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1. Joint programme strategy: main development challenges and policy responses

1.1. Programme area (not required for Interreg D programmes)

Reference: point (a) of Article 17(3), point (a) of Article 17(9)

The Interreg Amazonia Cooperation Programme for 2021-2027 covers a cooperation area including the Guiana Shield and includes the following States and territories:

- French Guiana, a French outermost region
- The country of Suriname
- The country of Guyana
- The three federal states of Northern Brazil: Amapa, Para and Amazonas.

In continuity with the previous programme, the partners wish to maintain the same cooperation area for the 2021-2027 programme.

1.2 Joint programme strategy: Summary of main joint challenges, taking into account economic, social and territorial disparities as well as inequalities, joint investment needs and complementarity and synergies with other funding programmes and instruments, lessons-learned from past experience and macro-regional strategies and sea-basin strategies where the programme area as a whole or partially is covered by one or more strategies.

Reference: point (b) of Article 17(3), point (b) of Article 17(9)

The 2021-2027 Interreg Amazonia Cooperation Programme (PCIA) is part of the “European territorial cooperation” objective, which is financed by the European regional development fund and external financing instruments. As such, it complies with the horizontal principles of European funds (non-discrimination, gender equality and sustainable development) and will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives for the 2021-2027 programming period, which are as follows:

- A smarter Europe – for an innovative and smarter economic transformation
- A greener Europe with low carbon emissions
- A more connected Europe - mobility and regional ICT connectivity
- A more social Europe – delivering on the European Pillar of Social Rights
- A Europe closer to its citizens – the sustainable and integrated development of urban, rural and coastal areas and local initiatives.

In addition, as a strand 4 cooperation programme, the PCIA more specifically supports cooperation between French Guiana, an outermost region (OR) with third countries and neighbouring partner countries, with a view to facilitating the former’s integration in the region. The Programme is also a tool for delivering the European Commission’s ambitions for French Guiana, which, in its most recent communication on 24 October 2017(1) entitled ‘*A stronger and renewed strategic partnership with the EU’s outermost regions*’, proposed a new approach to creating opportunities and to better meeting the particular needs of each of the nine outermost regions, notably by strengthening cooperation between the ORs and their regional neighbours.

In addition, and in order to support the Atlantic Maritime Strategy, some of the Programme's objectives will contribute to the following ambitions:

- Reducing GHGs and developing renewable energies by supporting research and investment in marine renewable energies.
- Tackling marine pollution by supporting green maritime transport and coordinating action to reduce marine pollution.
- Creating jobs by addressing the skills gap in the blue economy sector and by supporting cooperation between European education and training centres and business/industry.
- Adapting to climate change and enhancing coastal observation and protection.

1.2.1 The Guiana Shield: a pluralistic cooperation area

While the cooperation area is characterised by **considerable natural and geographic uniformity, it is fragmented both politically and in terms of institutions**. It is in fact home to three different political systems with different competences and mandates, which the Programme must take into account.

·French Guiana is a French overseas region, an outermost region of Europe. It was granted the status of single territorial collectivity¹ in 2015.

·Suriname and Guyana are both independent countries. Suriname is a former Dutch colony, gaining independence in 1975. Guyana is a former British colony. It gained independence in 1966 and is a member of the British Commonwealth.

·Amapa, Amazonas, and Para are three Federal States of Brazil. As such, they enjoy only very limited autonomy. The extent of their integration into their cross-border regions with other countries remains the prerogative of the Federal Brazilian State.

The cooperation area therefore includes a variety of countries and territories with a variety of official languages: French, Dutch, Portuguese, and English, as well as a variety of legal systems. French Guiana, for example, is subject to European laws, which are far stricter than those in force in its neighboring countries.

However, the cooperation area's political borders do not coincide with its ethnocultural realities. In each of the area's territories, there is wide ethnic, linguistic, religious, and cultural diversity and particular communities are sometimes common to different countries and territories. In addition to the official languages, there are also a number of indigenous languages. This cultural mosaic stems from the diversity of the indigenous peoples and the history of the territory, which has seen numerous migrations. The population of the cooperation area is made up of more than 30 different ethnic and cultural groups, to which must also be added more recent migrants.

With their wealth of cultures and languages, their shared histories, but also their different levels of economic development, the residents of the cooperation area are highly mobile, and there is significant cross-border commuting in some border areas.

1.2.2 The strategy of the Interreg Amazonia cooperation programme 2021-2027

The PCIA strategy draws on the territorial needs analysis work carried out to follow up on the 2014-2020 programming and was established in close liaison with all the programme partners. This work studied the cooperation area's shared needs, the lessons learnt and the opportunities identified for cooperation projects (operations) eligible under the ERDF-ETC regulations. It should be pointed out that the existence of shared challenges and needs does not always mean that regional cooperation is the best way to address them. This is why the programme should be seen as complementary to other existing plans and programmes and why its strategy aims to maximise the added value of cooperation as a means of responding to shared problems at regional or cross-border level.

Thus, the PCIA strategy for 2021-2027 is structured around 4 priorities, as follows:

¹ Single tier local government authority

·Priority 1: Towards smart economic development and enhanced cooperation in science in the Guiana Shield

This priority comprises two ‘transversal’ specific objectives in order to have maximum flexibility in the deployment of funding. As for the 2014-2020 programme, which funded projects on research cooperation, support for specific economic development activities and regional economic integration, the programme partners do not wish to limit the scope of intervention and will pursue sectoral priorities while also supporting a transversal approach. This implies that in order to ensure the internal coherence of the Programme’s intervention logic, operations to carry out studies under this Priority which support the programme’s other priorities will be prioritised.

·Priority 2: Towards a greener, better preserved and less polluted Guiana Shield

In line with the ambitions of the Green Deal and with the European Commission’s recommendations on the need to concentrate the intervention effort on this strategic objective, and in order to maximise the opportunities for joint PCIA – NDICI projects, this priority will support cooperation in four specific and complementary sectors.

·Priority 3: Develop cooperation to facilitate mobility for education & vocational training, strengthen health care systems and improve social inclusion across the Guiana Shield

This priority builds on the achievements and results of the 2014-2020 programme in the areas of health and social inclusion. It aims to respond to the fundamental challenges facing the cooperation area in these fields, highlighted by the Covid 19 crisis. It also opens the programme's scope of intervention to the fields of education and training, which, as transversal priorities, will support the endogenous development of the cooperation area's territories.

·Priority 4: Strengthen the capacities of the formal institutional stakeholders involved in regional cooperation and facilitate the mobilisation of complementary funding with a view to improving programme governance (ISO1).

This priority deploys an Interreg specific objective in order to strengthen the mutual knowledge of cooperation stakeholders from across the Guiana Shield, thereby encouraging the implementation of strategically useful operations which develop synergies between stakeholders and cooperation opportunities between the partner territories.

In the preparatory work for the 2021-2027 programme, the partnership chose not to incorporate priorities based specifically on the following objectives:

·OP3: Mobility challenges are addressed in the PCIA strategy but are included under other objectives (especially PO1, PO4 & ISO1). Although the European Commission did recommend including this specific objective, the Programme stakeholders believe that mobility is a transversal theme for the forthcoming Programme and that in the absence of an identified strategic ‘infrastructure’ project at this stage (as was the case under the 2014-2020 Programme at this stage with the ferry project), the prospects for programming should be viewed realistically.

ISO2: The reasons for eliminating ISO2 from the Programme are political and diplomatic in nature. With a view to ensuring stronger cooperation between the partners and fostering non-conflictual working relationships within the programme’s implementing bodies, it was deemed appropriate to not include this topic because even though border security is a challenge, it is too politically sensitive across the partnership.

1.2.2.1 A ‘smarter’ cooperation area

In support of the EU’s ‘smarter’ Europe objective, the strategy for the cooperation area’ is to pursue the efforts begun under previous programmes. In the area of economic development, R&D and

innovation, **the PCIA has previously enabled cooperation** in areas such as [1]:

- Tests, trials and feasibility studies on the economic exploitation of non-woody plants;
- Increasing knowledge of ecosystem services on the scale of the Guiana Shield region;
- Prospective analysis on improving the conditions for freight transport and optimising sea-river transport services around the Guiana Shield.

Furthermore, important advances in transport and connectivity must be considered to properly appreciate the impact of the Programme's intervention in terms of strengthening the conditions for the development of business & trade at the scale of the cooperation area. In this respect, the 2014-2020 programme in particular enabled:

- The completion of the emblematic Maroni ferry project (purchase of a ferry to transport goods and passengers across the Maroni between Saint Laurent du Maroni in French Guiana and Albina in Suriname including riverbank works & infrastructures; the new ferry should be operational in 2022).
- The carrying out of strategic feasibility studies for the cooperation area (e.g., study carried out by the Grand Port of French Guiana for the opening of a cabotage route between Guyana and Brazil).

In the fields of RDI and enhancing business competitiveness (above all SMEs, which constitute the majority of entrepreneurial companies in the cooperation area), the cooperation area possesses **numerous strengths and opportunities**, not least its geographic uniformity, which means that it is possible to envisage collaboration on improving knowledge of the environment and on studying the prospects for the sustainable economic use of the region's abundant natural resources. Research communities are already working on plans for partnerships on the scale of the Guiana Shield and are seeking to coordinate their cooperation strategies with a view to mutually supporting each other's work.

However, there remain significant **challenges in the cooperation area** and integration at the regional level faces the barrier of diversity in terms of languages, cultures, and standards, and there is also the practical difficulty of traveling around the area. Despite past and current initiatives, much remains to be done to make the cooperation area more economically attractive. This must include creating a regional research area and improving innovation ecosystems in order to facilitate technology transfer and boost the competitiveness of the area's economic and industrial fabric. The issue of transport partly determines the possibilities for better economic integration of the territories in the cooperation area: the lack of connectivity limits exchanges of people, goods and services. Sectors such as trade and tourism are directly dependent on this. Finally, there are strong needs in terms of strengthening the mutual knowledge of economic stakeholders and in terms of developing synergies in the policy support available to SMEs.

Action to support companies to pool their research and innovation activities is being carried out by the Government of Guyana. The main objective is to increase productivity through new processes and the adaptation of standards. For the Government of Guyana, this action is particularly important due to the low rate of investment in R&D by Guyanese SMEs. Furthermore, possible cooperation actions have been identified in the field of financial support for SMEs and SMIs through innovative instruments. Synergies can be envisaged with the projects of the IADB², which has made this area a priority in its country strategy.

In light of the above and in line with the strategies of the programme's partners, the programme strategy

² Inter-American Development Bank.

for a ‘smarter’ cooperation area will pursue the following objectives:

- **Integrating RDI³ on the regional scale to develop an outstanding research capability in the region, as well as enhancing the cooperation area’s economic attractiveness internationally**
- **Improving mutual knowledge and understanding between economic stakeholders in order to strengthen economic integration in the region and enable the economic diversification of its territories**
- **Improving and strengthening the business support ecosystem to help companies to innovate, become more competitive, and take up and use digital technologies, thereby enabling the emergence of new communication media and more secure digital business communications and database management**
- **Increasing economic integration across the Guiana Shield through improved transport and interconnection opportunities**
- **Strengthening the mobility of goods and services in the cooperation area**
- **Generating sustainable economic benefits from the area’s natural resources with a view to supporting the sustainable and endogenous development of the cooperation area.**

1.2.2.2 A ‘greener, low-carbon emissions cooperation area’

In support of the EU’s **priorities under its ‘greener and low-carbon’ Europe objective and the aims of the EU’s ‘Green Deal’**, the strategy for the cooperation area is to pursue the efforts begun under previous programmes. In the area of protecting and generating benefits from the Guiana Shield’s natural heritage, **cooperation supported by the PCIA** has to date enabled cooperation projects to carry out, in particular:

- Operations to coordinate cooperation on the theme of protecting biodiversity and furthering understanding of biodiversity in the Guiana Shield.
- Studies, tests and trials with a view to developing methods/techniques for generating economic benefits from natural resources.
- Preliminary work for a Guiana Shield biodiversity observatory in the Guiana Shield.

Moreover, as part of the effort to develop renewable energies, the PCIA has co-financed a project which undertook trials to generate energy from biomass.

The region possesses **numerous strengths and opportunities** in these areas: it is endowed with exceptionally rich biodiversity and its natural environment is generally well-preserved. It possesses diverse natural resources, which can generate benefits sustainably, and regional cooperation can be built around a network of committed formal ‘institutional’ stakeholders, including public or private, academic and not-for-profit organisations.

With a favourable political context and the readiness of business and industry a renewed policy effort in the fields of the energy transition, waste management and developing a circular economy can be envisaged. And with the recovery of certain types of waste and the coordination of certain *filières*⁴ already in place, an impetus already exists and can be built on. More generally, electricity production is today

³ Réseau recherche, développement et Innovation (RDI). Research, development and innovation. Also refers in general terms to these fields of activity.

⁴ *Filière* = an industry along with its supply chain.

more based on renewable sources and there is an abundance of exploitable natural resources.

Nonetheless, **the cooperation area still faces major challenges** in these areas and the needs of the territories remain considerable.

Regarding protecting biodiversity, current efforts to ensure resources are used sustainably should be pursued to limit any negative impacts on the environment as a whole to a strict minimum. Natural areas are exposed to numerous anthropogenic stressors, which could intensify in the absence of a long-term stress reduction plan. The countries and territories of the cooperation area share the same goal of sound stewardship of their natural resources and the pursuit of sustainable development policies in the Guiana Shield region

At the state level, actions are identified in Guyana's 'Green State Development Plan 2040', a strategic document that also calls for cooperation with neighbours on various issues related to the Programme's goals for a greener lower-carbon cooperation area. For example, Guyana plans to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2040 in line with its commitments under the Paris Agreement. The country also has a proven track record in bringing electrical power to remote areas which can serve as a basis for experience sharing among PCIA stakeholders. Guyana's good practices should thus enable fruitful exchange between the different territories in the cooperation area

In addition, **the work undertaken to update the strategic territorial needs analysis** revealed a need to tackle shared challenges that had not been specifically targeted by the 2014-2020 PCIA intervention strategy. This concerns in particular:

- adapting to climate change in the light of the major natural disasters that affected the Amazon Forest in 2020, for example, but also specific issues relating to coastline retreat, drought or the risk of mudslides;
- developing renewable energies, with particular challenges facing isolated/remote sites;
- developing the circular economy, particularly in relation to the recovery and reuse of waste.

