

## ANNEX 1 : CITIZEN'S SUMMARY (Article 50(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

The Cooperation Programme between Italy and Slovenia supports the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The total Programme budget is EUR 92.588.181,00, with EUR 77.929.954,00 from the European Regional Development Fund and EUR 14.658.227,00 as National counterpart (public and private).

The INTERREG V-A Italy-Slovenia Programme intends to implement smart solutions answering to territorial challenges in the fields of innovation, low carbon economy, environment, natural and cultural resources, and institutional capacity building.

The overall objective of the INTERREG V-A Italy-Slovenia Programme is:

***“Promote innovation, sustainability and cross border governance to create a more competitive, cohesive and liveable area”.***

The main effort of the Programme in 2017 was the assessment process for the first calls for **standard project** proposals (4 Calls published in June 2016). Out of the 160 overall applied proposals and 149 eligible, 27 were approved for funding involving 156 total partners (159 partners including those of the two ITI projects and Technical Assistance):

Priority Axis	Investment priority	Received project proposals	Approved projects for funding	Contracted ERDF amount
1 - Promoting innovation capacities for a more competitive area	1b	62	8	8.892.232,30 EUR
2 - Cooperating for low carbon strategies	4e	13	5	5.689.493,00 EUR
3 - Protecting and promoting natural and cultural resources	6c	43	3	7.367.838,80 EUR
	6d	10	2	
	6f	10	2	
4 - Enhancing building and cross border governance	11ETC	22	7	6.185.193,70 EUR

In 2017 the Programme partners were also involved in the activities related to the **strategic projects** procedure which brought to the identification of the ten strategic themes and succeeded in launching the 11th Written procedure on the 22nd December 2017 for the approval of the Call No 05/2017 for strategic projects and its Application Package.

In order to implement the Programme's provisions related to the **Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI)** approach, the main steps undertaken in 2017 were the signature of subsidy contracts in May 2017 and the submission to FLC of the first report of expenditures for both ITI projects SALUTE-ZDRASTVO and ISONZO-SOČA in September 2017.

Most **communication activities** in 2017 focused on training of beneficiaries for standard projects contracting: events, face-to-face meetings and training sessions for external assessors.

With regard to the **designation procedure** and the preparation of the report required under Article 124 Reg. (EU) No.1303/2013 and Article 21 Reg. (EU) No.1299/2013, the final version of the Management and Control System Description was sent to the Audit Authority and the Designation procedure was completed with the notification to the European Commission on December 29<sup>th</sup>.

In 2017 the Programme joined the AEBR **“Interreg Volunteer Youth”** (IVY) initiative which offers the possibility to young EU citizens aged 18-30 to serve as volunteers in cross-border, transnational or interregional programmes and related projects. The Programme has hosted three volunteers: two from Slovenia (from December 2017 to February 2018) and one from Italy (from December 2017 to June 2018).