Growing together creating synergies from 14-20 to 21-27

University of Zadar

17 - 18 October 2023

Evaluation results on Italy-Croatia territories

Italy-Croatia evaluation 2014-2020| Lattanzio KIBS - IRIS |

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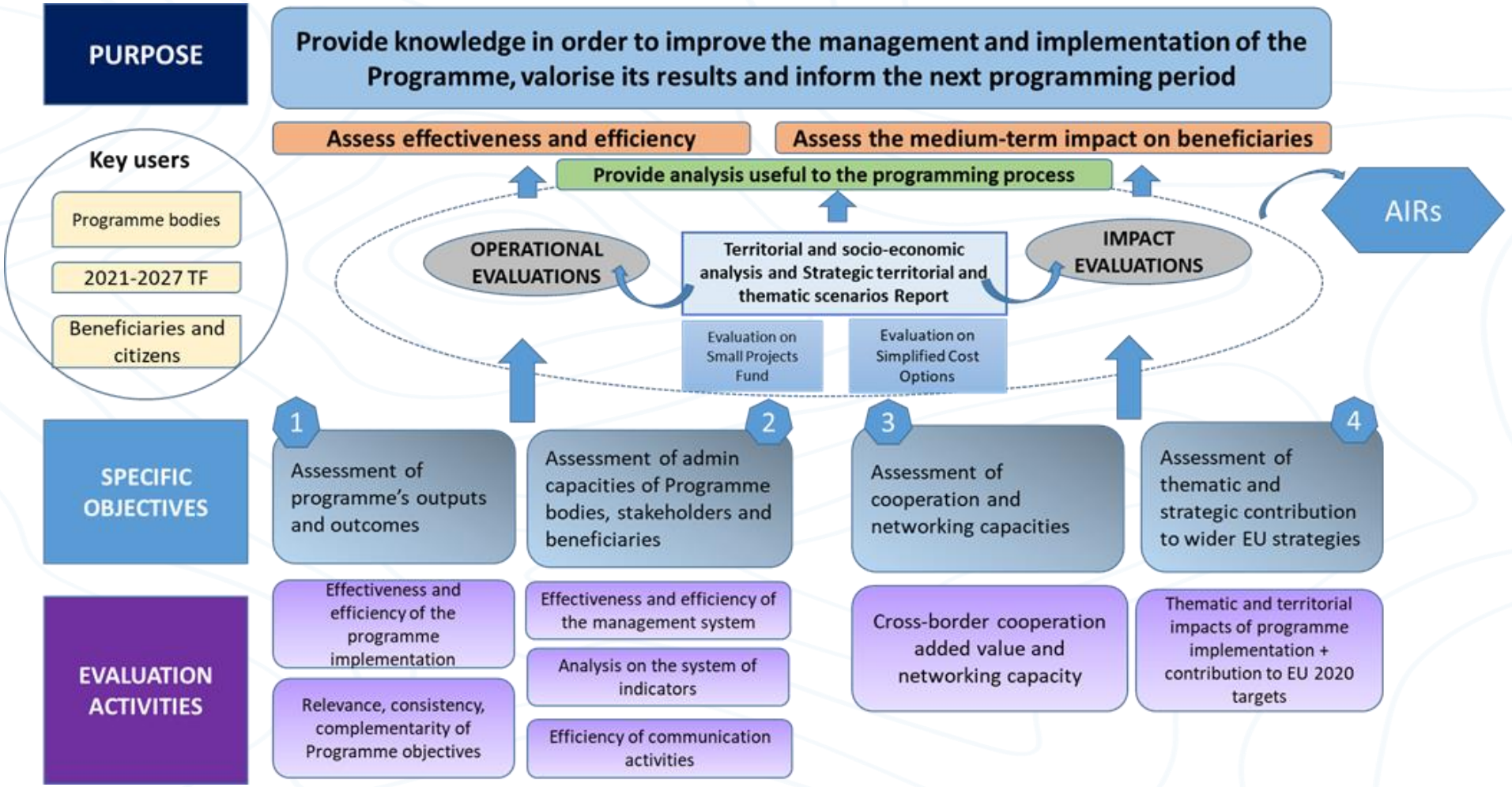
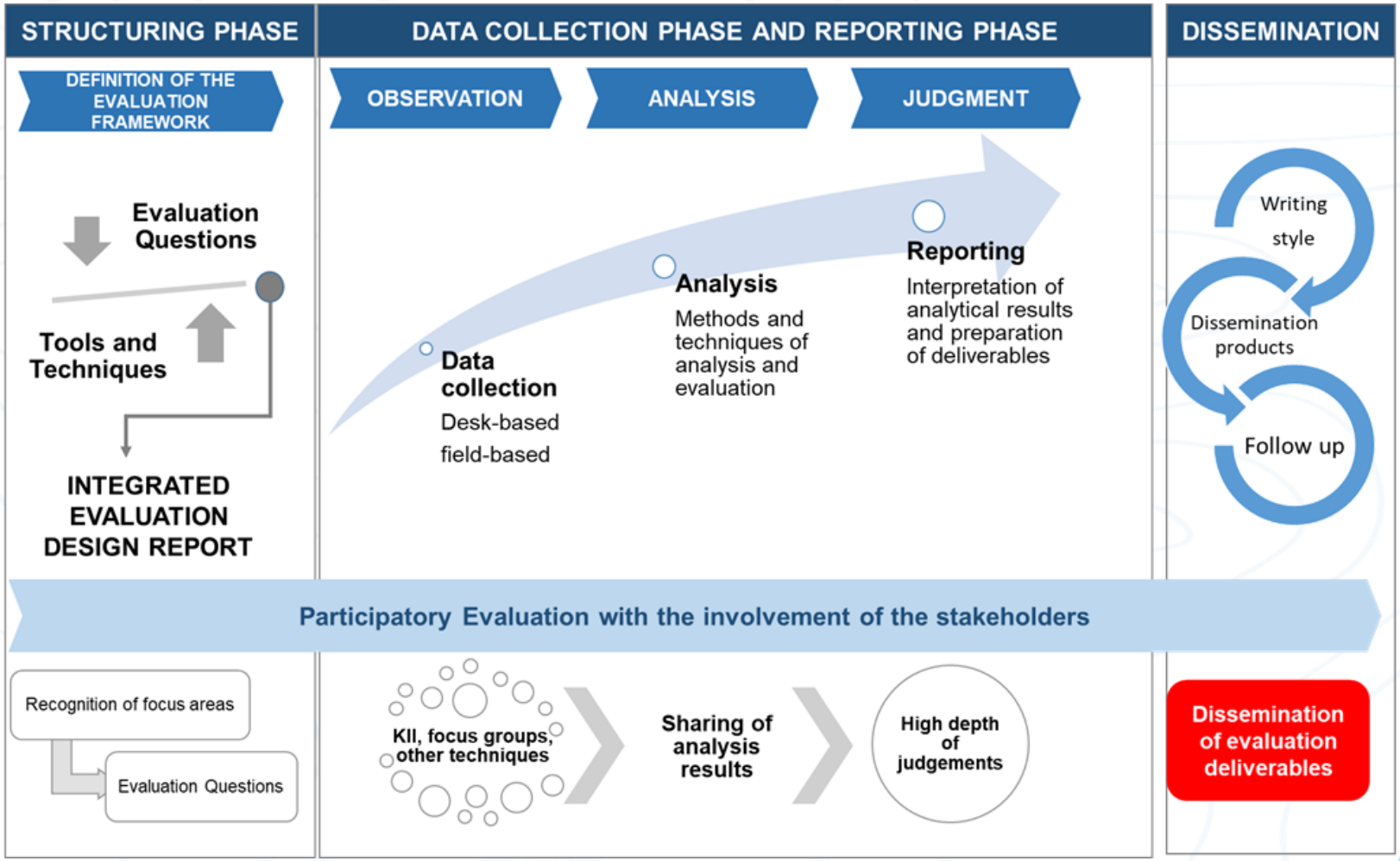
MAIN CONTENTS