In light of the above and in line with the strategies of the Programme's partners, the programme strategy for a 'greener low-carbon emissions' cooperation area will therefore pursue the following objectives:

- Supporting the development and adaptation of production and distribution processes for energy from renewable sources, underpinned by sharing know-how and joint tests and trials**
- Generating knowledge and increasing cooperation on the theme of adapting to climate change in the Guiana Shield**
- Increasing cooperation on waste recovery and reuse and developing a circular economy**
- Protecting and generating benefits from the Guiana Shield's natural endowments and biodiversity**
- Reducing pollution and the adverse impacts of human activities on natural ecosystems**
- Preserving the natural resources of the cooperation area to ensure its sustainable and endogenous development.**

1.2.2.3 *A "more social" cooperation area*

In support of the EU's priorities under its 'more social' Europe objective, the strategy for the cooperation area is to pursue the efforts begun under previous programmes. In the area of health and social inclusion, **cooperation supported by the PCIA** has had positive results and some significant achievements, including:

- Promising advances in the fight against the vector-borne diseases affecting the cooperation area, with

projects that have eliminated pockets of malaria and reduced the transmission of vector-borne diseases;

·The introduction of integrated medical care for patients living with HIV in the Oyapock basin, care which had previously been lacking.

At the same time, it should be noted here that issues related to regional cooperation on the theme of education & training – while taken into account as a transversal goal in the previous programme – seem to have suffered from a lack of visibility among the stakeholders in the cooperation area. Nonetheless, the prospects for cooperation in these thematic areas are excellent across a wide range of topics

In these thematic areas the cooperation area possesses numerous **strengths and opportunities**:

·There has been an overall improvement in access to health care as well as marked improvements in the training and skill levels of health care workers in the cooperation area

·Cooperation in the health sector can rely on a network of formal public and private institutional and non-profit stakeholders, who know each other well and work together effectively

·Cooperation in science is already relatively well-established in the health sector, as well as in other fields related to education, training and cooperation in the field of social inclusion policy action

·Mechanisms to ensure the exchange of information on the local cross-border scale as well as cross-border care provision for the local populations in these areas are also already operating.

However, health and social policy remains a **challenging theme for the cooperation area**, not least due to the presence of diseases that are common to the different territories, and the reality of highly mobile ‘cross-border’ patients. The cooperation area suffers from an acute lack of health care provision and its poorly connected or remote communities have more limited access to care. Needs continue to be acute in relation to preventing infectious diseases (especially malaria, HIV, and dengue fever) and in relation to the creation of health care pathways adapted to the cooperation area’s needs. Other important needs which stand out include the impact of gold mining on the health of local communities, which occurs via contamination of water supplies and also the difficulty of reaching remote mining sites to provide care. Lastly, there are chronic diseases such as diabetes or asthma, which are common to the different territories and which merit consideration.

The cooperation area’s territories also share a number of acute social inclusion challenges, including persistent social precarity and poverty as well as the serious social phenomena often associated with these (violence, children in difficulty, appeal of illegal activities).

In addition, **the work undertaken to update the strategic territorial needs analysis** revealed a need for the cooperation area to address new shared challenges:

·The Covid-19 pandemic has affected the cooperation area, creating new challenges, which may be lasting, such as a need for stronger cooperation mechanisms on prevention and crisis response which are able to cope with the challenges of patient care when borders are closed.

·In the fields of initial and continuing education, cooperation has strategic importance not only to strengthen the acquisition of shared skills and knowledge in each of the territories, but also to lay the groundwork for greater regional integration in the future.

In light of the above and of the strategies of the Programme’s partners, the programme strategy for a ‘more social’ cooperation area will pursue the following objectives:

·**Facilitating exchange between universities and between organisations involved in initial and**

continuing/vocational education/training in the Guiana Shield

·**Strengthening the knowledge and skills of pupils, apprentices, students, teachers and professionals in the cooperation area**

·**Improving access over the long term to high-quality affordable health care across borders**

·**Carrying out joint actions on prevention and crisis response regarding the diseases affecting the population and communities of the cooperation area**

·**Carrying out tailored social mediation work to support health prevention campaigns**

·**Continuing the effort to better understand and share information on the health problems affecting the cooperation area**

·**Improving the resilience of health care systems in order to improve their ability to respond to sudden crises (such as Covid-19)**

·**Carrying out joint actions on the shared social problems affecting the cooperation area, especially on children in difficulty and access to employment.**

1.2.2.4 A cooperation area benefitting from enhanced regional cooperation governance

In support of the EU's priorities for 'better Interreg governance', the strategy for the cooperation area includes a **new impetus to support regional cooperation**.

Interreg programme governance and more generally regional cooperation among formal institutional stakeholders can draw on the following **strengths and opportunities**:

·This is the third generation of Interreg programmes in French Guiana, which therefore benefits from accumulated experience in cooperation, established PCIA networks, and highly motivated Programme partners

·The presence of a French Guiana government office (CTG) in Suriname

·The full and active involvement of Surinamese partners on the Maroni ferry project (with the creation of a dedicated Steering Committee (COPIL) and improved collaboration).

Nevertheless, there is a clear need to strengthen both the Interreg programme's governance and the mechanisms of regional cooperation. While there has been progress towards a more integrated governance over recent years, **significant hurdles** remain:

·Programme governance and cooperation dynamics remain heavily centred on French Guiana. This is mainly due to the fact that until now only a small proportion of ERDF funds have been available to non-EU partners, limiting their incentive to take part in the programme

·Personnel of the formal institutional stakeholders responsible for and involved in cooperation have insufficient proficiency in the different languages present in the cooperation area

·A limited technical assistance budget, which limits the programme's ability to facilitate the participation of partners (organising events in different locations, translation costs, etc.)

·The PCIA competes with other large-scale international development donor programmes (bi-national and multinational programmes such as the World Bank and the IDB), which also fund projects, reducing the

appeal of the PCIA programme.

The regulations for the 2021-2027 period include new provisions to strengthen **the participation of non-EU partners** in EU-funded programmes, notably including the possibility of strengthened linkage with the new Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI). In the previous programme, only the Maroni ferry project was supported by both the EDF and the ERDF. For the forthcoming 2021-2027 programme, the programme partners wish to strengthen collaboration with the EU delegation in Georgetown, in order to combine funding from the ERDF and NDICI when the strategic goals of the two instruments align. Therefore, and particularly with regard to delivering the objectives of PO2 "A greener Europe", the mobilization of the two instruments for joint projects will be given preference.

In light of the above and of the strategies of the programme's partners, the new programme's strategy for better Interreg governance will pursue the following objectives:

·Strengthening and improving coordination processes between the ERDF programme and the new Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI)

·Improving mutual understanding among the partner organisations and strengthening their capacities

·Enhancing the capacities of regional organisations, third country partners, and French Guiana's formal institutional stakeholders, in order to address staff concerns relating to the management burden involved in delivering the PCIA

·Identifying funding sources available to the cooperation area and which can be accessed, with a view to combining the different funds and by doing so scaling up the Programme's intervention.

[1] It should be noted that some of the actions listed below were co-financed under sectoral priorities in the 2014-2020 programming period but could have fallen under the heading of developing SME competitiveness

[1] COM (2017) 623 final

1.3. Justification for the selection of policy objectives and the Interreg-specific objectives, corresponding priorities, specific objectives and the forms of support, addressing, where appropriate, missing links in cross-border infrastructure

Reference: point (c) of Article 17(3)

Table 1

Selected policy objective or selected Interreg specific objective	Selected specific objective	Priority	Justification for selection
<p>1. A more competitive and smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation and regional ICT connectivity</p>	<p>RSO1.1. Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies</p>	<p>1. Towards smart economic development and science cooperation in the Guiana Shield</p>	<p>The Guiana Shield is a laboratory for research and innovation. The geographic, natural, and socio-cultural environments of the cooperation area are the focus of significant research activity. This is an important opportunity for regional cooperation. Partnerships between universities and research organisations must be strengthened so that the region’s research excellence can develop and play its full role in making the region an attractive place to work and in supporting the endogenous economic development of its countries and territories. To promote regional integration in the field of research and innovation, the PCIA will therefore support cooperation to coordinate and enable research activities and to create mechanisms for innovation and technology transfer across borders.</p> <p>The actions supported under this specific objective are consistent with the following plans and programmes: • The relevant sectoral programmes in force in French Guiana (SRI-SI, SRDEII, SAR, University multi-annual contracts 2017-2021, etc.) • French Guiana’s ‘ERDF-ESF+’ OP, 2021-2027. • The Programme’s partners’ regional cooperation strategies • The Caraïbes Interreg Programme 2021-2027 • The</p>

Selected policy objective or selected Interreg specific objective	Selected specific objective	Priority	Justification for selection
			Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument • Atlantic Maritime Strategy.
1. A more competitive and smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation and regional ICT connectivity	RSO1.3. Enhancing sustainable growth and competitiveness of SMEs and job creation in SMEs, including by productive investments	1. Towards smart economic development and science cooperation in the Guiana Shield	<p>Regarding economic development and SME competitiveness, the cooperation area suffers from a number of structural handicaps. The fragmentation of the ‘economic space’ in terms of languages, legal systems & technical standards and entrepreneurial practices, limits the integration of its territories. Offloading and transshipment at borders is problematic for the region’s economic agents. In addition, the economic structure of the Guiana Shield is mostly composed of Very Small Enterprises (VSE) and economic agents with a low level of mutual knowledge. In this context, better economic integration is the key to supporting the growth and competitiveness of SMEs. And key to this integration are: a better mutual awareness and understanding among economic agents and the coordinated development of business and industry <i>filières</i>⁵.</p> <p>The PCIA will therefore support cooperation actions which: strengthen mutual awareness/understanding among economic agents in the cooperation area, support the creation of business & industry networks, and provide business support activities.</p> <p>The actions supported under this specific objective are consistent with the following plans and programmes: • The relevant sectoral</p>

⁵ *Filière* = an industry along with its supply chain.

Selected policy objective or selected Interreg specific objective	Selected specific objective	Priority	Justification for selection
			programmes in force in French Guiana (SRI-SI, SRDEII, etc.) • French Guiana’s ‘ERDF-ESF+’ OP, 2021-2027 • The Programme’s partners’ regional cooperation strategies • The Caraïbes Interreg Programme 2021-2027 • The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument • Atlantic Maritime Strategy.
2. A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe by promoting clean and fair energy transition, green and blue investment, the circular economy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, risk prevention and management, and sustainable urban mobility	RSO2.2. Promoting renewable energy in accordance with Directive (EU) 2018/2001, including the sustainability criteria set out therein	2. Towards a greener, better preserved and less polluted Guiana Shield	<p>On the scale of the cooperation area, there are opportunities to create electricity production systems using renewable sources, which can help to meet certain specific needs, particularly at isolated sites for example, which cannot be connected to a grid. The existence of complementarities between countries and territories in this field could facilitate the implementation of practical solutions in certain localities, especially isolated ones. And, on the cross-border scale, exploring off-grid solutions could also be an effective practical strategy, despite the complexity of working at the intersection of grids in the areas concerned. In order to encourage the exchange of good practice and the emergence of innovative solutions tailored to the Guiana Shield’s particular climatic and geographic characteristics, the PCIA will support cooperation on renewable energies.</p> <p>The actions supported under this specific objective are consistent with the following plans and programmes: • The relevant sectoral programmes in force in French Guiana (The Multiannual Energy Plan, the SAR, etc.) • French Guiana’s ‘ERDF-ESF+’ OP, 2021-2027 • The</p>

Selected policy objective or selected Interreg specific objective	Selected specific objective	Priority	Justification for selection
			Programme's partners' regional cooperation strategies • The Caraïbes Interreg Programme 2021-2027 • Atlantic Maritime Strategy
2. A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe by promoting clean and fair energy transition, green and blue investment, the circular economy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, risk prevention and management, and sustainable urban mobility	RSO2.4. Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention and resilience, taking into account eco-system based approaches	2. Towards a greener, better preserved and less polluted Guiana Shield	<p>The cooperation area is subject to climate change and to certain specific climatic risks, especially sea level rise and preserving the coastline. In addition, numerous new risks have been identified, but these need to be better understood through research and prospective analysis on the vulnerability of the cooperation area over the medium and long terms in relation to, for example, changes in rainfall (drought and risks related to flooding) or rising temperatures.</p> <p>Therefore, and in order to enable the partner countries and territories in the Programme to make a joint commitment to strengthen their response capacities to climate change and the risk of natural disasters, the PCIA will support cooperation actions which directly address these objectives.</p> <p>The actions supported under this specific objective are consistent with the following plans and programmes: • The relevant sectoral programmes in force in French Guiana (The SDAGE, the SAR, etc.) • French Guiana's 'ERDF-ESF+' OP, 2021-2027 • The Programme's partners' regional cooperation strategies • The Caraïbes Interreg Programme 2021-2027 • The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument • Atlantic Maritime Strategy.</p>
2. A greener, low-carbon	RSO2.6. Promoting the transition	2. Towards a greener, better	As part of the effort to secure the sustainable

Selected policy objective or selected Interreg specific objective	Selected specific objective	Priority	Justification for selection
<p>transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe by promoting clean and fair energy transition, green and blue investment, the circular economy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, risk prevention and management, and sustainable urban mobility</p>	<p>to a circular and resource efficient economy</p>	<p>preserved and less polluted Guiana Shield</p>	<p>development of the cooperation area, strengthening and coordinating an economic ecosystem which embeds the circular economy in practice is of particular importance to the countries and territories of the Guiana Shield. In parallel, the challenge of recovering/re-using waste is particularly important for the programme's different partners; the specific problem(s) can vary depending on the locality (delays to establishing waste infrastructures and collection systems, specific challenges of/at remote sites, business opportunities specifically related to recycling and recovering certain types of waste for reuse, etc.).</p> <p>Therefore, and in light of the potential benefits of expanding cooperation in this field, the PCIA will support cooperation that improves existing systems, in particular waste recovery/re-use systems, and which generates projects in the field of circular economy.</p> <p>The actions supported under this specific objective are consistent with the following plans and programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relevant sectoral programmes in force in French Guiana (The Waste Plan, the SDAGE, etc.) • French Guiana's 'ERDF-ESF+' OP, 2021-2027 • The Programme's partners' regional cooperation strategies • The Caraïbes Interreg Programme 2021-2027 • The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument • Atlantic Maritime Strategy
<p>2. A greener, low-carbon</p>	<p>RSO2.7. Enhancing protection</p>	<p>2. Towards a greener, better</p>	<p>The cooperation area has an exceptionally rich</p>

