



Priority 2 ‘A greener region’

Methodological descriptions of Interreg VI-A Romania-Bulgaria indicators

Specific objective 2.7. *Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution*




| April 2023 August 2025

Contents

RCO 84 Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects.....	4
RCR104 Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organizations	8
RCO 87 Organizations cooperating across borders.....	11
RCR84 Organizations cooperating across borders after project completion.....	13
RCO36 Green infrastructure supported for other purposes than adaptation to climate change 15	
RCR95 Population having access to new or improved green infrastructure.....	19
PSO3 Tools implemented for mitigating pollution.....	20
PSR3 Population living within the area covered by the tools implemented for mitigating pollution	21

SO 2.7. Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution

The Programme will support actions related to the following fields:


-  reducing all types of pollution, by supporting investments in monitoring and data collection on air, soil and water pollution.
-  supporting the development of green infrastructures, including by developing and protecting green areas in human settlements and raising awareness of the benefits of green spaces.
-  enhancing biodiversity conservation, recovery and sustainable use and protection of natural heritage, including Natura 2000 and RAMSAR sites.

The supported actions include both soft measures (such as studies, strategies, plans, programs, tools, campaigns, trainings etc.) and hard measures (for example, developing green infrastructure and areas or creation of ecological infrastructures etc.).

All three types of actions will be implemented through competitive calls. The pairs of indicators must be observed by the projects.

Output Indicator	Target (2029)	Result Indicator	Target (2029)
RCO84 Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects	16 pilot actions	RCR104 Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organizations	8 solutions
RCO87 Organizations cooperating across borders	32 organisations	RCR84 Organizations cooperating across borders after project completion	16 organisations
PSO3 Tools implemented for mitigating pollution	8 tools	PSR3 Population living within the area covered by the tools implemented for mitigating pollution	210,000 persons
RCO36 Green infrastructure supported for other purposes than adaptation to climate change	5 hectares	RCR95 Population having access to new or improved green infrastructure	3,750 persons

RCO 84 Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects

Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1	Indicator code	RCO84
2	Indicator name	Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects
3	Measurement unit	Pilot action (number)
4	Type of indicator	Output
5	Policy objective	PO 2. A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe
6	Specific objective(s) and actions	<p>This indicator is used for monitoring interventions under SO 2.7. Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution, in respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing all types of pollution, by supporting investments in monitoring and data collection on air, soil and water pollution. Supporting the development of green infrastructures, including by developing and protecting green areas in human settlements and raising awareness of the benefits of green spaces. Enhancing biodiversity conservation, recovery and sustainable use and protection of natural heritage, including Natura 2000 and RAMSAR sites. <p><i>The indicator is also used to monitor:</i></p> <p><i>SO 3.2 Developing and enhancing sustainable, climate resilient, intelligent, and intermodal national, regional and local mobility, including improved access to TEN-T and cross-border mobility</i></p> <p><i>SO 2.4 Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention and resilience, taking into account ecosystem-based approaches</i></p>
7	Definition and concepts	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>The indicator counts the pilot actions developed jointly and implemented by supported projects. The scope of a jointly developed pilot action could be to test procedures, new instruments, tools, experimentation or the transfer of practices.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p>To be counted by this indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the pilot action needs to be jointly developed, and implemented within the project, and - the implementation of the pilot action should be finalised by the end of the project. </div> </div> <p>Jointly developed pilot action implies the involvement of organizations from both participating countries in its implementation.</p>

Programme-specific details:

HOW do we define a 'pilot action'?

In the context of Interreg VI-A RO-BG, a pilot action is defined as an activity or a set of activities implemented in a project, with the aim of testing procedures, instruments, tools, experimentation or the transfer of good practices found in another region.

It should be noted that these pilot actions should have an impact on the specific objective of the programme on their own and should implement concrete measures.

While preparatory activities such as meetings and events, can be carried out as part of the pilot actions, they cannot be the focus.


WHAT do we mean by 'testing'?