1. Evaluation framework, methodology and outputs
2. Territorial and economic analysis
3. Operational Evaluation
4. Impact Evaluation

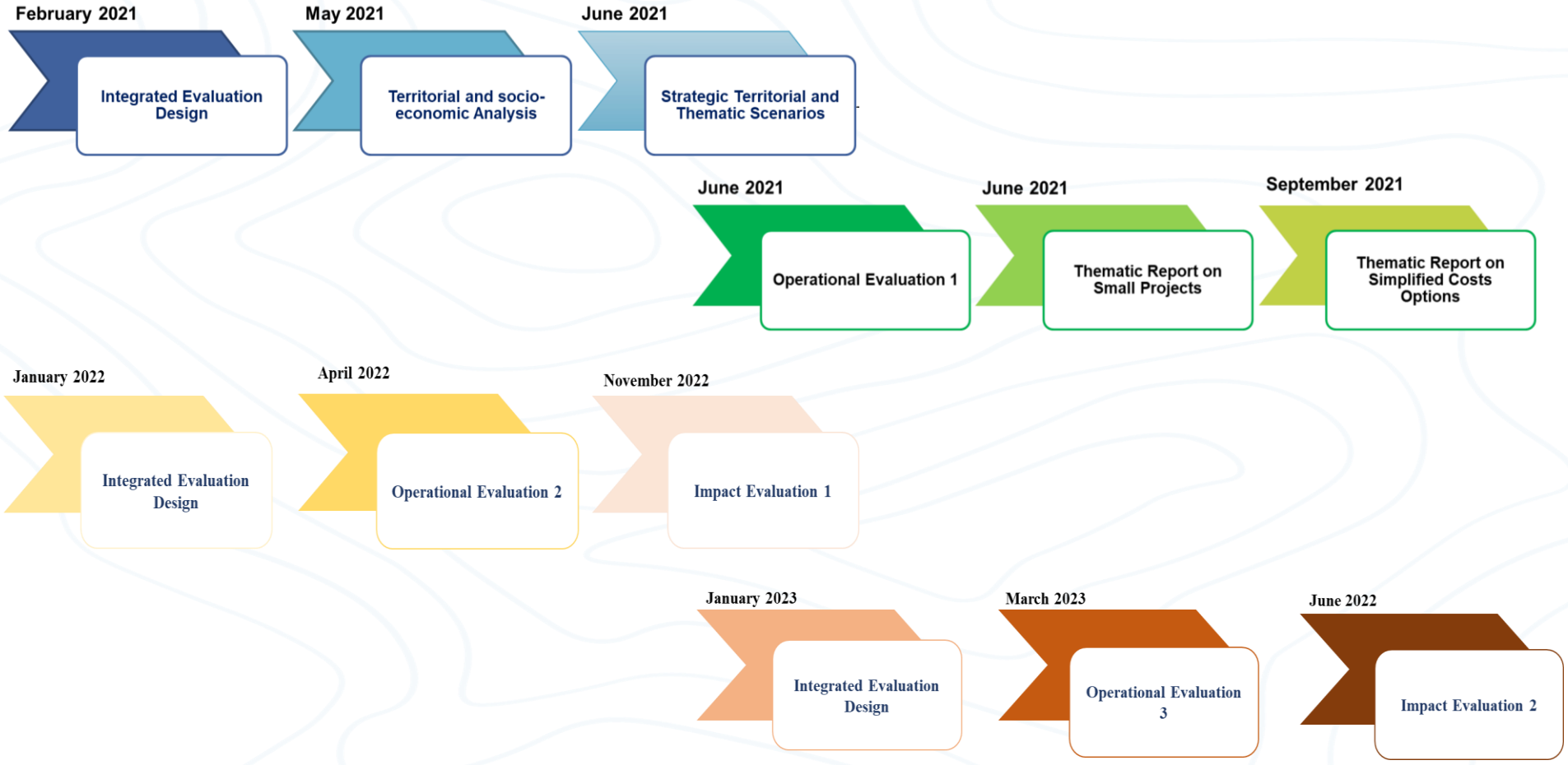
Evaluation framework



EVALUATION METHODOLOGY (EQs and phases)