Selected policy objective or selected Interreg specific objective	Selected specific objective	Priority	Justification for selection
<p>transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe by promoting clean and fair energy transition, green and blue investment, the circular economy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, risk prevention and management, and sustainable urban mobility</p>	<p>and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution</p>	<p>preserved and less polluted Guiana Shield</p>	<p>natural environment and a wealth of natural resources. This heritage gives rise to interdependencies between the territories, which justifies joint and collaborative action. Moreover, previous programmes have demonstrated the added-value of cooperation in this area. Therefore, and in order to continue cooperation on preserving the cooperation area's exceptional biodiversity, the PCIA will support joint actions which limit the adverse impacts of development and human activities on the environment and which sustainably generate benefits from the Guiana Shield's natural resources.</p> <p>The actions supported under this specific objective are consistent with the following plans and programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relevant sectoral programmes in force in French Guiana (SAR, SDAGE, Regional Forestry Management Plan, etc.) • French Guiana's 'ERDF-ESF+' OP, 2021-2027 • The Programme's partners' regional cooperation strategies • The Caraïbes Interreg Programme 2021-2027 • The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument • Atlantic Maritime Strategy.
<p>4. A more social and inclusive Europe implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights</p>	<p>RSO4.2. Improving equal access to inclusive and quality services in education, training and lifelong learning through developing accessible infrastructure, including by fostering resilience for distance and on-line education and training</p>	<p>3. Develop cooperation to support mobility for education & vocational training, strengthen health care systems and improve social inclusion across the Guiana Shield</p>	<p>In the field of education, continuing education & vocational training, the cooperation area has acute needs, in particular relating to general education and the development of skills and know-how in the different countries and territories of the Guiana Shield. Moreover, the sector's stakeholders are eager to strengthen links and partnerships, in order to offer better opportunities to the cooperation area's pupils,</p>

Selected policy objective or selected Interreg specific objective	Selected specific objective	Priority	Justification for selection
			<p>students, apprentices, and professionals to benefit from schemes/programmes that are tailored to the challenges of the Guiana Shield. The education, higher education, and vocational training systems across the region vary and work is required to identify the areas of complementarity where mutual benefit can be created through cooperative activities and interaction. The PCIA will therefore support cooperation ‘beyond borders’ which strengthens interactivity and joint activities in this field.</p> <p>The actions supported under this specific objective are consistent with the following plans and programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relevant sectoral programmes in force in French Guiana (Le Pacte ultramarin d’investissement, SAR, the Pacte Territorial d’Insertion, etc.) • French Guiana’s ‘ERDF-ESF+’ OP, 2021-2027 • The Programme’s partners’ regional cooperation strategies • The Caraïbes Interreg Programme 2021-2027 • The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument • Atlantic Maritime Strategy.
4. A more social and inclusive Europe implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights	RSO4.3. Promoting the socioeconomic inclusion of marginalised communities, low-income households and disadvantaged groups, including people with special needs, through integrated actions, including housing and social services	3. Develop cooperation to support mobility for education & vocational training, strengthen health care systems and improve social inclusion across the Guiana Shield	The cooperation area suffers from persistent social difficulties, with communities enduring great poverty and social precarity and high levels of chronic unemployment. This social precarity and also the marginalization of some communities engenders violence and illegal activities. Moreover, the area lacks the infrastructures needed to improve social inclusion (schools, cultural, or sports infrastructures, for example). In this context, the

Selected policy objective or selected Interreg specific objective	Selected specific objective	Priority	Justification for selection
			<p>PCIA will support activities that improve social inclusion. This is essential to addressing the challenges associated with the marginalisation of certain local communities, especially access to employment, which is key to improving equal opportunities. This will also complement some of the programme's other objectives (e.g.: social mediation in support of health prevention campaigns).</p> <p>The actions supported under this specific objective are consistent with the following plans and programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relevant sectoral programmes in force in French Guiana (The Pacte Territorial d'Insertion, the Schéma Territorial de la Protection de l'Enfance, etc.) • French Guiana's 'ERDF-ESF+' OP, 2021-2027 • The PON FSE • The Programme's partners' regional cooperation strategies • The Caraïbes Interreg Programme 2021-2027.
<p>4. A more social and inclusive Europe implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights</p>	<p>RSO4.5. Ensuring equal access to health care and fostering resilience of health systems, including primary care, and promoting the transition from institutional to family-based and community-based care</p>	<p>3. Develop cooperation to support mobility for education & vocational training, strengthen health care systems and improve social inclusion across the Guiana Shield</p>	<p>The cooperation area faces significant health challenges and specific problems affecting the quality of life of its citizens and communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The presence of shared disease risks (vector-borne diseases such as malaria, HIV, or dengue fever and chronic diseases, such as diabetes) • Highly mobile 'cross-border' patients • Significant deficiencies in care provision, and limited access to care due to some communities being isolated • The impact of gold mining on public health. There are acute needs in prevention and care provision for infectious and chronic diseases (especially malaria, HIV, and dengue fever). One such need is the creation of care

Selected policy objective or selected Interreg specific objective	Selected specific objective	Priority	Justification for selection
			<p>pathways tailored to the cooperation area. And the Covid-19 epidemic has brought new risks, reinforcing the need for coordinated responses and more resilient health care systems operating across borders. The PCIA can draw on a wealth of experience in cooperation among the different health sector stakeholders, which are used to working together, both in joint local projects and in larger-scale initiatives (transnational research projects for example).</p> <p>The actions supported under this specific objective are consistent with the following plans and programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relevant sectoral programmes in force in French Guiana (La Stratégie de l'ARSin relation to cooperation, etc.) • French Guiana's 'ERDF-ESF+' OP, 2021-2027 • The Programme's partners' regional cooperation strategies • The Caraïbes Interreg Cooperation Programme 2021-2027 • The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument.
6. Interreg : Better Cooperation Governance	ISO6.1. Enhance the institutional capacity of public authorities, in particular those mandated to manage a specific territory, and of stakeholders (all strands)	ISO1. Strengthen the administrative capacities of the formal institutional stakeholders involved in regional cooperation and facilitate the mobilization of complementary funding with a view to improving Programme governance	After two previous generations of programmes, the 2021-2027 PCIA can draw on considerable experience in delivering European ETC policy in its cooperation area. Based on this experience, partners have identified a number of ways to significantly improve Programme governance, and also more generally improve the policy tools available to facilitate and encourage regional cooperation across the Guiana Shield. As a result, and in order to pursue efforts to catalyse greater involvement from all partners, the PCIA will support actions that remove any administrative,

Selected policy objective or selected Interreg specific objective	Selected specific objective	Priority	Justification for selection
			<p>technical, linguistic or cultural barriers hampering the functioning of the PCIA. Moreover, partners will ensure that the PCIA benefits from any new opportunities to bring in other funds in support of the projects it co-finances, such as the new NDICI, without forgetting the need to put in place specific support to Brazilian partners, who are not eligible to the NDICI.</p> <p>The actions supported under this specific objective are consistent with the following plans and programmes: • The Programme's partners' regional cooperation strategies • The Caraïbes Interreg Programme 2021-2027 • The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument • Atlantic Maritime Strategy.</p>

2. Priorities

Reference: points (d) and (e) of Article 17(3)

2.1. Priority: 1 - Towards smart economic development and fostering science cooperation in the Guiana Shield

Reference: point (d) of Article 17(3)

2.1.1. Specific Objective: RSO1.1. Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies

Reference: point (e) of Article 17(3)

Developing innovative processes and research

2.1.1.1 Related types of action, and their expected contribution to those specific objectives and to macro-regional strategies and sea-basis strategies, where appropriate

Reference: point (e) (i) of Article 17(3); point c) ii) of Article 17 (9)

Given its specific environmental and socio-demographic characteristics, the cooperation area constitutes an exceptional laboratory for research and innovation. Moreover, integrating research activities on the scale of the Guiana Shield is highly strategic in view of the fact that the partner States and territories share both a specific environment and specific challenges.

Under this new programme, the aim is to respond to various known weaknesses, particularly an acute need to strengthen links between the territory's research bodies and universities, but also with a view to structuring research of excellence around themes specific to the territory. Furthermore, and with a view to promoting endogenous economic development, the development and structuring of an ecosystem favourable to innovation and technology transfer, the cooperation area would benefit from stronger partnerships, particularly regarding the sustainable exploitation of natural resources and the identification of solutions adapted to the specific characteristics of the territory.

In a spirit of complementing the strategic ambitions of each partner State and territory in the Programme, this specific objective must therefore contribute to fostering the integration of each partner's RDI network in the regional research ecosystem. It must strengthen scientific partnerships in order to foster research excellence, drawing on the assets and opportunities in the territory. This will enhance the attractiveness of the cooperation area in this field.

The intervention under this specific objective will focus on cooperation in the field of research. It will not cover initial and vocational training actions, which can be supported under the PCIA's priority 4.

The actions to be supported under this specific objective will be the following:

·Cooperative actions between the States and territories of the programme area with a view to facilitating international exchange and creating the conditions for the development of collaborative research in the Guiana Shield area

For example: collaboration and networking programmes for formal 'institutional' stakeholders⁶ active in the field of research and development, joint lobbying of the relevant institutions to remove existing obstacles to strengthening the regional integration of RDI in the Guiana Shield, etc.

·Cooperative action aimed at developing processes and testing on the scale of the Guyana Shield

For example: test nurseries and pilot sites for re-establishing mangroves, satellite observation of the coastline, a pilot site for interconnecting electricity networks in isolated sites (offgrid), projects related to

⁶ The key established formal organisations, whether public or private, i.e. 'institutional', from the French.

recovering waste and certain co-products, etc. Collaborative projects with a focus on disseminating results will be given preference [1].

·Cooperation actions aimed at strengthening cooperation in the field of research on the scale of the Guiana Shield

For example: the creation of a shared doctoral college for the Guiana Shield, opening up the possibility of joint-supervision enabling PhD students to benefit from research directors from a partner university in the area; programmes aimed at facilitating exchanges of lecturer-researchers between partner universities; setting up language training for staff from universities and research organisations; creation of courses enabling joint degrees on local subjects (e.g. knowledge of the Amazon). In Guyana, cooperation can be envisaged with the innovation programme launched by the ExxonMobil Foundation in partnership with the University of Guyana and the NGO Conservation International.

·Collaborative research projects related to the specific challenges of the Guiana Shield and contributing to developing existing or emerging opportunities for excellent science

For example: fundamental and applied research aimed at developing innovative solutions adapted to the territory's energy challenges (its specific climate, geographical constraints), research in the field of bio-sourced materials, in the field of recovering waste and industrial co-products, research aimed at better use of the Shield's biodiversity and natural resources, specific studies on climate change on the scale of the Guiana Shield (rainfall, drought, landslides, temperature rise), etc. Collaborative projects with a focus on the dissemination of results will be given preference [2].

·Actions to generate knowledge on the drivers and the barriers to innovation which need to be overcome to energise the economies of the Guiana Shield

For example: Studies and needs analyses. Collaborative projects with a focus on disseminating results will be given preference [3].

·Collective actions⁷ to support companies in the field of innovation and technology transfer

For example: exchanges of good practices on innovation and building and managing competitive clusters, actions including training on taking into account environmental issues in the innovation process, etc.

Priority will be given to projects for which the various environmental considerations have been taken into account (with, where appropriate, the implementation of measures to reduce negative impacts) and to projects for which the environmental impact has been estimated in advance in accordance with the regulations in force or which have produced an impact report (e.g., infrastructure, spatial planning/development, renewable energy). In addition, eco-conditionality criteria may be applied in the project selection process [4].

In addition, and to ensure alignment with the Atlantic Maritime Strategy, this specific objective may contribute to the following goals:

- Reducing greenhouse gases and developing renewable energies;
- Tackling marine pollution;
- Adapting to climate change by improving coastal observation and protection.

[1] Added priority criterion regarding the dissemination of results (SEA v1 recommendation)

⁷ Collective actions from the French *actions collectives* refers to policy support aimed at groups of companies rather than a single company.

[2] Idem

[3] Idem

[4] Statement specifying the priority criterion relating to the consideration of environmental challenges in projects (SEA recommendation v1)

2.1.1.1b. Definition of a single beneficiary or a limited list of beneficiaries and the granting procedure

Reference: point c) i) of Article 17 (9)

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2.1.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e)(ii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iii) of Article 17(9)

Table 2: Output indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Final target (2029)
1	RSO1.1	RCO83	Strategies and action plans jointly developed	strategy/action plan	2	7

Table 3: Result indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Reference year	Final target (2029)	Source of data	Comments
1	RSO1.1	RCR79	Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations	Joint strategy/action plan	1.00	2021	4.00	French Guiana Europe Unit (PAE) & beneficiaries	

2.1.1.3. Main target groups

Reference: point (e)(iii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iv) of Article 17(9)

The main target groups of operations to be financed under this specific objective will be:

- Researchers and lecturer-researchers
- Higher education and research institutions
- Students
- PhD students
- Innovative companies
- Business support organisations, competitiveness clusters, incubators
- NGOs, non-profit/voluntary sector
- Etc.

2.1.1.4. Indication of the specific territories targeted, including the planned use of ITI, CLLD or other territorial tools

Reference: Article point (e)(iv) of 17(3)

For actions with significant environmental impact, specific territories could be prioritised or excluded.

2.1.1.5. Planned use of financial instruments

Reference: point (e)(v) of Article 17(3)

No financial instrument is foreseen for this priority

2.1.1.6. Indicative breakdown of the EU programme resources by type of intervention

Reference: point (e)(vi) of Article 17(3), point (c)(v) of Article 17(9)

Table 4: Dimension 1 — intervention field

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
1	RSO1.1	ERDF	171. Enhancing cooperation with partners both within and outside the Member State	2 078 895.39

Table 5: Dimension 2 — form of financing

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
1	RSO1.1	ERDF	01. Subsidy	2 078 895.39

Table 6: Dimension 3 — territorial delivery mechanism and territorial focus

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
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2.1.1. Specific Objective: RSO1.3. Enhancing sustainable growth and competitiveness of SMEs and job creation in SMEs, including by productive investments

Reference: point (e) of Article 17(3)

Support for participation in international trade fairs; joint training on regulations in force in different markets, business law, European standards, the economic context, trade barriers, languages; studies and needs analyses on the strengths and weaknesses of exporting companies; creation of an information portal.