Testing is understood as evaluating and/or demonstrating the feasibility and effectiveness of the procedures, instruments etc.

The tested procedures, instruments etc., need to have an innovative character, i.e., they have to be new for the targeted area/groups. Therefore, they can be developed as part of the project or can be already existing. Instruments and tools developed in other contexts, for example in other cross-border regions, may be used for this purpose.

The measures proposed by the applicant for ensuring sustainability and durability of the project need to be clear and focused towards:

- increasing visibility of the pilot actions so that other organizations can adopt/up-scale them;



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> propose clear measures for facilitating the adoption/ scaling-up of the pilot actions by the partners of the project themselves (indicate the distribution channels of the tested pilot actions). <div>  <p>Pilot actions developed by organisations from only one country should not be counted under this indicator.</p> <p><i>If the organisations from both countries were involved in the development and implementation (e.g., in a co-design or co-creation process, including, for example, peer reviews) of a pilot action focusing only on one territory, thus being implemented in one country only, such pilot action can still be counted under this indicator as fulfilling the necessary requirement of being “jointly developed and implemented”.</i></p> </div>
8	Data collection	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>MA monitoring system</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Data on this indicator is collected from JEMS, for all completed projects, and reported to EC by the Programme structures.</p> <p>Pilot actions must be clearly defined by the Partners, from the onset of the project, in the application form, in term of activities comprising the pilot action, including those meant to ensure the visibility of the pilot action and to facilitate the future adoption/ scaling-up of the pilot actions.</p> <p>The indicator will be considered as achieved once all activities comprised in the pilot action are completed. It is advisable that clear explanations be provided in the application form, in respect to how this will be achieved (for example: equipment purchased, methodology applied in practice at least once, events organized etc.).</p> <p>The partners need to provide proof of completion for each activity. Given the wide range of possible activities, supporting documents may vary. Proof of implementation can be e.g.: publication of results on the websites of the project partners, reception of works, proof of acquisition, photo documentation, attendance lists etc.</p> <p>The partners need to provide proof of completion for each activity. Given the wide range of possible activities, supporting documents may vary. Proof of implementation can be e.g.: publication of results on the websites of the project partners, reception of works, proof of acquisition, photo documentation, attendance lists etc.</p> <p><u>It is the responsibility of the project partner to provide sufficient and relevant proof to demonstrate the completion of each activity comprised in the pilot action.</u></p>
9	Time measurement achieved	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>The achievement of this indicator will be measured upon project finalization.</p>

		<p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Values achieved for this indicator from <u>all completed projects</u> will be summed up to assess achievements at programme level. Please note that only completed projects must be taken into account for programme-level measurements and reporting.</p> <p>For each project, achievements will be measured upon completion of all activities comprised in the pilot, according to the project application form and implementation schedule. The achievement of this indicator will be measured at the latest at the end of the implementation period of the project (upon submission of final report).</p> <div>  <p>The indicator will be considered as achieved once all activities comprised in the pilot action are completed.</p> <p><i>It is advisable that clear explanations be provided in the application form, in respect to how this will be achieved (for example: equipment purchased, methodology applied in practice at least once, events organized etc.).</i></p> </div>
10	Aggregation issues	<p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Testing of the same element of the solution in several locations is counted as one pilot action. To be counted as different pilot actions, the tested solutions need to be significantly different.</p> <div>  <p>If more than one pilot action is intended, project partners should define each pilot action as a separate group of activities, from the application form.</p> </div>
11	Reporting	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>Forecast for selected projects and achieved values, both cumulative to date (CPR Annex VII, Table 3).</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Values achieved for this indicator from <u>all completed projects</u> will be summed up and reported as achievements at programme level, by the Programme structures. Please note that only completed projects must be taken into account for programme-level reporting.</p> <p>Upon each data submission, data will be provided as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - forecast values - cumulative values, since the beginning of programme implementation to date (for example, January 2022 - June 2024) - achievements for the reporting period only (for example January 2024 - June 2024) <p>The partners will set up targets for this indicator in the application form. The targets should be reasonable and realistic, in direct connection with the Specific Objective of the Programme.</p>