EVALUATION MAIN OUTPUTS



TERRITORIAL ANALYSIS

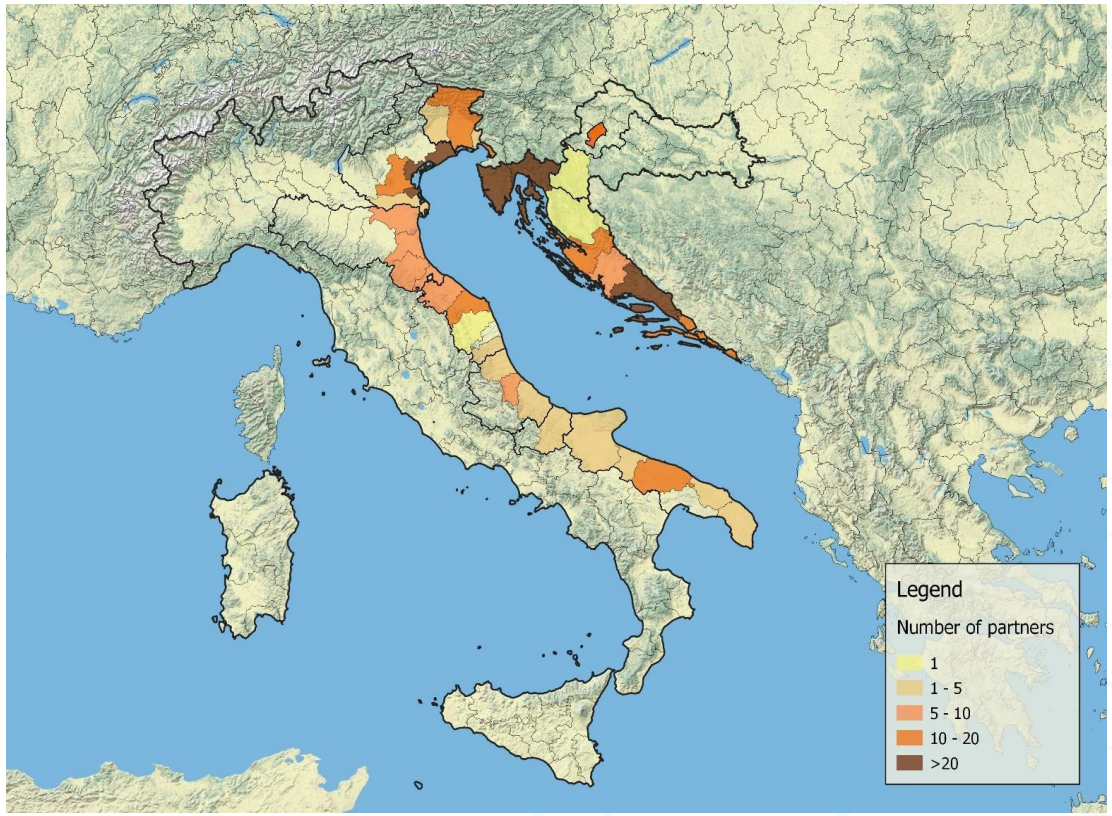
- Main challenges for the development of the cross-border area, as resulting from the sectorial analysis.
- The evolution of the process for the drafting of the 2021-2027 Interreg A Italy-Croatia Programme has been built on the Evaluation's matrix in order to get the definition of possible development scenarios, based on alternative combinations of the challenges listed.

Challenges		Reference to POs/SOs		Reference to the SWOT analysis			
				Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
n	Description	PO	SO	Builds on..	Fights against..	Takes advantage of..	Prevents..
1	Building on the strong research capacities to activate dynamics of technological transfer especially for the sectors of the Blue Economy, through a stronger dialogue of the quadruple helix actors and attracting the available private and public financial resource for R&D.	1	1.1	xx	xx	xx	

OPERATIONAL EVALUATION 1/5

Cross-border cooperation added value and networking

Territorial distribution of closed projects' project partners (NUTS3)