2.1.1.1 Related types of action, and their expected contribution to those specific objectives and to macro-regional strategies and sea-basis strategies, where appropriate

Reference: point (e)(i) of Article 17(3), point (c)(ii) of Article 17(9)

SME/VSE growth & competitiveness in the cooperation area is suffering from the difficult economic conjuncture, and faces barriers including an economic area fragmented into several languages & legal systems, different standards and regulations, which severely limits trade and economic integration. A lack of mutual knowledge among the area's economic agents is also a handicap.

Under the new PCIA programme, the aim will be to respond to these challenges by supporting the networking of economic actors and the coordinated development of the area's *filières* with a view to promoting exchanges and better mutual knowledge among the area's economic agents.

The area's agents view a range of industry sectors as being of particular importance, notably digital, tourism (and notably eco-tourism), agriculture and the timber sector, the blue economy, the renewable energy sector, activities to exploit natural resources (biodiversity, pharmaceutical potential of plants, cosmetics, etc.), cultural and creative industries, etc.

This specific objective will therefore support the following actions:

·Actions to strengthen mutual understanding between economic agents

For example:

- Organising meetings/events, conferences/workshops on technical issues for stakeholders in order to develop relationships and increase mutual awareness of each other's action strategies and networks and of the business environments in the countries of the zone, of market opportunities, etc.

- Actions aimed at sharing experience, exchanging best practices and capacity building, in particular on the issue of connectivity and the economic integration of the cooperation area: cooperation in the fields of ports and air transport, networking projects, etc.

·The implementation of the action programme for a better integration of French Guiana into its geographical environment (CGT, November 2019)

For example:

-Formalising business networks that are capable of carrying out joint development actions (creation of a 'Guiana business club', in the flexible format of an international chamber of commerce or a French Guiana business platform, for example).

-Creating a local standards committee to disseminate standards, sharing legislation, and creating a directories guide on these standards. In particular, support for upgrading norms and standards for Guyana's businesses, in partnership with those of other countries in the cooperation zone. The possibility of pooling funding between the PCIA and the Guyana government's SME-SMI development fund may be envisaged.

-Organising exchange programmes to train the personnel of French Guiana's businesses to implement and monitor norms and standards.

-Implementing actions to strengthen the region's shared identity and image (especially for tourism)

·Knowledge generation actions on the drivers of and barriers to economic development in the cooperation area

·Collective actions⁸ to support business & industry

For example: to support business creation, innovation, the digital transition of SMEs in particular, the energy transition, skills development, implementing an export strategy in the cooperation area, exchanges of good practice, etc.

·Cooperative actions to identify complementarities between the territories with the goal of coordinating the development of sustainable *filières*⁹ on a larger scale than the scale of each single territory

For example: feasibility studies, developing *filière* strategies at Guiana Shield level, networking and the coordinated development of *filières*, actions contributing to the reduction of uncontrolled or illegal extractive activities, etc.

·Projects of an industrial nature aimed at developing cooperation and joint sustainable productive activities on a cross-border or transnational scale

For example: waste recycling and/or recovery projects, investment projects that support a coordinated development of *filières* on the scale of at least two territories in the cooperation area, joint activities for the sustainable development of natural resources in the cooperation area, etc.

· **Infrastructure projects and development projects** that contribute to coordinated economic activities (these actions must include at a minimum, an analysis of the project's environmental footprint and how to limit it, as well as a system for monitoring the environmental impact):

· Following up on the ferry project carried out under the current programme, the PCIA 2021-2027 could support the development of the riverbank areas, riverbank protection and the reception areas for passengers on both sides of the ferry on the Maroni.

· Small-scale development projects could also be carried out for the bus stations and areas around border crossing points (reception facilities for waiting passengers).

· Development supporting the dry port project in the Oyapock region (logistics platform project with container transshipment) carried out in partnership with the St Georges Town Hall and SEBRAE, the Brazilian Support Service for Micro and Small Enterprises of the State of Amapá (financing of the preparatory phase and implementation study for this project supported by the PCIA 2014-2020).

·Cooperative actions supporting the objectives of the action programme for a better integration of French Guiana in its geographic environment (CGT, November 2019)

For example: feasibility studies, networking, exchanges on environmental standards, actions to disseminate pollution control standards, etc.

Priority will be given to projects that observe the various environmental considerations (with, where appropriate, the implementation of measures to reduce negative impacts) and to projects for which the

⁸ Collective actions from the French *actions collectives* refers to policy support aimed at groups of companies rather than a single company.

⁹ *Filière* = an industry along with its supply chain.

environmental impact has been estimated in advance in accordance with the regulations in force or which have produced an impact report (e.g., infrastructure, spatial planning/development, renewable energy). In addition, eco-conditionality criteria may be applied in the project selection process [1].

In addition, and to ensure alignment with the Atlantic Maritime Strategy, this specific objective may contribute to the following goals:

- Reducing greenhouse gases and developing renewable energies;
- Reducing marine pollution;
- Creating jobs in blue economy sectors and supporting cooperation between EU education/training centres and businesses;
- Adapting to climate change by improving coastal observation and protection.

[1] Statement specifying the priority criterion relating to the consideration of environmental challenges in projects (SEA recommendation v1).

2.1.1.1b. Definition of a single beneficiary or a limited list of beneficiaries and the granting procedure

Reference: point (c)(i) of Article 17(9)

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2.1.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e)(ii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iii) of Article 17(9)

Table 2: Output Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Final target (2029)
1	RSO1.3	RCO87	Organisations cooperating across borders	organisations	2	8

Table 3: Result Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Reference Year	Final target (2029)	Source of data	Comments
1	RSO1.3	RCR84	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion	organisations	0.00	2021	5.00	French Guiana Europe Unit (PAE) & beneficiaries	

2.1.1.3. Main target groups

Reference: point (e)(iii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iv) of Article 17(9)

The main target groups of operations to be financed under this specific objective will be:

- VSE/SME
- Chambers of Commerce
- Socio-professional organisations
- Groupings of companies

2.1.1.4. Indication of the specific territories targeted, including the planned use of ITI, CLLD or other territorial tools

Reference: Article point (e)(iv) of 17(3)

The whole cooperation area, with priority given to:

- Cross-border areas for projects involving infrastructure investments (e.g., ports in the West and on the Oyapock for example);
- Intermodal spaces in urbanised areas for bus station projects.

2.1.1.5. Planned use of financial instruments

Reference: point (e)(v) of Article 17(3)

No financial instrument is foreseen for this priority

2.1.1.6. Indicative breakdown of the EU programme resources by type of intervention

Reference: point (e)(vi) of Article 17(3), point (c)(v) of Article 17(9)

Table 4: Dimension 1 — intervention field

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
1	RSO1.3	ERDF	171. Enhancing cooperation with partners both within and outside the Member State	1 322 933.43

Table 5: Dimension 2 — form of financing

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
1	RSO1.3	ERDF	01. Subsidy	1 322 933.43

Table 6: Dimension 3 —territorial delivery mechanism and territorial focus

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
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2.1. Priority: 2 - Towards a greener, better preserved and less polluted Guiana Shield

Reference: point (d) of Article 17(3)

2.1.1. Specific Objective: RSO2.2. Promoting renewable energy in accordance with Directive (EU) 2018/2001, including the sustainability criteria set out therein

Reference: point (e) of Article 17(3)

Joint testing of new solutions and methods for the development of renewable energies, Feasibility study for projects in the cooperation area, needs analyses and foresight analysis supporting the renewables sector.

2.1.1.1 Related types of action, and their expected contribution to those specific objectives and to macro-regional strategies and sea-basis strategies, where appropriate.

Reference: point (e)(i) of Article 17(3), point (c)(ii) of Article 17(9)

In light of the specific challenges facing the Programme partners regarding producing and distributing electricity in their territories, the development of energy from renewable sources is a strategic goal that opens up considerable opportunities for the cooperation area's future.

The existence of quite significant renewable natural resources and the geographical characteristics of the cooperation area call for an assessment on how renewable energies might offer solutions to the challenges facing the area (on climate, the isolation of remote territories, the distribution of the population across the territory). Moreover, cooperation in this field can harness the complementarities between the expertise of each of the partners.

In line with the strategic orientations of each State and territory of the cooperation area, this specific objective must therefore contribute to facilitating the emergence of solutions adapted to the particular problems of localities and to developing cooperation in the field of energy, in particular in relation to producing and distributing electricity at isolated/remote sites.

The different sources of renewable energy in the cooperation area can be supported by the Programme (solar, hydraulic, etc.)

This specific objective will therefore support the following actions:

·Actions to strengthen cooperation and the exchange of best practices between the cooperation area's renewable energy stakeholders

For example: Exchanges of good practices and stakeholder networking, particularly in terms of taking into account environmental issues other than climate in the development of renewable energies, etc.

·Cooperative actions aimed at developing new processes and testing on the scale of the Guyana Shield

For example: Testing and pilot sites to support: the development of renewable energies (solutions must take environmental challenges regarding ecosystems into account), the interconnection of electricity networks in isolated sites (offgrid), etc.; Studies aiming to identify the potential of renewable energy resources on the scale of the cooperation area, etc.

Priority will be given to projects that observe the various environmental considerations (with, where appropriate, the implementation of measures to reduce negative impacts) and to projects for which the environmental impact has been estimated in advance in accordance with the regulations in force or which have produced an impact report (e.g., infrastructure, spatial planning/development, renewable energy). In addition, eco-conditionality criteria may be applied in the project selection process [1].

In addition, and to ensure alignment with the Atlantic Maritime Strategy, this specific objective could

contribute to reducing GHG emissions and developing renewable energies.

[1] Statement specifying the priority criterion relating to the consideration of environmental challenges in projects (SEA recommendation v1).

2.1.1.1b. Definition of a single beneficiary or a limited list of beneficiaries and the granting procedure

Reference: point (c)(i) of Article 17(9)

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2.1.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e)(ii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iii) of Article 17(9)

Table 2: Output Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Final target (2029)
2	RSO2.2	RCO84	Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented by projects	Pilot actions	0	2

Table 3: Result Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Reference Year	Final target (2029)	Source of data	Comments
2	RSO2.2	RCR79	Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations	Joint strategy/action plan	0.00	2021	1.00	French Guiana Europe Unit (PAE) & beneficiaries	

2.1.1.3. Main target groups

Reference: point (e)(iii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iv) of Article 17(9)

The main target groups of operations to be financed under this specific objective will be:

- Population
- Companies
- Public administrations, local government authorities
- NGOs, non-profit/voluntary sector.

2.1.1.4. Indication of the specific territories targeted, including the planned use of ITI, CLLD or other territorial tools

Reference: Article point (e)(iv) of 17(3)

The whole cooperation area.

2.1.1.5. Planned use of financial instruments

Reference: point (e)(v) of Article 17(3)

No financial instrument is foreseen for this priority.

2.1.1.6. Indicative breakdown of the EU programme resources by type of intervention

Reference: point (e)(vi) of Article 17(3), point (c)(v) of Article 17(9)

Table 4: Dimension 1 — intervention field

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
2	RSO2.2	ERDF	171. Enhancing cooperation with partners both within and outside the Member State	510 274.32

Table 5: Dimension 2 — form of financing

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
2	RSO2.2	ERDF	01. Subsidy	510 274.32

Table 6: Dimension 3 — territorial delivery mechanism and territorial focus

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
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2.1.1. Specific Objective: RSO2.4. Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention and resilience, taking into account eco-system-based approaches

Reference: point (e) of Article 17(3)

Joint implementation of projects on shared or adjacent spaces

2.1.1.1 Related types of action, and their expected contribution to those specific objectives and to macro-regional strategies and sea-basis strategies, where appropriate

Reference: point (e)(i) of Article 17(3), point (c)(ii) of Article 17(9)

Given the geographical uniformity of the cooperation area and its shared challenges in terms of adaptation to climate change, risk prevention and disaster resilience, the added-value of regional cooperation on these subjects is clear.

The cooperation area is faced with climate change and specific natural risks. Rising sea levels and the retreat of the coastline are particularly significant issues for the entire northern coast of the Guiana Shield. Rising temperatures and changes in rainfall could become more pronounced in the future, the consequences of which are not yet well known.

With a view to complementarity and consistency with the strategic goals of the programme's partner States and territories, this specific objective must therefore contribute to deepening knowledge on the cooperation area's vulnerability to climate change and to strengthening cooperation to promote adaptation and resilience in the Guiana Shield. In particular, the programme should enable better adaptation to climate change with regard to ecosystems and the economic activities that impact them (agriculture, tourism, fishing, forestry, etc.).

This specific objective will therefore support the following actions:

·Actions to expand and disseminate knowledge on the cooperation area's vulnerability and resilience to climate change

For example: specific studies on climate change on the scale of the Guiana Shield (on rainfall, drought, landslides, temperature increases, etc.), actions to strengthen cooperation between research institutes and universities on coastline change.

Through its "Green State Development Plan 2040" Guyana is prioritising actions on coastline change, particularly in the capital Georgetown due to its vulnerability.

·Cooperative actions to develop processes and tests on the scale of the Guyana Shield

For example: test nurseries and pilot mangrove replanting sites, satellite observation of the coastline, etc.

To this end, Guyana has identified actions to be implemented over the next few years to improve drainage capacity and mangrove conservation through projects implemented by the National Drainage and Irrigation Authority (NDIA) under the Conservancy Adaptation Project (CAP).

Priority will be given to projects for which the various environmental considerations have been taken into account (with, where appropriate, the implementation of measures to reduce negative impacts) and to projects for which the environmental impact has been estimated in advance in accordance with the regulations in force or which have produced an impact report (e.g., infrastructure, spatial planning/development, renewable energy). In addition, eco-conditionality criteria may be applied in the project selection process [1].

In addition, and in line with the Atlantic Maritime Strategy, this specific objective will contribute to climate change adaptation by improving coastal observation and protection.

[1] Statement specifying the priority criterion relating to the consideration of environmental challenges in projects (SEA recommendation v1).