		<p>Achievements are reported once they are achieved, during the implementation or upon submission of the final progress report of the project, at the latest, according to the implementation timetable.</p> <p>Data must be uploaded to JEMS the latest at the end of the implementation period of the project.</p>
12	References	Commission Staff Working Document Performance, monitoring and evaluation of the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the Just Transition Fund in 2021-2027
13	Notes	<p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Interreg VI-A RO-BG supports capitalization of results obtained through other EU-funded projects, in the programme area or elsewhere, including other Interreg programmes, Horizon etc.</p> <p>To this end, the partners are highly encouraged to seek out good practices and pilot them in the RO-BG programme area. Inspiring examples can be found at Interreg Europe and Interreg Central Europe.</p> <p>The pilot actions should result in a solution which will be transferred (taken-up or scaled-up), which will be counted under Indicator <i>RCR104 Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organizations</i>.</p>

RCR104 Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organizations

Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1	Indicator code	RCR104
2	Indicator name	Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations
3	Measurement unit	Solutions
4	Type of indicator	Result
5	Policy Objective(s)	PO2. A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe
6	Specific objective(s)	<p>This indicator is used for monitoring interventions under SO 2.7. Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution, in respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing all types of pollution, by supporting investments in monitoring and data collection on air, soil and water pollution. supporting the development of green infrastructures, including by developing and protecting green areas in human settlements and raising awareness of the benefits of green spaces. enhancing biodiversity conservation, recovery and sustainable use and protection of natural heritage, including Natura 2000 and RAMSAR sites. <p><i>The indicator is also used to monitor:</i></p> <p><i>SO 3.2 Developing and enhancing sustainable, climate resilient, intelligent, and intermodal national, regional and local mobility, including improved access to TEN-T and cross-border mobility;</i></p> <p><i>SO 2.4 Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention and resilience, taking into account ecosystem-based approaches.</i></p>

7	Definition and concepts	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>The indicator counts the number of solutions, other than legal or administrative solutions, that are developed by supported projects and are</p> <div>  </div> <div style="border: 1px solid green; border-radius: 10px; padding: 10px;"> <p>The uptake / up-scaling should be documented by the adopting organisations in, for instance, strategies, action plans etc.</p> </div> <p>taken up or upscaled during the implementation of the project or within one year after project completion. The organisation adopting the solutions developed by the project may or may not be a participant in the project.</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid green; border-radius: 15px; padding: 15px;"> <p><i>HOW do we define a 'solution'?</i></p> <p>In the context of Interreg VI-A RO-BG, a solution generated by a pilot action is defined as a methodology, tool, technology, service, process/practice, or a combination thereof, which is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - jointly developed: through the involvement of organizations from both countries - tested in real life conditions, during the project life (in the pilot actions) - transferable to other organizations or territories: the solution should include the actions needed for it to be taken up or to be upscaled. </div> <p>Also, this indicator counts the strategies/action plans developed by the projects, which are later on uptaken / up-scaled by the project partners or by organizations outside the project.</p> <p><u>To be counted for this indicator the solution must be taken-up or up-scaled by at least one organisation.</u></p> <div>  </div> <div style="border: 1px solid red; border-radius: 10px; padding: 10px;"> <p>A solution is considered to be 'taken-up' if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a project partner which has piloted the solution will commit to extending the duration of use. - an organisation that has not used the solution before will commit to adopting and using it in its activities. </div> <p>Scaling-up refers to upgrading/improving the solution, or extending its scope, e.g. territorially (to other locations, or from local to regional /national level) or from the technical to the policy level.</p>
8	Data collection	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>MA monitoring system</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Values achieved for this indicator from <u>all completed projects</u> will be summed up and reported as achievements at programme level by the programme structures.</p> <p>The indicator is considered achieved once project partners provide proof of the formal commitment, for example in strategies, action plans,</p>