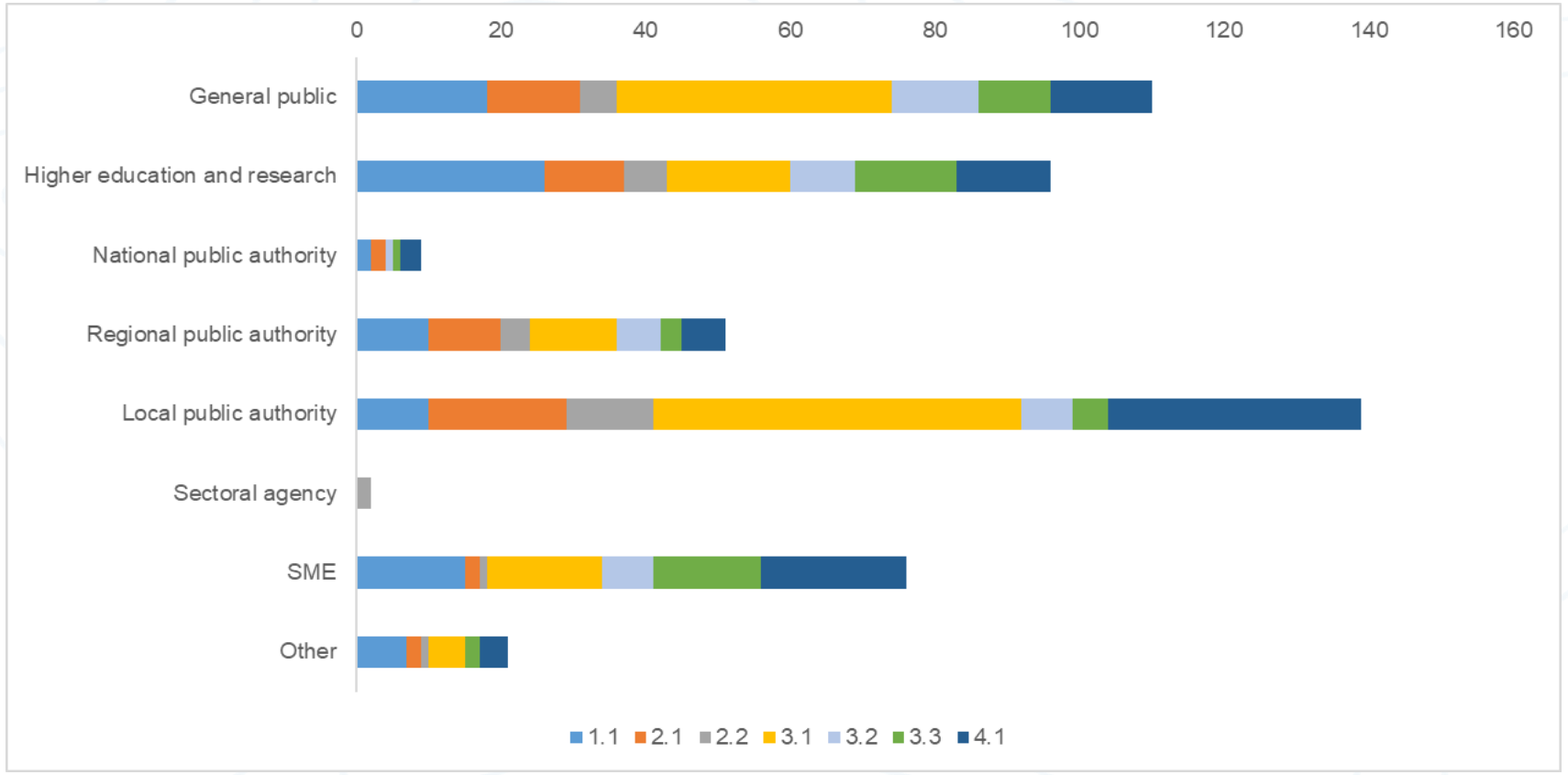


- Croatia has the highest concentration of partners in absolute terms.
- Southern Italy has the lowest number of subjects/partners.
- Public bodies represent the majority of the participants (61 out of 288 are private bodies, coming mainly from Italy).
- Out of 288 partners, 33% joined more than one project (a total of 95 subjects/partners).