2.1.1.1b. Definition of a single beneficiary or a limited list of beneficiaries and the granting procedure

Reference: point (c)(i) of Article 17(9)

2.1.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e)(ii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iii) of Article 17(9)

Table 2: Output Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Final target (2029)
2	RSO2.4	RCO83	Strategies and action plans jointly developed	Strategies and action plans	0	1

Table 3: Result Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Reference Year	Final target (2029)	Source of data	Comments
2	RSO2.4	RCR79	Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations	Strategies and action plans jointly developed	0.00	2021	1.00	French Guiana Europe Unit (PAE) & beneficiaries	

2.1.1.3. Main target groups

Reference: point (e)(iii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iv) of Article 17(9);

The main target groups of operations to be financed under this specific objective will be:

- Population
- Companies
- Public administrations, local government authorities.

2.1.1.4. Indication of the specific territories targeted, including the planned use of ITI, CLLD or other territorial tools

Article point (e)(iv) of 17(3)

The whole cooperation area.

2.1.1.5. Planned use of financial instruments

Reference: point (e)(v) of Article 17(3)

No financial instrument is foreseen for this priority.

2.1.1.6. Indicative breakdown of the EU programme resources by type of intervention

Reference: point (e)(vi) of Article 17(3), point (c)(v) of Article 17(9)

Table 4: Dimension 1 — Intervention field

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
2	RSO2.4	ERDF	171. Enhance cooperation with partners both within and outside a given Member State	510 274.32

Table 5: Dimension 2 — form of financing

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
2	RSO2.4	ERDF	01. Subsidy	510 274.32

Table 6: Dimension 3 — territorial delivery mechanism and territorial focus

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
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2.1.1. Specific Objective: RSO2.6. Promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy

Reference: point (e) of Article 17(3)

Actions and training on the implementation of projects on the collection, recovery or transformation of waste; Communication, awareness-raising on the problems associated with the sustainable management of resources and waste; Exchanges and enhancing the knowledge of the sector's stakeholders in the cooperation area.

2.1.1.1 Related types of action, and their expected contribution to those specific objectives and to macro-regional strategies and sea-basis strategies, where appropriate

Reference: point (e)(i) of Article 17(3), point (c)(ii) of Article 17(9)

The context of the cooperation area and the sustainable development issues that are common to all the partners imply that developing a circular economy should be considered a strategic tool for economic development. Moreover, the specific problems linked to waste management on the Guiana Shield require appropriate policy responses. In this regard, the implementation of cooperation actions aimed at promoting waste recovery is an opportunity for the States and territories of the cooperation area.

Complementing its action to preserve the cooperation area's exceptional natural heritage, this new PCIA aims to provide solutions to delays in the development of waste infrastructure and collection systems. It will also take into consideration the specific problems of isolated sites as well as the economic opportunities linked to the recycling and recovery of certain categories of waste (iron, tyres, industrial co-products, etc.).

Therefore, and taking into account the potential positive effects of cooperation on specific challenges in this field, the programme will support cooperative projects which improve existing arrangements for waste recovery as well as projects which support the shift to a circular economy.

This specific objective will complement priority 1 of this programme, which allows for upstream support (RDI projects) and will support the development of industrial activities and SME competitiveness (projects specifically targeting the development of the competitiveness of SMEs in the cooperation area) [1].

This specific objective will therefore support the following actions:

·Cooperation projects which transfer of knowledge and exchange good practices on delivering public waste management policies

For example: exchange projects between local authorities on how to raise awareness on the three Rs (Recycle, Reuse, Reduce), cooperation actions between formal institutional stakeholders on norms (ban on single-use plastics), actions on the industrial supply-side (sustainable supply, eco-design, the product-service economy)"and on responsible consumption (re-use, repair, etc.) [2]. Guyana has identified the use of Public Private Partnerships (PPP) as an essential tool for achieving its waste management objectives.

·Cooperation actions to foster better waste management in cross-border areas (collection, recycling and treatment with a view to recovery/reuse) [3]

·Foresight studies on the coordinated development of *filieres* in the field of the circular economy and waste recovery, aimed at reducing the consumption of natural resources

For example: Actions to expand knowledge about existing industrial waste treatment and recovery processes in the cooperation area's territories, actions which transfer knowledge and studies/foresight supporting depollution industries, the recycling of certain wastes (iron, tyres), the recovery/reuse of co-products (biomass from forestry, shrimp fishing, and bagasse from sugar cane processing, etc.).

Priority will be given to projects for which the various environmental considerations have been taken into account (with, where appropriate, the implementation of measures to reduce negative impacts) and to projects for which the environmental impact has been estimated in advance in accordance with the regulations in force or which have produced an impact report (e.g., infrastructure, spatial planning/development, renewable energy). In addition, eco-conditionality criteria may be applied in the project selection process [4].

In its Green State Development Plan 2040 Guyana makes the circular economy one of the pillars of its development. The document provides funds for feasibility studies in this area.

In addition, and in line with the Atlantic Maritime Strategy, this specific objective will contribute to the following goals:

- Reducing greenhouse gases and developing renewable energies;
- Reducing marine pollution;
- Creating jobs in blue economy sectors and supporting cooperation between EU education/training centres and businesses.

[1] Clarification of dividing lines between the priorities in relation to the citing of examples of actions related to the economic supply side (SEA v1 recommendations)

[2] Examples of actions added (SEA V1 recommendation)

[3] In compliance with the regulations in force concerning the import/export of waste between States

[4] Statement specifying the priority criterion relating to the consideration of environmental challenges in projects (SEA recommendation v1).

2.1.1.1b. Definition of a single beneficiary or a limited list of beneficiaries and the granting procedure

Reference: point (c)(i) of Article 17(9)

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2.1.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e)(ii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iii) of Article 17(9)

Table 2: Output Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Final target (2029)
2	RSO2.6	RCO83	Strategies and action plans jointly developed	strategies and action plans	0	2

Table 3: Result Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Reference Year	Final target (2029)	Source of data	Comments
2	RSO2.6	RCR79	Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations	Strategies and action plans jointly developed	0.00	2021	2.00	French Guiana Europe Unit (PAE) & beneficiaries	

2.1.1.3. Main target groups

Reference: point (e)(iii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iv) of Article 17(9)

The main target groups of operations to be financed under this specific objective will be:

- Companies
- Public administrations, local government authorities
- Research institutes/organisations.

2.1.1.4. Indication of the specific territories targeted, including the planned use of ITI, CLLD or other territorial tools

Reference: Article point (e)(iv) of 17(3)

The whole cooperation area.

2.1.1.5. Planned use of financial instruments

Reference: point (e)(v) of Article 17(3)

No financial instrument is foreseen for this priority.

2.1.1.6. Indicative breakdown of the EU programme resources by type of intervention

Reference: point (e)(vi) of Article 17(3), point (c)(v) of Article 17(9)

Table 4: Dimension 1 — intervention field

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
2	RSO2.6	ERDF	171. Enhance cooperation with partners both within and outside a given Member State	718 163.86

Table 5: Dimension 2 — forme of financing

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
2	RSO2.6	ERDF	01. Subsidy	718 163.86

Table 6: Dimension 3 — territorial delivery mechanism and territorial focus

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
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2.1.1. Specific Objective: RSO2.7. Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution

Reference: point (e) of Article 17(3)

Joint testing of new methods of preserving and restoring biodiversity; training and further exploring the potential of ecolabels; communication, awareness raising on resource management and pollution; promotion of traditional skills, museums; cinema; digitization of intangible heritage.

2.1.1.1 Related types of action, and their expected contribution to those specific objectives and to macro-regional strategies and sea-basis strategies, where appropriate

Reference: point (e)(i) of Article 17(3), point (c)(ii) of Article 17(9)

The cooperation area's territories and States share a similar geographical context, one characterised by a forest environment, exceptional terrestrial and marine biodiversity, as well as considerable freshwater reserves. In this context, the protection and economic exploitation of the environment and natural heritage are common issues that are highly strategic at the Guiana Shield level. Under this new PCIA, the approach will be to continue in the same vein as the previous programme with regard to the essential nature of cooperation for the protection of biodiversity, understanding that the term "biodiversity" includes both groups of living beings as a whole at the local level, but also their ecosystems (and in a logic of continuity of ecosystems, with a view to preventing habitat fragmentation).

Complementing the strategic goals of the programme's partner States and territories, this specific objective must therefore contribute to: reinforcing the protection of the Guiana Shield's ecosystems, tackling pollution and to making sustainable economic use of ecosystem services in the territory. In addition, and with a view to the sustainable development of the cooperation area, this specific objective also aims to promote the sustainable economic use of the cooperation area's natural resources.

·Actions to strengthen knowledge on natural resources, biodiversity, and plant health on the scale of the Guiana Shield

For example: research and applied research projects, actions to strengthen scientific cooperation on the scale of the Guiana Shield in relation to biodiversity and resources (water, etc.) shared by the territories, biodiversity observatory projects, studies and decision support projects for political decision-makers, exchanges of good practices in the field of drinking water supply and water treatment, etc.

·Actions to support the drawing up of joint/shared strategies for environmental protection and management

For example: creating/strengthening stakeholder networks dedicated to environmental protection, projects to pool resources and means, to develop the means to reduce biodiversity degradation, to exchange of good practices, etc.

·Actions to support the implementation of joint instruments for the protection of biodiversity or to reduce the pollution of natural ecosystems (for species and/or habitats of special significance in the cooperation area)

For example: supporting the creation of protected areas, especially in the form of 'corridors', specific actions, harnessing the skills of the non-profit sector, actions to exchange knowledge on the rehabilitation of degraded/polluted sites, etc.

·Support for the introduction of legislation/regulation conducive to the preservation of biodiversity and the environment and capacity building for local operators

For example: Joint work between Guiana Shield stakeholders to facilitate the implementation of

international conventions (Minamata, Nagoya, etc.), exchange of good practice on the scale of the Guiana Shield.

·Actions to raise awareness of the challenges of biodiversity protection and to support populations/communities and business and industry with change processes.

For example: cooperation actions carried out by formal institutional stakeholders or non-profit/voluntary sector stakeholders, exchange of good practice, networking, etc.

· Cooperation action aimed at setting up processes for the economic exploitation of the cooperation area's biodiversity and natural resources

For example: actions to transform and/or market new products based on natural resources, actions to support areas to engage in carbon quota markets, actions to foster the sustainable use of natural resources (plant-based products, genetic resources, etc.)

Priority will be given to projects for which the various environmental considerations have been taken into account (with, where appropriate, the implementation of measures to reduce negative impacts) and to projects for which the environmental impact has been estimated in advance in accordance with the regulations in force or which have produced an impact report (e.g., infrastructure, spatial planning/development, renewable energy). In addition, eco-conditionality criteria may be applied in the project selection process [1].

In addition, and in line with the Atlantic Maritime Strategy, this specific objective will contribute to the following goals:

- Reducing greenhouse gases;
- Tackling marine pollution;
- Creating jobs in blue economy sectors and supporting cooperation between EU education/training centres and businesses;
- Adapting to climate change by improving coastal observation and protection.

[1] Statement specifying the priority criterion relating to the consideration of environmental challenges in projects (SEA recommendation v1).

2.1.1.1b. Definition of a single beneficiary or a limited list of beneficiaries and the granting procedure

Reference: point (c)(i) of Article 17(9)

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2.1.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e)(ii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iii) of Article 17(9)

Table 2: Output Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Final target (2029)
2	RSO2.7	RCO83	Strategies and action plans jointly developed	strategies and action plans	1	3

Table 3: Result Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Reference Year	Final target (2029)	Source of data	Comments
2	RSO2.7	RCR79	Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations	Strategies and action plans jointly developed	0.00	2021	2.00	French Guiana Europe Unit (PAE) & beneficiaries	

2.1.1.3. Main target groups

Reference: point (e)(iii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iv) of Article 17(9)

The main target groups for this specific objective include:

- All the populations and communities of the cooperation area
- Companies of the States and territories of the Guiana Shield
- Research organisations and Universities of the Guiana Shield
- The formal institutional and public stakeholders of the cooperation area

2.1.1.4. Indication of the specific territories targeted, including the planned use of ITI, CLLD or other territorial tools

Reference: Article point (e)(iv) of 17(3)

The whole cooperation area.

2.1.1.5. Planned use of financial instruments

Reference: point (e)(v) of Article 17(3)

No financial instrument is foreseen for this priority.

2.1.1.6. Indicative breakdown of the EU programme resources by type of intervention

Reference: point (e)(vi) of Article 17(3), point (c)(v) of Article 17(9)

Table 4: Dimension 1 — intervention field

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
2	RSO2.7	ERDF	171. Enhance cooperation with partners both within and outside a given Member State	3 307 333.58

Table 5: Dimension 2 — form of financing

Priority	Specific Objective	Fonds	Code	Amount (in EUR)
2	RSO2.7	ERDF	01. Subsidy	3 307 333.58

Table 6: Dimension 3 — territorial delivery mechanism and territorial focus

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
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2.1. Priority: 3 - Develop cooperation to support mobility for education & vocational training, strengthen health care systems and improve social inclusion across the Guiana Shield

Reference: point (d) of Article 17(3)

2.1.1. Specific Objective: RSO4.2. Improving equal access to inclusive and quality services in education, training and lifelong learning through developing accessible infrastructure, including by fostering resilience for distance and on-line education and training

Reference: point (e) of Article 17(3)

Educational/training activities; Forums, colloquia or research seminars for the dissemination and promotion of knowledge on shared educational issues; Research projects in the humanities and social sciences (cultures, languages, arts, etc.); Joint teaching of university course modules; co-edited publications.

2.1.1.1 Related types of action, and their expected contribution to those specific objectives and to macro-regional strategies and sea-basis strategies, where appropriate

Reference: point (e)(i) of Article 17(3), point (c)(ii) of Article 17(9)

Given the importance of the education and training challenges facing the Guiana Shield, but also the demographic, economic, and social characteristics of the populations living across the region, cooperation to enhance human capital is central to underpinning the region's economic development more generally.

As part of initial training, the acquisition of basic skills and the development of a better knowledge of the cooperation area help can underpin cohesion at the territorial level. Furthermore, the diversity of education and vocational training systems, which may represent an obstacle to cooperation, can be more usefully be seen in the light of their complementarities, which should be reinforced and better coordinated. Overall, the development of partnerships and cooperation programmes in the fields of initial and continuing training could make it possible to set up regional educational pathways that would underpin all forms of exchanges and cooperation more generally.

In line with the strategic goals of the cooperation area's States and territories, this specific objective must therefore contribute to the emergence of cooperation which fosters the acquisition of knowledge and skills, both in terms of initial training, higher education, and continuing education and vocational training.