		<p>memoranda, board/council decisions, letters of intent etc. signed/officially adopted by the organizations which will take-up or up-scale the solution.</p> <p>The formal commitment document should include clear description/mentioning of the solution, the timeframe for the expected use of the solution and the specific details in respect to how the solution will be used or up-scaled. The document should also explicitly mention the name of the project and funding source (Interreg VI-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme).</p> <p>Organizations taking-up/ up-scaling the solution must agree to provide the Programme authorities with details regarding its use or development, for evaluation purposes.</p> <p>Once the formal commitment is validated by the Programme structures, the indicator will mark it as achieved in JEMS.</p> <p>Solutions must be clearly identified by the project partners, from the on-set of the project, in the application form.</p> <p>During project implementation or up to one year after project completion, the project partners have to ensure that a formal commitment is made to take up the solutions which have been developed and/or tested in the project.</p>
9	Time measurement achieved	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>During project implementation / up to one year after project completion</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>The contribution to this indicator will be measured and reported during project implementation or one year after the completion of project (pilot action, strategy or action plan). Measurement cannot take place beyond one year after project completion.</p>
19	Aggregation issues	<p>One project may achieve one or more taken-up or upscaled solutions. If one solution is up-taken/up-scaled by more organizations, it will still be counted as a single solution.</p>
11	Reporting	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>Forecast for selected projects and achieved values, both cumulative to date (CPR Annex VII, Table 3).</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Projects will set up targets for this indicator in the application form.</p> <p>The targets should be reasonable and realistic, in direct connection with the Specific Objective of the Programme. Please consider the fact that this indicator shall be reported during the project implementation (if planned by the project) or up to one year after project completion, considering the reporting timeframe. Measurement cannot take place beyond one year after project completion.</p> <p>Data must be uploaded to JEMS.</p>
12	References	<p><u>Commission Staff Working Document Performance, monitoring and evaluation of the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the Just Transition Fund in 2021-2027</u></p>
13	Notes	<p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Link between solutions and pilot actions: a solution, or elements of a solution, may be developed and tested through one or more pilot actions.</p>

		 <p>Please note that this indicator only counts the number of solutions which have been taken-up/scaled up by a given organisation during the implementation of the project or within one year after project completion and not the number of pilot actions developed or tested or that of the strategies and actions plans developed.</p> <p>To ensure the success of the scaling up process of the solutions, the partners shall propose clear measures since the application stage. As such, the applicants shall propose measures for ensuring sustainability and durability of the project, focused towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increasing visibility of the pilot actions, strategies, action plans so that other organizations can adopt/up-scale them. - propose clear measures for facilitating the adoption/ scaling-up of the pilot actions, strategies, action plans by the partners of the project themselves (indicate the distribution channels of the tested pilot actions). These elements will be detailed in the Application Form.
--	--	--


RCO 87 Organizations cooperating across borders

Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1	Indicator code	RCO87
2	Indicator name	Organisations cooperating across borders
3	Measurement unit	organisations
4	Type of indicator	output
5	Policy objective(s)	PO2. A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe
6	Specific objective	<p>This indicator is used for monitoring interventions under SO 2.7. Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution, in respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing all types of pollution, by supporting investments in monitoring and data collection on air, soil and water pollution. • supporting the development of green infrastructures, including by developing and protecting green areas in human settlements and raising awareness of the benefits of green spaces. • enhancing biodiversity conservation, recovery and sustainable use and protection of natural heritage, including Natura 2000 and RAMSAR sites. <p><i>The indicator is also used for monitoring all other SOs in the programme.</i></p>
7	Definition and concepts	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>The indicator counts the organisations cooperating formally in supported projects. The organisations counted in this indicator are the legal entities including project partners and associated organizations, as mentioned in the financing agreement of the application. Organisations cooperating formally in small projects (for instance under a Small Project Fund) are also counted.</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Partners who leave the project during the implementation are not counted for this indicator.</p> <p>Projects will set up targets for this indicator in the application form.</p>