OPERATIONAL EVALUATION 2/5

Cross-border cooperation added value and networking

Distribution of partners per SOs and legal form type



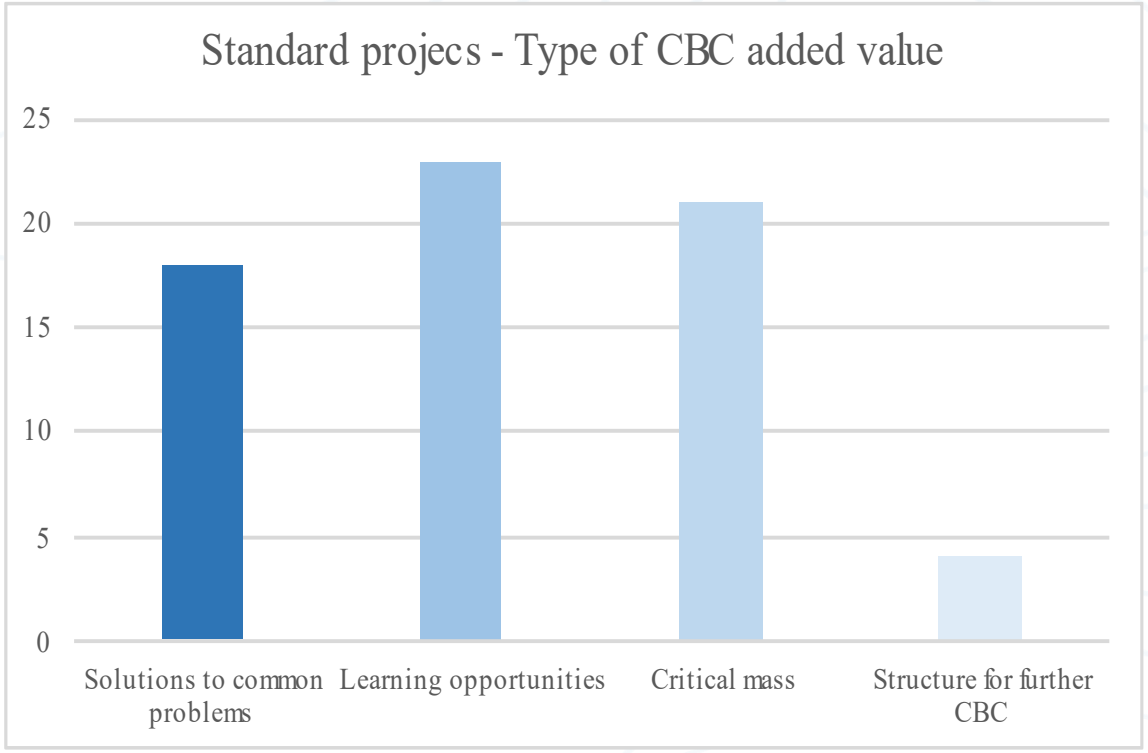
OPERATIONAL EVALUATION 3/5

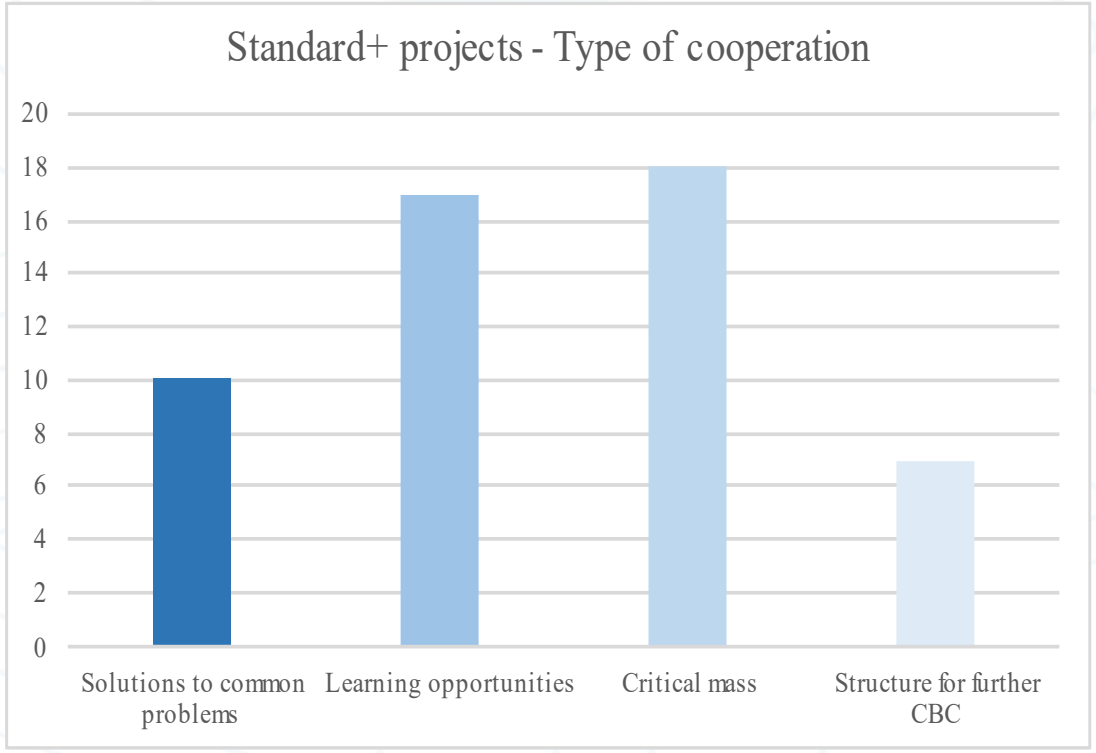
Distribution of partners per SOs and legal form type