This specific objective will focus on cooperation in the field of initial and continuing training. It will not cover actions related to RDI; these are covered under the programme's priority 1.

This specific objective will therefore support the following actions:

• Support for the development of regional strategies and specific mechanisms to facilitate exchange between universities and other organisations involved in initial and continuing/vocational education & training on the Guiana Shield

For example: Schemes linked to multilingual schools on a cross-border scale; projects on the acquisition of language skills relevant to the cooperation area, etc.

• Support for schemes facilitating the welcoming of foreign students in French Guiana.

For example: Actions to develop financial support schemes for Guiana Shield students wishing to follow a programme offered in Guyana, cooperation projects to create opportunities for the joint PhD supervision, access to a supervisor from a partner university in the region.

• Support for bi-national training schemes in certain areas of joint interest

For example: translation and interpreting, civil security, river navigation and European standards in terms of safety of vessels used by the public, projects to develop joint qualifications and educational/training pathways, etc.

- **Support for the development of distance or blended education/training**

For example: Cooperation projects to develop distance learning training modules. Guyana, for example, is in the process of upgrading its e-learning activities, particularly following the coronavirus epidemic.

- **Actions to generate knowledge, ideally jointly performed in order to limit costs**

For example: communication campaigns and/or the development of promotional tools for Guiana Shield territories in order to improve their attractiveness in regard to training & education; carrying out needs analyses; stakeholder/organisation mapping; feasibility and/or opportunity studies; comparison and analysis of complementarities between the territories and States of the cooperation area, etc.

- **Actions to share experience, exchange good practice and strengthen capacities in the field of education/training in the cooperation area**

For example: networking projects for education and training professionals, exchange of good practice, etc.

- **Cooperative actions to expand or improve the knowledge and skills of pupils, apprentices, students, teachers and professionals within the cooperation area**

For example: Exchange programmes to facilitate the acquisition of professional, linguistic, cultural and technical knowledge, cooperation programmes to promote mutual knowledge or a joint degree course as a foundation the development of longer-term cooperation on the scale of the cooperation area, etc.

Priority will be given to projects for which the various environmental considerations have been taken into account (with, where appropriate, the implementation of measures to reduce negative impacts) and to projects for which the environmental impact has been estimated in advance in accordance with the regulations in force or which have produced an impact report (e.g., infrastructure, spatial planning/development, renewable energy). In addition, eco-conditionality criteria may be applied in the project selection process [1].

In addition, and in line with the Atlantic Maritime Strategy, this specific objective may contribute to the following goals:

- Reducing greenhouse gases and developing renewable energies;
- Tackling marine pollution;
- Creating jobs in blue economy sectors and supporting cooperation between EU education/training centres and businesses;
- Adapting to climate change by improving coastal observation and protection.

2.1.1.1b. Definition of a single beneficiary or a limited list of beneficiaries and the granting procedure

Reference: point (c)(i) of Article 17(9)

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2.1.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e)(ii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iii) of Article 17(9)

Table 2: Output Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Final target (2029)
3	RSO4.2	RCO81	Participation in joint actions across borders	participations	20	60

Table 3: Result Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Reference Year	Final target (2029)	Source of data	Comments
3	RSO4.2	RCR85	Participations in joint actions across borders after project completion	participations	0.00	2021	200.00	French Guiana Europe Unit (PAE) & beneficiaries	

2.1.1.3. Main target groups

Reference: point (e)(iii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iv) of Article 17(9)

The main target groups for this specific objective include:

- Young people and students in the cooperation area
- Companies in the territories and States of the Guiana Shield
- Research organisations and Universities in the Guiana Shield
- The formal institutional and public stakeholders of the cooperation area

2.1.1.4. Indication of the specific territories targeted, including the planned use of ITI, CLLD or other territorial tools

Reference: Article point (e)(iv) of 17(3)

The whole cooperation area.

2.1.1.5. Planned use of financial instruments

Reference: point (e)(v) of Article 17(3)

Not applicable

2.1.1.6. Indicative breakdown of the EU programme resources by type of intervention

Reference: point (e)(vi) of Article 17(3), point (c)(v) of Article 17(9)

Table 4: Dimension 1 — intervention field

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
3	RSO4.2	ERDF	171. Enhance cooperation with partners both within and outside a given Member State	1 001 649.60

Table 5: Dimension 2 — form of financing

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
3	RSO4.2	ERDF	01. Subsidy	1 001 649.60

Table 6: Dimension 3 — territorial delivery mechanism and territorial focus

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
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2.1.1. Specific Objective: RSO4.3. Promoting the socioeconomic inclusion of marginalised communities, low-income households and disadvantaged groups, including people with special needs, through integrated actions, including housing and social services

Reference: point (e) of Article 17(3)

Joint implementation of projects in cooperation areas on the exchange of know-how and good practice; organisations with enhanced knowledge; joint awareness and prevention actions on the main social risks; development of a stakeholder network; forums, colloquia or joint research seminars, etc.

2.1.1.1 Related types of action, and their expected contribution to those specific objectives and to macro-regional strategies and sea-basis strategies, where appropriate

Reference: point (e)(i) of Article 17(3), point (c)(ii) of Article 17(9)

The cooperation area suffers from the marginalization of some of its communities, who are affected by the isolation/remoteness of their territories, a lack of employment opportunities and poverty. This situation is reflected in a series of social difficulties that must be addressed to foster the social inclusion of the populations. In this context, promoting the social inclusion of the marginalised populations of the cooperation area is a key priority for the programme.

This objective will pursue the dual objective of, on the one hand, promoting inclusion and reducing the impact of social problems on the population, and, on the other, supporting the development of projects in the areas of prevention and health care provision through social mediation.

In line with the strategies of the States and territories of the cooperation area, this specific objective will therefore seek to contribute to the emergence of cooperation projects which reduce the exclusion and precariousness of the marginalised populations/communities of the area and which facilitate social mediation to prevent the problems incurred by certain vulnerable categories of the population.

This specific objective will therefore support the following types of action:

·**Social mediation in support of health awareness, prevention and care provision/response initiatives**

·**Actions on the issue of childhood and parenthood**

For example, cooperative projects to support efforts to protect and manage children from Suriname and Guyana in the *Ouest du Maroni* (west of the Maroni) area.

·**Awareness raising actions and intervention on the issue of gender equality and violence against women**

For example: Projects following up on the Oyapock Cooperation Health project aimed at providing care to women who are victims of violence. Guyana, for example, has begun to develop a programme to combat domestic violence against women through a multi-sectoral approach and with support from the UNDP.

·**Projects in the fields of culture, tourism and sports with a social inclusion objective**

Priority will be given to projects for which the various environmental considerations have been taken into account (with, where appropriate, the implementation of measures to reduce negative impacts) and to projects for which the environmental impact has been estimated in advance in accordance with the regulations in force or which have produced an impact report (e.g., infrastructure, spatial planning/development, renewable energy). In addition, eco-conditionality criteria may be applied in the project selection process [1].

[1] Statement specifying the priority criterion relating to the consideration of environmental challenges in projects (SEA recommendation v1).

2.1.1.1b. Definition of a single beneficiary or a limited list of beneficiaries and the granting procedure

Reference: point (c)(i) of Article 17(9)

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2.1.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e)(ii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iii) of Article 17(9)

Table 2: Output Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Final target (2029)
3	RSO4.3	RCO82	Participations in joint actions promoting gender equality, equal opportunities and social inclusion	participations	0	1706

Table 3: Result Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Reference Year	Final target (2029)	Source of data	Comments
3	RSO4.3	RCR84	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion	organisations	0.00	2021	2.00	French Guiana Europe Unit (PAE) & beneficiaries	

2.1.1.3. Main target groups

Reference: point (e)(iii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iv) of Article 17(9)

The main target groups for this specific objective are:

- All populations/communities affected by precarity, poverty or social exclusion
- The stakeholders involved in designing and delivering social inclusion policies

2.1.1.4. Indication of the specific territories targeted, including the planned use of ITI, CLLD or other territorial tools

Reference: Article point (e)(iv) of 17(3)

The whole cooperation area.

2.1.1.5. Planned use of financial instruments

Reference: point (e)(v) of Article 17(3)

Not applicable.

2.1.1.6. Indicative breakdown of the EU programme resources by type of intervention

Reference: point (e)(vi) of Article 17(3), point (c)(v) of Article 17(9)

Table 4: Dimension 1 — intervention field

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
3	RSO4.3	ERDF	171. Enhance cooperation with partners both within and outside a given Member State	1 039 447.70

Table 5: Dimension 2 — form of financing

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
3	RSO4.3	ERDF	01. Subsidy	1 039 447.70

Table 6: Dimension 3 — territorial delivery mechanism and territorial focus

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
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2.1.1. Specific Objective: RSO4.5. Ensuring equal access to health care and fostering resilience of health systems, including primary care, and promoting the transition from institutional to family-based and community-based care.

Reference: point (e) of Article 17(3)

Joint health prevention actions; Family assistance; Access and care for vulnerable populations; development of collaborative projects; **care provision to groups, communities etc.**; research on infectious diseases and natural hazards; early warning protocol; telemedicine; training and exchange of practice and personnel.

2.1.1.1 Related types of action, and their expected contribution to those specific objectives and to macro-regional strategies and sea-basis strategies, where appropriate.

Reference: point (e)(i) of Article 17(3), point (c)(ii) of Article 17(9)

Given the existence of diseases common to the cooperation area, both communicable (HIV/AIDS, malaria, dengue fever, etc.) and chronic (diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, etc.), and shared deficiencies in the supply of accessible health care for the population, the challenges for cooperation in the health sector are significant. The recent health crisis (COVID 19) and recurrent epidemics (Zika, chikungunya, etc.) have shown a need to strengthen both the resilience of health systems and cooperation between health care practitioners in this sector to both prevent and respond more effectively to such crises. In addition, mercury contamination in certain populations, particularly those in the Upper Maroni, is an important public health issue for the cooperation area [1].

Under this new PCIA, it will be necessary to pursue and strengthen the initiatives launched during the last programme (establishing collaborative actions at the local level; prevention campaigns; responses tailored to cross-border areas; strengthening knowledge and exchange on these diseases) to improve the quality of life of the populations throughout the cooperation area. This will involve strengthening the effectiveness and resilience of health systems on both sides of the borders.

To support this, the programme's intervention will seek to improve the conditions that impact the health of the cooperation area's populations by: strengthening health-related knowledge and improving prevention, improving access to care for the communicable and chronic diseases, strengthening the resilience of health care systems, not forgetting the impact of factors such as the quality of drinking water and ambient environmental conditions on health.

This specific objective will therefore support the following actions in the field of health care:

Joint actions on awareness, prevention and intervention to tackle vector-borne diseases common to the cooperation area (HIV/AIDS, malaria, dengue, etc.)

For example:

- Projects to consolidate the progress achieved in the fight against the transmission of vector-borne diseases, through training, awareness-raising and care provision activities for local communities.
- Establishing care and treatment for patients affected by these pathologies adapted to local contexts, such as binational 'medical pirogues' on the Oyapok and Maroni rivers for example;
- Projects to improve and facilitate cross-border care pathways: information sharing, consolidation of patient contact lists, etc.
- Projects to expand the use of telemedicine to widen access to care.
- Strengthening HIV projects on the Guyana-Suriname border and linking them to actions on the Guyana-

Brazil border

- The inclusion of Guyana in existing malaria control programmes between French Guiana and Suriname (especially on the upper Maroni between the villages of Maripasoula and Langa Tabiki)

·Projects on awareness, prevention and intervention to tackle chronic diseases affecting the cooperation area (diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular diseases, asthma, allergies etc.)

For example:

- Cross-border awareness and prevention campaigns on chronic diseases that affect the cooperation area
- Provide care and treatment for patients affected by these diseases tailored to local circumstances
- Projects to expand the use of telemedicine to increase access to care.
- Exchange of best practice between health professionals on both sides of the border on topics such as chronic diseases, etc.

·Actions aimed at strengthening and exchanging knowledge on shared health challenges in the cooperation area

For example:

- Projects to strengthen the exchange of good practice between health professionals in the cooperation area
- Action to establish relationships between health centers/health organisations and border cities
- Exchanging good practice and experience on water management and its implications for health
- Actions to improve the prevention and management of mercury contamination in certain populations in the cooperation area (Haut Maroni in particular) [2]
- Exchanges of medical personnel and joint training.

·Establishment of coordinated health crisis response mechanisms (e.g.: Covid-19)

For example:

- Projects to structure and strengthen information sharing both in times of crisis and in the long term between health stakeholders across borders
- Establishing emergency response mechanisms to crises, such as those carried out by the French Red Cross, for example.
- Action to share experience, exchange best practices and strengthen capacities on the issue of response to health crises within the cooperation area.
- Supporting the Government of Guyana in data collection, management and processing
- Implementing projects to support the Government of Guyana in the education and training for nurses

Priority will be given to projects for which the various environmental considerations have been taken into account (with, where appropriate, the implementation of measures to reduce negative impacts) and to projects for which the environmental impact has been estimated in advance in accordance with the regulations in force or which have produced an impact report (e.g., infrastructure, spatial planning/development, renewable energy). In addition, eco-conditionality criteria may be applied in the

project selection process [3].

[1] Addition of a reference to mercury contamination as a health issue (SEA v1 recommendation)

[2] Addition of two examples of projects dealing with water management and the health issue of mercury contamination (SEA v1 recommendations)

[3] Reference specifying the priority criterion relating to the consideration of environmental challenges in projects (SEA v1 recommendation)

2.1.1.1b. Definition of a single beneficiary or a limited list of beneficiaries and the granting procedure

Reference: point (c)(i) of Article 17(9)

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2.1.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e)(ii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iii) of Article 17(9)

Table 2: Output Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Objective (2029)
3	RSO4.5	RCO116	Jointly developed solutions	solutions	4	14

Table 3: Result Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Reference Year	Final target (2029)	Source of data	Comments
3	RSO4.5	RCR84	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion	organisations	0.00	2021	7.00	French Guiana Europe Unit (PAE) & beneficiaries	
3	RSO4.5	RCR79	Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations	joint strategy/action plan	0.00	2021	5.00	French Guiana Europe Unit (PAE) & beneficiaries	

2.1.1.3. Main target groups

Reference: point (e)(iii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iv) of Article 17(9)

The main target groups for this specific objective are:

- The entire population of the cooperation area
- The stakeholders involved in the delivery of public health policies

2.1.1.4. Indication of the specific territories targeted, including the planned use of ITI, CLLD or other territorial tools

Reference: Article point (e)(iv) of 17(3)

The whole cooperation area is covered by the intervention of this specific objective. However, isolated areas, in view of their specific characteristics, are considered as priorities [1].