		<p>The targets should be reasonable and realistic, in direct connection with the Specific Objective of the Programme.</p> <p>Please consider the fact that this indicator shall be reported by the end project implementation, considering the reporting timeframe.</p> <p>Data must be uploaded to JEMS.</p>
8	Data collection	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>MA monitoring system</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>The number of organisations cooperating across borders is equal to that of the project partners, including associate partners, which are involved in the implementation of the project.</p> <p>For project partners, the supporting document for this indicator is the financing contract.</p> <p>For associate partners, the supporting document for this indicator is a formal cooperation agreement which shall be presented when submitting the project application.</p>
9	Time measurement achieved	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>Upon project finalisation</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Please note that if an organization will participate in more than one project financed through the Programme, either as partner or associate organization, it will only be counted once when aggregating the data for this indicator at Programme level. This will not influence targets and achievements at project level.</p> <p>Please consider the fact that this indicator shall be reported by project partners, by the end project implementation, considering the project implementation timetable.</p>
10	Aggregation issues	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>At programme level, double counting should be avoided at the level of project partners and associated organizations.</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Please note that if an organization will participate in more than one project financed through the Programme, either as partner or associate organization, it will only be counted once when aggregating the data for this indicator at Programme level. This will not influence targets and achievements at project level.</p>
11	Reporting	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>Forecast for selected projects and achieved values, both cumulative to date (CPR Annex VII, Table 3).</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Projects will set-up the targets for this indicator in the application form, based on the number of partners, including associate partners involved in the implementation.</p> <p>Data must be uploaded to JEMS.</p>
12	References	<p><u>Commission Staff Working Document <i>Performance, monitoring and evaluation of the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the Just Transition Fund in 2021-2027</i></u></p>

13	Notes	<p>Programme level details:</p> <p>The value of RCO87 should be larger or equal to that of RCR84 (the number of organizations collaborating after the project is completed cannot be larger than the number of organizations collaborating during project implementation).</p>
----	-------	---

RCR84 Organizations cooperating across borders after project completion

Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1	Indicator code	RCR84
2	Indicator name	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion
3	Measurement unit	organisations
4	Type of indicator	result
5	Policy objective(s)	PO2. A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe
6	Specific objective	<p>This indicator is used for monitoring interventions under SO 2.7. Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution, in respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing all types of pollution, by supporting investments in monitoring and data collection on air, soil and water pollution. supporting the development of green infrastructures, including by developing and protecting green areas in human settlements and raising awareness of the benefits of green spaces. enhancing biodiversity conservation, recovery and sustainable use and protection of natural heritage, including Natura 2000 and RAMSAR sites. <p><i>The indicator is also used for monitoring all other SOs in the programme.</i></p>
7	Definition and concepts	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>The indicator counts the organisations cooperating across borders after the completion of the supported projects. The organisations are legal entities involved in project implementation, counted within RCO87.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">  <div style="border: 1px solid green; border-radius: 10px; padding: 10px; margin-left: 20px; background-color: #e8f5e9;"> <p>The cooperation concept should be interpreted as having a statement that the entities have a formal agreement to continue cooperation, after the end of the supported project.</p> </div> </div> <p>The cooperation agreements may be established during the implementation of the project or within one year after the project completion. The sustained cooperation does not have to cover the same topic as addressed by the completed project.</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>In order to contribute to this result indicator, the cooperation should fulfil the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the cooperation is formalized under other form than the “partnership agreement” signed between the project partners with the purpose of implementing the project.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the purpose of the project is to develop and maintain the cooperation between structures over a longer period of time than the duration of the project. - not all the project partners need to sign the “cooperation agreement”, only a minimum of 2 partners. However, for this indicator, the cooperation proving document must be signed by at least two organizations participating in the project, one on each side of the border. The cross-border distribution of the organisations is mandatory regardless of the number of cooperating organisations.
8	Data collection	<p>EC instructions: MA monitoring system / Survey</p> <p>Programme indications: During project implementation or up to one year after project completion, the project partners, including associate partners, must ensure that a formal commitment (partnership agreement) is signed for continuing cooperation within a determined time frame.</p> <p>The lead partner will mention not only the number of unique organisations that concluded cooperation agreements, but it will also clearly identify these organisations.</p> <p>The indicator is considered achieved once project partners provide proof of the formal commitment to continue cooperation. The document should include a description of the intended cooperation and the intended timeframe. The partners must agree to provide the Programme authorities with details regarding the cooperation, for evaluation purposes.</p> <p>Once the formal commitment is validated by the Programme structures, the indicator is marked as achieved JEMS.</p> <p>Please consider the fact that this indicator shall be reported by project partners during the project implementation or up to one year after project completion, considering the project planning.</p> <p>Data must be uploaded to JEMS.</p>
9	Time measurement achieved	<p>EC instructions: During project implementation / up to one year after project completion</p> <p>Programme indications: The number of organisations cooperating across borders after project completion will be counted one year after the date of the project finalisation.</p>
10	Aggregation issues	<p>EC instructions: At programme level, double counting will be avoided at the level of project partners and associated organizations.</p> <p>Programme indications: Please note that if an organization will agree to continue cooperation by signing more than one cooperation agreement, it will only be counted once when aggregating the data for this indicator at Programme level. This will not influence targets and achievements at project level.</p>
11	Reporting	<p>EC instructions: Forecast for selected projects and achieved values, both cumulative to date (CPR Annex VII, Table 6).</p> <p>Programme indications: Projects will set up targets for this indicator in the application form.</p>