- **High presence of private partners (SME)** for the SO 1.1, 3.3 and 4.1 (environmentally friendly technology and transport service attractor of private partners and multi-actors' partnerships).
- **High presence of regional public authorities** - key subject of partnerships considering the importance of involving the institutional level for the development of CBC joint actions.
- **Coherence with the intervention logic** of Italy Croatia Programme (active **involvement of key target groups**).

OPERATIONAL EVALUATION 4/5

Four main types of added value of cross-border cooperation





OPERATIONAL EVALUATION 5/5

Four main types of added value of cross-border cooperation

- **All four types of CBC added value** have been covered with a certain balance among the types.
- **Learning opportunities** and **generating the critical mass** seem to be the most popular types of CBC added value.
- More than one project has implemented **CBC steering committee** or **management board**. This is of outermost importance for CBC project and to manage the partnership in a valuable way.
- **The involvement of stakeholders and local actors** is a valid tool to ensure the CBC added value with reference to capability of influencing policies.
- **Best practices exchange, study visits and IT platforms** are detected as the “CBC added value tools”.

IMPACT EVALUATION (S.O. 1.1) 1/10

Contribution to enhancing the framework conditions for innovation in the relevant sectors of the blue economy within the cooperation area

The presence of **research institutions** within the partnerships has fostered the **dissemination of innovative techniques and practices also through a series of training activities**. The training activities reached almost 2,000 people.

According to the beneficiaries. the **main enabling factors** of the innovation processes were the **activities focused on the development of human capital** and in particular in the **promotion of specialised skills** in the new technologies.

The number of companies that participated in the projects is quite significant and amounts to 966 companies. The prevalent support concerns the **specific knowledge and relationships that have been created in the field of training, research and development and in market relations.**

IMPACT EVALUATION (S.O. 2.1) 2/10

Contribution to improving the climate change monitoring and planning of adaptation measures

The main achievements under S.O. 2. 1 were the **monitoring systems** related to the interventions aimed at **improving territories' adaptive capacity to climate change**; the **local action plans** aimed at **preventing or minimising the negative effects of climate change.**

The **main spillover effect of participation** in project activities indicated by partners is the **increase of the specific knowledge possessed by their organization**, resulting also in the **expansion of their networks**.

The majority of the beneficiaries agreed that the **actions focused on strategic and local planning support tools** had the **greatest impact** in terms of **strengthening the capacity to govern and manage policies aimed at coping with the effects of climate change** in the cooperation area.

IMPACT EVALUATION (S.O. 2.2) 3/10

Contribution to increase the safety of the Programme area from natural and man-made disaster

The survey results show that the project partners believe that the **most effective activity** in relation to the Program's contribution to **improving the framework conditions for increasing safety from natural and man-made disasters** was achieved in relation to **cooperation in actions related to the analysis and testing of common risk management tools and models related to flood-related risks, water management, and prevention techniques related to this type of risk**.