[1] Priority Zones (SEA v1 recommendation)

2.1.1.5. Planned use of financial instruments

Reference: point (e)(v) of Article 17(3)

Not applicable

2.1.1.6. Indicative breakdown of the EU programme resources by type of intervention

Reference: point (e)(vi) of Article 17(3), point (c)(v) of Article 17(9)

Table 4: Dimension 1 — intervention field

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
3	RSO4.5	ERDF	171. Enhance cooperation with partners both within and outside a given Member State	4 630 267.01

Table 5: Dimension 2 — form of financing

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
3	RSO4.5	ERDF	01. Subsidy	4 630 276.01

Table 6: Dimension 3 — territorial delivery mechanism and territorial focus

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
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2.1. Priority: ISO1 - Strengthen the administrative capacities of the formal institutional stakeholders involved in regional cooperation and facilitate the mobilization of complementary funding with a view to improving Programme governance

Reference: point (d) of Article 17(3)

2.1.1. Specific Objective: ISO6.1. Enhance the institutional capacity of public authorities, in particular those mandated to manage a specific territory, and of stakeholders (all strands)

Reference: point (e) of Article 17(3)

Organisation of events and communication actions throughout the cooperation area; setting up a system for the exchange of good practices and experienced staff acting as advisors/expert contacts and briefing & information sessions; organising/running activities and providing assistance to programme partners; staff immersion opportunities.

2.1.1.1 Related types of action, and their expected contribution to those specific objectives and to macro-regional strategies and sea-basis strategies, where appropriate.

Reference: point (e)(i) of Article 17(3), point (c)(ii) of Article 17(9)

Taking stock of the experience gained under previous Programmes and in order to continue the efforts undertaken to promote balance in the implementation of the PCIA, both in terms of projects to be supported and in terms of the involvement of all the programme partners, the programme's formal institutional stakeholders identified the persistence of structural barriers to the improvement of Interreg governance in the specific case of the PCIA. Indeed, the PCIA's geography implies a significant diversity, both in linguistic and cultural terms, but also in different political and legal systems of the States and territories involved.

In addition, and in order to facilitate access to additional funding to better support cooperation on the scale of the cooperation area, the partners would like to be in a position to undertake specific actions under the new PCIA, in particular to ensure that it benefits from the regulatory changes designed to enable the joint use of the ERDF and the new NDICI.

Under this new PCIA, it will be necessary to respond to various challenges, including the need to strengthen the capacity of formal institutional stakeholders to participate in an active effort to improve Programme governance, to continue the efforts initiated in the 2014-2020 programme to bring in additional funding for projects and beneficiaries and to implement a strategy to enhance the visibility of cooperation opportunities.

This specific objective will therefore support the following actions:

Strengthen and improve coordination between the new ERDF PCIA programme and the new Instrument for Neighborhood, Development and International Cooperation (NDICI);

For example:

-Projects to strengthen the understanding of how to use/combine the PCIA and IVDCI mechanisms for the benefit of all stakeholders (PCIA Managing Authority, programme partners, EU Delegations, especially in Georgetown, intermediary organizations with an indirect NDICI management function, etc.)

-Projects to reinforce the links between the management bodies of the two systems (such as the EDF-ERDF platform)

Cooperation actions to improve the mutual knowledge of governance stakeholders and to reinforce the capacities of stakeholders with a role in cooperation

For example:

- Actions to improve mutual knowledge and develop a shared working culture
- Actions to improve partners' understanding of each other's administrative and political systems and concerns about the implications of these differences for cooperation dynamics.
- Training for civil servants, particularly in Guyana, to strengthen project management and monitoring capacities and modernize the country's public services
- Immersive exchange programmes for officers involved in regional cooperation to promote the practice of foreign languages and a improve knowledge of partner institutions and of how they function.
- Actions to improve understanding of the cooperation area's different economic contexts and legal systems.

·Actions to strengthen the capacities of regional organisations and third-party partners in relation to addressing concerns about operational challenges and delivering the PCIA

For example: programmes of shared work seminars on programme eligibility criteria, on issues related to the monitoring of achievements and results, on the specific aspects of expenditure reporting, on supporting potential project leaders, on the consideration of environmental issues in projects and cooperation programmes [1], carrying out relevant stakeholder network mapping, a specific programme for Guyana to help it better understand the conditions for accessing PCIA funds, etc.

·Actions to identify funding that can be deployed on the scale of the cooperation area to encourage the joint use of different funding opportunities to scale up the Programme's intervention.

For example: mapping the funding sources available for regional cooperation projects on the scale of the cooperation area, establishing funding task groups such as an "EDF-ERDF platform" but not limited to work on links with the NDICI, technical cooperation and exchange of best practices with other Interreg Cooperation Programmes facing similar challenges (Caribbean, MAC, Reunion, MED, etc.)

Priority will be given to projects for which the various environmental considerations have been taken into account (with, where appropriate, the implementation of measures to reduce negative impacts) and to projects for which the environmental impact has been estimated in advance in accordance with the regulations in force or which have produced an impact report (e.g., infrastructure, spatial planning/development, renewable energy). In addition, eco-conditionality criteria may be applied in the project selection process [2].

[1] Addition of example of action on the consideration of environmental challenges (SEA recommendation v1)

[2] Reference specifying the priority criterion relating to the consideration of environmental challenges in projects (SEA recommendation v1)

2.1.1.1b. Definition of a single beneficiary or a limited list of beneficiaries and the granting procedure

Reference: point (c)(i) of Article 17(9)

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2.1.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e)(ii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iii) of Article 17(9)

Table 2: Output Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Final target (2029)
ISO1	ISO6.1	RCO87	Organisations cooperating across borders	organisations	5	10

Table 3: Result Indicators

Priority	Specific Objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Reference Year	Final target (2029)	Source of data	Comments
ISO1	ISO6.1	SRI02	Organisations with increased institutional capacity due to their participation in cooperation activities across borders (cross-border, transnational or interregional)	Number	0.00	2021	10.00	French Guiana Europe Unit (PAE) & beneficiaries and PCIA partners	

2.1.1.3. Main target groups

Reference: point (e)(iii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iv) of Article 17(9)

The main target groups for this specific objective include:

- The formal institutional stakeholders of regional cooperation;
- All potential beneficiaries of the programme

2.1.1.4. Indication of the specific territories targeted, including the planned use of ITI, CLLD or other territorial tools

Reference: Article point (e)(iv) of 17(3)

The whole cooperation area.

2.1.1.5. Planned use of financial instruments

Reference: point (e)(v) of Article 17(3)

Not applicable.

2.1.1.6. Indicative breakdown of the EU programme resources by type of intervention

Reference: point (e)(vi) of Article 17(3), point (c)(v) of Article 17(9)

Table 4: Dimension 1 — intervention field

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
ISO1	ISO6.1	ERDF	171. Enhance cooperation with partners both within and outside a given Member State	1 984 400.15

Table 5: Dimension 2 — form of financing

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
ISO1	ISO6.1	ERDF	01. Subsidy	1 984 400.15

Table 6: Dimension 3 — territorial delivery mechanism and territorial focus

Priority	Specific Objective	Fund	Code	Amount (in EUR)
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3. Financing Plan

Reference: point (f) of Article 17(3)

3.1. Financial appropriations by year

Table 7

Reference: point (g)(i) of Article 17(3), points (a) to (d) of Article 17(4)

Fund	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
ERDF	0.00	3 228 528.00	3 280 388.00	3 333 285.00	3 387 240.00	2 806 737.00	2 862 871.00	18 899 049.00
Total	0.00	3 228 528.00	3 280 388.00	3 333 285.00	3 387 240.00	2 806 737.00	2 862 871.00	18 899 049.00

3.2 Total financial appropriations by fund and national co-financing

Reference: point (f)(ii) of Article 17(3), points (a) to (d) of Article 17(4)

Table 8

Policy objective No	Priority	Fund	Basis for calculation EU support (total eligible cost or public contribution)	EU contribution (a)=(a1)+(a2)	Indicative breakdown of the EU contribution		National contribution (b)=(c)+(d)	Indicative breakdown of the national counterpart		Total (e)=(a)+(b)	Co-financing rate (f)=(a)/(e)	Contributions from the third countries
					Without TA pursuant to Article 27(1) (a1)	For TA pursuant to Article 27(1) (a2)		National public (c)	National private (d)			
1	1	ERDF	Total	3 758 926.87	3 401 828.82	357 098.05	663 340.04	497 505.03	165 835.01	4 422 266.91	84.9999999209%	0.00
2	2	ERDF	Total	5 575 741.53	5 046 046.08	529 695.45	983 954.39	688 768.07	295 186.32	6 559 695.92	84.9999999695%	0.00
4	3	ERDF	Total	7 371 673.26	6 671 364.30	700 308.96	1 300 883.52	650 441.76	650 441.76	8 672 556.78	84.9999999654%	0.00
6	ISO1	ERDF	Total	2 192 707.34	1 984 400.15	208 307.19	386 948.36	348 253.52	38 694.84	2 579 655.70	84.9999998062%	0.00
	Total	ERDF		18 899 049.00	17 103 639.35	1 795 409.65	3 335 126.31	2 184 968.38	1 150 157.93	22 234 175.31	84.9999999393%	0.00
	Overall Total			18 899 049.00	17 103 639.35	1 795 409.65	3 335 126.31	2 184 968.38	1 150 157.93	22 234 175.31	84.9999999393%	0.00

4. Action taken to involve the relevant programme partners in the preparation of the Interreg programme and the role of those programme partners in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation

Reference: point (g) of Article 17(3)

Involvement of partners in the preparation of the Programme

The process of drawing up this programme for the Amazonia cooperation area was conducted on the basis of wide consultation of partner states and territories.

For French Guiana, the work carried out to produce the inter-fund Strategic Territorial Diagnosis involved all of the stakeholders in the country on the basis of extensive consultations. This work was carried out as follows:

-About twenty interviews were conducted in order to identify the economic, social and environmental trends in the country, as well as the vectors and opportunities for its development. As part of this work, a group composed of various stakeholders in charge of cooperation on the Guiana Shield and dedicated to the production of the socio-demographic analysis met on September 26, 2019. Other organisations were contacted later;

-The organization of 14 thematic workshops involving representatives of the State's departments, the Territorial Collectivity of French Guiana, as well as stakeholders and experts in each of the themes explored, including a workshop on regional cooperation, which enabled the consultation to be supplemented by taking into consideration the challenges and the potential of cooperation at the scale of the whole Guiana Shield;

-Local (territorial) public meetings allowed the consultation to be expanded by integrating elected officials and various stakeholders involved in local and territorial development in French Guiana.

On the basis of this initial inter-fund work, the specific work dedicated to the Interreg Cooperation Programme (updating the PCIA cooperation area's strategic territorial diagnosis and identifying intervention priorities) was launched, in the midst of the Covid19 international crisis. In this context, the work was carried out as follows:

·Thematic workshops were organised by video-conference with French Guiana stakeholders to determine the strategic goals where regional cooperation could add specific value (July 2020). Five workshops brought together a large number of representatives of the departments of the Programme's main partners (see appendix). These helped to jointly define the Programme's first strategic goals, to set out its intervention logic and gather information on possible projects to be supported by the new PCIA.

·A first version of the Programme was then produced during the summer of 2020 and discussed within the French partnership of the Programme. A second version was presented in October 2020.

- **With regard to the Programme's non-EU partners**, particular care was taken to build a shared vision, on the scale of the cooperation area, of the major issues facing the territory, including its weaknesses, strengths, opportunities and threats. In addition, the PCIA's cooperation strategy was similarly developed. The stakeholders in French Guiana representing the non-EU partners (consulates) took part in the thematic workshops of July 2020 alongside partners from French Guiana. The non-EU partners were then consulted in writing on the second version of the draft programme in October 2020. The December 2020 monitoring committees of the 2014-2020 programme were the occasion for an initial exchange between partners on the programme's priorities; workshops conducted in February 2021 by videoconference with Guyana and Suriname made it possible to enrich the draft programme (due to the health situation, the workshop with Brazil could not be held; Amapa sent its contribution by mail).

This programme therefore takes into account the priorities shared by all the programme's partners.

Involvement of partners in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Programme

All of the programme's partners, both French and non-EU, participate in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programme.

In accordance with regulatory requirements, the Monitoring Committee (MC) is the Programme's strategic steering body. The Monitoring Committee is chaired by the President of the Territorial Collectivity of French Guiana and its composition guarantees a balanced representation of the partnership.

In order to facilitate interactions between partners, the comitology has been strengthened for the 2021-2027 programming, including:

- The organisation of specific bi- or tripartite meetings when the needs in terms of assessment or monitoring the implementation of specific operations are identified by the Joint Secretariat;
- The regular organization of technical meetings by videoconference, involving the INTERREG partners' dedicated contact persons and relevant departments where necessary;
- The holding of technical meetings in preparation for the Monitoring Committee meetings;

In addition, and with regard to the desire to strengthen the linkage between the PCIA and NDICI programmes, the partnership will ensure the involvement of relevant bodies, and in particular the Delegation of the European Union in Georgetown, in order to promote the joint programming of cooperation operations/projects falling within the strategic scope of the two programmes.

Finally, and in line with the results/achievements being targeted / to be carried out under priority 4 (ISO1), the partners will ensure that the knowledge and skills of the staff they respectively mobilise to support the implementation of the Programme are strengthened.

Facilitation and advisory functions for the benefit of project leaders will involve the INTERREG dedicated staff in all the territories and States of the cooperation area in order to facilitate the emergence of regional cooperation operations which support major coordinated development actions in the target areas.

Assessment, which falls within the remit of the Joint Secretariat, may be supported by contributions from the relevant departments of all the members of the Monitoring Committee. Therefore, the process of selecting operations will be based on the involvement of the relevant departments at the partnership level and will provide the Monitoring Committee with the information necessary to carry out its tasks.

The monitoring of operations and the implementation of the Programme Evaluation Plan will also involve the entire programme partnership in order to ensure regular reporting on the progress of the programme and qualitative monitoring of its achievements and results for the cooperation area.

