links, key bottlenecks and multi-modal nodes.</p> <p>Coordination is the synchronization and integration of activities, responsibilities, and command and control structures to ensure that resources are used most efficiently in pursuit of the specified objectives.</p> <p>Capacities are to be understood as the enabling policy, legal and institutional environment including human resources development and the respective managerial systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of transfer of project results (including tested pilot solutions) to concerned stakeholders
<p>4.2 Status of coordination among freight transport stakeholders for increasing multimodal environment-friendly freight solutions</p>	<p>This indicator measures the coordination among freight transport stakeholders at a certain point in time. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>Multimodal (freight) transport is understood as the carriage of goods by at least two different modes of transport. Intermodal transport is therefore a particular type of multimodal transport (in accordance with the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT) definition). Thereby environmentally friendly freight transport solutions are those allowing a significant reduction of emissions of CO₂, NO_x and particulate matter as well as of noise.</p> <p>Coordination is the synchronization and integration of activities, responsibilities, and command and control structures to ensure that resources are used most efficiently in pursuit of the specified objectives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of coordination among freight transport stakeholders for the implementation of multimodal environmentally friendly freight transport systems • Degree of knowledge and implementation capacities for greening the last mile of freight transport • Degree of transfer of project results (including tested pilot solutions) to concerned stakeholders
<p>5.1 Satisfaction rate of beneficiaries on programme management</p>	<p>This indicator measures satisfaction of beneficiaries with the management of the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>Beneficiaries are public or private bodies that are responsible for either initiating or for initiating and implementing operations and that benefit from programme funds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of satisfaction on information and support provided by MA/JS on content and administrative topics concerning project implementation

¹¹ Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network COM(2011) 650 final/2

Result indicator	Explanation	Main criteria
	<p>Satisfaction is linked to programme (i.e. MA/JS/NCP) support of beneficiaries related to content and administrative issues of project implementation, effective programme communication with beneficiaries and relevant partners as well as reduced administrative burden and shortened timeframes for the reimbursement of beneficiaries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of satisfaction on information and support provided by NCP on project implementation • Degree of satisfaction with awareness raised through transnational communication actions among relevant partners on project achievements
<p>5.2.1 Status of capacities of applicants to participate in the programme</p>	<p>This indicator measures capacity of applicants to participate in the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>Applicants are public or private bodies that apply for funding in response to calls for proposals launched by the programme.</p> <p>Capacities of applicants are to be understood as awareness and knowledge about CENTRAL EUROPE funding opportunities.</p> <p>Participation of applicants is to be understood as their involvement in developing a project idea in cooperation with other applicants and submitting a high quality application in response to a call for proposals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of awareness of relevant partners (including potential applicants) about CENTRAL EUROPE funding opportunities following support offered by the programme (MA/JS/NCP) • Degree of knowledge of lead applicants about application procedures following support offered by the programme
<p>5.2.2 Status of capacities of beneficiaries to participate in the programme</p>	<p>This indicator measures capacity of beneficiaries to participate in the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme. The territory of reference is the whole CENTRAL EUROPE programme area as defined in Annex 03.</p> <p>Beneficiaries are public or private bodies that are responsible for either initiating or for initiating and implementing operations and that benefit from programme funds.</p> <p>Capacities of beneficiaries are to be understood as competences and skills for setting up and timely implementing actions, linked to their knowledge about rules relevant for project implementation (e.g. eligibility rules). Management capacities of lead beneficiaries are crucial for the success of an ETC operation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of knowledge of beneficiaries about CENTRAL EUROPE implementation and reporting requirements following support offered by the programme (MA/JS as well as NCP)