IMPACT EVALUATION (S.O. 3.1) 4/10

Contribution to make natural and cultural heritage a leverage for sustainable and more balanced territorial development

The Program intervention has been oriented mainly in the coastal and rural areas, with less emphasis on the heritage concentrated in urban areas. This finding is consistent with the programming, and it finds a clear relationship with the goal of **reducing the seasonality of tourist flows** by enhancing heritage that can be the subject of sustainable forms of tourism.

IMPACT EVALUATION (S.O. 3.2) 5/10

Contribution to protecting and restoring the biodiversity

Monitoring and data collection systems directed toward the protection of biodiversity are powered by systematic ecosystem observations and biodiversity data collection activities that aim to measure qualitative and quantitative changes in the variety and variability of living organisms and, consequently, to **support concrete measures for their conservation and/or protection.**

The implementation of **integrated natural resource management systems for wetlands and marine areas** requires a particularly **time-consuming** process which led in some cases to the realization of **"Wetland Contracts"** supporting the **coordination** between different levels of spatial planning and authorities in charge for wetlands management, **limiting conflicts between preservation issues and economic activities**.

IMPACT EVALUATION (S.O. 3.3) 6/10

Contribution to improve the environmental quality conditions of the sea and coastal area by use of sustainable and innovative technologies

The kind of **tangible impact** which has been promoted in this area concerns the **reduction of environmental impacts of the urban settings and infrastructures**. Projects have analysed **alternative technologies to reduce microbial contamination from sewage treatment plants** in order to improve the quality of bathing waters.

Furthermore, the increase of the **specific knowledge provided by the partners organization** is considered an **important result of the networks created** in order to implement the projects.

IMPACT EVALUATION (S.O. 4.1) 7/10

Contribution to improve the quality, safety and sustainability of marine and coastal transport services by promoting multimodality

The action which has been judged as the **most effective** concerns the **promotion of approaches based on the development of new kinds of passenger services,** i.e., e-mobility, soft mobility. Immediately after is the **improvement of multimodal (rail, road, sea) transport systems through innovative solutions i**ncluding the promotion of pilot rail services in connection with ports.

Other tangible impacts emerge from **organizational innovations** and **small infrastructures realized in pilot projects**, e.g., the provision of fixed bike trailers improved the accessibility to the bus connections for the bikers; wheeling rumps installed railway stations.

IMPACT EVALUATION 8/10

Target value and target reached for type of call

- **Cluster projects have not been monitored yet** because of their level of physical and financial progress.
- All other types of call have achieved **great results and exceeded expectations**.
- The **delta** between target value and target reached is **always positive**.

- Standard projects have cumulatively reached 35% more than what expected,
- Standard+ 94% more,
- Strategic 431% more.

Call	Target value	Target reached	Δ
Standard	30.111.380	40.788.268	10.676.888
Standard+	8.383.642	16.265.750	7.882.108
Strategic	1.797.179	9.535.097	7.737.918
Cluster	1.227.268		-1.227.268
Total	**41.519.469**	**66.589.115**	**25.069.646**

IMPACT EVALUATION 9/10

Analysis of intangible impacts: standard projects' quantitative information 1/2

Raising awareness	• People reached: 177.315 • Stakeholders involved, etc.: 1.493
Building Institutional Capacity	• Stakeholders, policymakers etc. reached: 125
Influencing policies	• Master Plan and local action plans: 18 • Municipalities and project partners involved: 16
Changing attitudes and behavior	• People trained/educated: 522

IMPACT EVALUATION 10/10

Analysis of intangible impacts: key examples from standard projects 2/2

Raising Awareness

- Effective and innovative solutions and techniques (e.g. more sustainable)
- High level scientific and dissemination events (also at schools)
- Marketing campaigns, socio-economic surveys, partner and stakeholder meetings, study visits

Leveraging synergies

- Synergies between projects
- Institutional synergies (e.g. municipalities and other local administrations)

Building Institutional Capacity

- Involvement of Ministries, Regional governments and local administrators and policy-makers
- Training sessions, capacity building meetings/events and best practice analysis
- New protocols
- New centres/observatories/hubs

Influencing policies

- Policy recommendation reports, public consultations, memorandum of understanding, etc.
- Draft sector regulatory framework's documents and proposals (also at EU level)
- Action plans and strategies aiming at influencing policy

THE SENTENCE OF THE DAY

Evaluating cooperation is already cooperating

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