Evaluations of the Programme will be approved by the Monitoring Committee.

5. Approach to communication and visibility for the Interreg programme (objectives, target audiences, communication channels, including social media outreach, where appropriate, planned budget and relevant indicators for monitoring and evaluation)

Reference: point (h) of Article 17(3)

The programme aims to develop cooperative relations between French Guiana and Suriname, Guyana, and Brazil (Amapa, Para, Amazonas). Although these relations have always existed, the changing political climate, the linguistic diversity and the differences in the functioning of the administrative and political organisations are important parameters to take into account for an effective communication strategy.

The communication strategy must not only raise awareness of the Programme, but also give it an attractive and simple image in order to encourage new cooperation, especially in the business and industry sector. Finding the right channels and messages are therefore priorities. It is necessary to demystify the European funds and connect with the professionals of the cooperation area.

The present communication strategy takes these issues into account. Its communication strategy will involve partners, use relays in border communities, organise events and information campaigns to raise awareness among socio-professionals. The circulation of information will be increasingly dematerialised making it more efficient and enabling reactive communications. Emphasis will also be placed on companies in border areas.

1.1 The Priorities

The 2021-2027 communication strategy is divided into three main areas: making the programme clear to everyone, communication aimed at local businesses and raising awareness of foreign institutions so they can act as reliable information relays. A coordinator within the European Affairs Pole has been appointed to monitor and implement the communication strategy at the regional level.

Depending on the target, the communication will be institutional or operational (dedicated to projects). Clarity of mission and explanation will be the main communication goals. Successful partnerships will be showcased and the development opportunities offered by the programme will be explained in thematic meetings, where information materials will be distributed. It is necessary to meet key stakeholders, key people, in each territory who can relay information throughout the programme. Although a French Guiana CTG office is present in Suriname, other organisations will be brought 'into the loop', given that there are no relays in the cooperation area's other territories.

1.2 Communication – Visibility and transparency

Target groups:

- Potential beneficiaries: Encourage project applications
- Beneficiaries: Comply with publicity requirements and serve as 'ambassadors'
- Citizens: Make Europe a player in French Guiana's development (positive image)
- Foreign institutions: Make the CTG (French Guiana territorial collectivity) a doorway to Europe for business and exchange through the PCIA. [MJ1]

Communication channels:

- Documentation: presentational materials explaining the programme in the form of leaflets, brochures, films, a guide to procedures, etc.
- Internal events: information sessions for potential beneficiaries in order to discover the programme, to

help beneficiaries to properly fulfil their obligations, to showcase the funded projects.

- External events: exhibitions, regional fairs on themes that can be supported by the ERDF-ETC
- Promotional tools: communication kit including multimedia tools presenting the programme and showcasing funded projects
- The website: General information updated and translated into 3 languages
- An information point: In the border areas there will be an information point for the general public and beneficiaries capable of answering any questions about the ERDF-ETC.

1.3 A dedicated budget

Taking into account the previous programme's budget, the budget allocated would correspond to 5% of the ERDF-CTE OP, i.e., approximately 128 000€ per year

1.4 Evaluation of the communication strategy

The control of the effectiveness of the communication actions requires measuring progress against targets(indicators), which depends on the type of actions pursued:

- Events: number of participants
- Posters and documentation: Quantity printed and distributed

Halfway through the implementation of the communication plan, an evaluation of the strategy and actions can be carried out by means of a questionnaire sent to identified targets and available online. A more in-depth evaluation will be scheduled at the end of the 2021-2027 period.

6. Indication of support to small-scale projects, including small projects within small project funds

Reference: point (i) of Article 17(3), Article 24

The Interreg Amazonia Programme will support small projects directly, without the creation of a specific small project fund. This will allow the Managing Authority to widen its pool of beneficiaries and pragmatically respond to one of the specific characteristics of its cooperation area.

7. Implementing provisions

7.1. Programme authorities

Reference: point (a) of Article 17(6)

Table 9

Programme Authorities	Name of the Institution	Contact Name	Post	Email
Managing Authority	Collectivité Territoriale de Guyane (French Guiana local government)	Gabriel SERVILLE	President of the Chamber of the Local Authority)	gabriel.serville@ctguyane.fr
Audit Authority	Commission Interministérielle de Coordination des Contrôles (CICC) (French Interministerial Commission for Coordination of Controls	Martine MARIGEAUD	President	martine.marigeaud@finances.gouv.fr
Body to which the payments are to be made by the Commission	Collectivité Territoriale de Guyane (French Guiana local government)	Joëlle CLERX-FARNAUD	Deputy Director-General	joelle.clerx-farnaud@ctguyane.fr

7.2. Procedure for setting up the joint secretariat

Reference: point (b) of Article 17(6)

For the period 2021-2027, the Joint Secretariat of the PCIA is integrated into the Pole of European Affairs of the Territorial Collectivity of Guyana. Indeed, since the launch of the 2014-2020 programming, the Territorial Collectivity of French Guiana, Managing Authority, emphasizes the pooling of management staff based on an organization of its Pole of European Affairs by operational department.

The specific missions of the Joint Secretariat are assigned to identified staff and their work is supervised by a PCIA coordinator.

In addition, for cooperation with Suriname and Guyana, the partnership relies on the Territorial Collectivity of French Guiana's office in Paramaribo, which will partly ensure the interface between the project leaders of Suriname and Guyana and the Programme authorities located in French Guiana.

In addition, and in accordance with the regulations in force, the non-EU States of the Programme will identify the contact persons within their respective administrations in order to facilitate interactions and reinforce the efficiency of the PCIA's implementation for this new programme period.

The staff of the European Affairs Unit will assist the Programme's Managing Authority and Monitoring Committee in the performance of their tasks.

7.3. Apportionment of liabilities among participating Member States and where applicable, the third or partner countries and OCTs, in the event of financial corrections imposed by the managing authority or the Commission

Reference: point (c) of Article 17(6)

The purpose of the control system is to guarantee the conformity of operations and the eligibility of expenditures as well as the administrative, legal and accounting reliability of the management system. It therefore involves two concomitant aspects:

- Internal control
- Control of operations, which has two levels

First level control is the responsibility of the Managing Authority (MG) and refers to:

- The reality and conformity of the physical execution of the operation
- Compliance with contractual obligations
- The eligibility and justification of expenditure

First level control is based on documents and on-the-spot checks by programme officers and results in:

- Management verification reports and confirmation of eligible expenditure
- On-the-spot-check reports
- Monitoring the implementation of corrections of irregularities, making observations and recommendations to the beneficiaries

Management verifications are required to process any request for payment (interim/intermediate and final payment request) submitted by a beneficiary. This procedure is necessary to determine the total amount of expenditure that is eligible which can be reimbursed and potentially included in the payment claims submitted to the European Commission (EC). These verifications are therefore systematic. They are performed in the first instance on the basis of supporting documents provided by the beneficiary. However, on-the-spot checks are carried out where there are any suspicions regarding any qualitative, quantitative, administrative or accounting related aspects of the operation.

Management verifications are performed by an officer who is responsible for assessing the requests for payment and signs the verifications report. The report's completeness, accuracy and consistency is supervised and confirmed by their head of unit (N+1) by their signature. And, it may, where applicable, be subject to a reassessment as part of a management quality control (MQC) on a sample of operations.

The beneficiary is informed of the conclusions of the management verifications, especially the eligible amount accepted for payment. Beneficiaries also receive the on-the-spot check reports. When departments of the collectivity and/or the CNES¹⁰ or of the State/government administration are involved in the co-financing of operations, they will also be informed by the officers of the conclusions of the management verifications and the eligible amount accepted for payment, and will also receive the on-the-spot check reports.

Management verification officers and/or the internal control officers may decide to carry out on-the-spot verifications on an ad hoc basis at any time in the event that any difficulties arise in the implementation of an operation, in the event of suspicion on its regularity, of doubts concerning the supporting documents

¹⁰ Centre nationale d'études spatiales (French National Space Agency)

provided, as well as in the event of complaints.

On-the-spot checks for routine sampling will also be undertaken in relation to:

- at least 20 % of the number of approved operations before their final payment
- all operations having been subject to a control or audit which detected weaknesses/errors and irregularities
- all operations needing to verify their durability after their completion.

The selection of 20 % of operations to be checked within their lifetime and in any case before final payment will be made by applying a combination of the following criteria:

- financial criteria (total cost of the project, amount of the EU contribution, sampling of the different EU contribution payment requests (of different subsidy brackets)
- thematic criteria (topics of the operations by priority, specific objectives)
- type of beneficiaries (legal status, size, number of staff, turnover)
- geographic localisation (town/city where the operation is implemented)
- risks related to certain categories of beneficiaries (new beneficiaries, beneficiaries receiving multiple public funding from multiple sources, recurrent beneficiaries, etc.)
- risks related to certain categories of operations (operations generating revenues, multiannual operations, financial instruments, tax exemptions, etc.)
- other risks identified by the risk mapping exercise.

The choice of the sampling selection criteria will be adapted depending on the programme stage. In the beginning of the programming period, they will focus on risks related to certain categories of beneficiaries:

- new beneficiaries in order to ensure the dissemination of good practices related to administrative and financial management and publicity requirements, from the start of the projects,
- beneficiaries receiving multiple public funding in order to avoid double-financing, and clarify the rationale of any potential combination of funding sources **in a single operation or administratively independent interventions regarding a single policy target.**
- beneficiaries having committed irregularities in a previous programming period in order to put in place preventive measures and ensure vigilant monitoring.

When a collectivity is a beneficiary of a European contribution, it will always be the officers of the European Affairs Department (EAD) who carry out the management verifications. The operational departments (« *services métiers* ») having submitted the funding application are considered as beneficiaries and as such have to report on the progress, monitoring, evaluation, qualitative, quantitative and financial implementation of the financed operations. If the operational department has delegated the implementation of the financed operation to third parties, on-the-spot checks of these third parties can be carried out jointly by an officer of the EAD and an officer of the operational department.

When the collectivity is not the beneficiary but co-finances the operation with its own funds, the operational department concerned can be asked to contribute to the management verification through the collection of qualitative and quantitative information on the implementation of the operation and by participating in the on-the-spot checks. However, only the officer of the EAD will be authorised to

establish the management verification confirmation.

In compliance with the legislation in force, the countries participating in the Programme are responsible for notifying any irregularities detected and corrective and preventive measures taken to the European Commission, except for the cases specifically mentioned in the legislation for which a notification is not necessary. As a general rule, the countries participating in the Programme inform the managing authority of any type of irregularity detected by controls, as well as any corresponding preventive and corrective measures. Likewise, in the case of a financial correction imposed by the European Commission, the countries participating in the Programme will inform the managing authority of the measures taken to ensure compliance and obtain the reimbursement of funds.

If following a control, it is concluded that funds have been unduly paid, due to an irregularity, the beneficiary must, upon request from the managing authority, reimburse the unduly paid amount to the Certifying Authority, according to the procedure defined in the project subsidy contract signed between the Programme and the beneficiary. If the Managing Authority does not succeed in securing the repayment by the beneficiary, the participating country on whose territory the beneficiary (project partner) concerned is located, reimburses the Certifying Authority of the whole amount unduly paid to the beneficiary. Once the unduly paid amounts have been reimbursed to the Certifying Authority, the Managing Authority will ask the Certifying Authority to reimburse these amounts to the Programme budget.

The managing authority is responsible vis-à-vis the European Commission for the reimbursement to the budget of the Union. The lead partners established in French Guiana will have to commit to ensuring the reimbursement of unduly paid funds to the managing authorities in all cases, including for the expenditure declared by their partners located in the Partner States.

8. Use of unit costs, lump sums, flat rates and financing not linked to costs

Reference: Articles 94 and 95 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 (CPR)

Table 10: Use of unit costs, lump sums, flat rates and financing not linked to costs

Intended use of Articles 94 and 95	Yes	No
From the adoption the programme will make use of reimbursement of the Union contribution based on unit costs, lump sums and flat rates under priority according to Article 94 CPR (if yes, fill in Appendix 1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
From the adoption the programme will make use of reimbursement of the Union contribution based on financing not linked to costs according to Article 95 CPR (if yes, fill in Appendix 2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Appendix 1

A. Summary of the main elements

Priority	Fund	Specific Objective	Estimated proportion of the total financial allocation within the priority to which the simplified cost option will be applied in %	Type(s) of operation covered		Indicator triggering reimbursement		Unit of measurement for the indicator triggering reimbursement	Type of simplified cost option (standard scale of unit costs, lump sums or flat rates)	Amount (in EUR) or percentage (in case of flat rates) of the simplified cost option
				Code (1)	Description	Code (2)	Description			

(1) This refers to the code for the intervention field dimension in Table 1 of Annex I CPR

(2) This refers to the code of a common indicator, if applicable.

Appendix 1

B. Details by type of operation

C. Calculation of the standard scale of unit costs, lump sums or flat rates

1. Source of data used to calculate the standard scale of unit costs, lump sums or flat rates (who produced, collected and recorded the data; where the data are stored; cut-off dates; validation, etc.):

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2. Please specify why the proposed method and calculation based on Article 88(2) of CPR is relevant to the type of operation:

3. Please specify how the calculations were made, in particular including any assumptions made in terms of quality or quantities. Where relevant, statistical evidence and benchmarks should be used and, if requested, provided in a format that is usable by the Commission:

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4. Please explain how you have ensured that only eligible expenditure was included in the calculation of the standard scale of unit cost, lump sum or flat rate:

5. Assessment of the audit authority or authorities of the calculation methodology and amounts and the arrangements to ensure the verification, quality, collection and storage of data:

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Appendix 2

A. Summary of the main elements

Priority	Fund	Specific Objective	The amount covered by the financing not linked to costs	Type(s) of operation covered		Conditions to be fulfilled/results to be achieved triggering reimbursement by the Commission	Indicator		Unit of measurement for the conditions to be fulfilled/results to be achieved triggering reimbursement by the Commission	Envisaged type of reimbursement method used to reimburse the beneficiary or beneficiaries
				Code (1)	Description		Code (2)	Description		

(1) This refers to the code for the intervention field dimension in Table 1 of Annex I to the CPR and Annex IV to the EMFAR Regulation.

(2) This refers to the code of a common indicator, if applicable.

B. Details by type of operation

Appendix 3: List of planned operations of strategic importance with a timetable - Article 17(3)

There are no operations of strategic importance identified for this fund

DOCUMENTS

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent by
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