		The targets should be reasonable and realistic, in direct connection with the Specific Objective of the Programme. Data must be uploaded to JEMS.
12	References	Commission Staff Working Document <i>Performance, monitoring and evaluation of the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the Just Transition Fund in 2021-2027</i>
13	Notes	<p>The value reported for RCR84 can be equal to or lower than the value of RCO87, but not higher.</p> <div>  <p>Please note that if the cooperation agreement involves new organization, which have not contributed to the implementation of the project either as partners of associate partners, these organizations will not be taken into account for this indicator. However, the Programme authorities encourage the involvement of new organizations, as a means to promote sustainability and capitalization of results.</p> </div>

RCO36 Green infrastructure supported for other purposes than adaptation to climate change

Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1	Indicator code	RCO36
2	Indicator name	Green infrastructure supported for other purposes than adaptation to climate change
3	Measurement unit	Hectares
4	Type of indicator	output
5	Policy objective(s)	PO2. A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe
6	Specific objective	<p>This indicator is used for monitoring interventions under SO 2.7. Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution, in respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing all types of pollution, by supporting investments in monitoring and data collection on air, soil and water pollution. supporting the development of green infrastructures, including by developing and protecting green areas in human settlements and raising awareness of the benefits of green spaces. enhancing biodiversity conservation, recovery and sustainable use and protection of natural heritage, including Natura 2000 and RAMSAR sites.

7	Definition and concepts	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>Surface area of green infrastructure newly built or significantly upgraded for other purposes than adaptation to climate change. Upgrades refer to significant improvements in existing green infrastructures eligible for support. Maintenance is excluded.</p> <p>Examples of green infrastructure include biodiversity-rich parks, permeable soil cover, green walls, green roofs, green schoolyards etc. (see EEA 2011 in references)</p> <p>Programme indications</p> <p>Green infrastructure is a concept addressing the connectivity of ecosystems, their protection and the provision of ecosystem services. For this indicator, the urban areas include also the “urban fringe” (an area in between rural and urban with multifunctional spaces and complex structures. The urban fringe can sometimes be referred to as the 'outskirts' of a town or city, or as an 'urban hinterland'. An urban fringe is predominantly open land on the edge of a settlement where a broad variety of land uses and activities).</p> <p>Investments in green infrastructure are expected to be developed both by strategic and regular projects.</p> <div> </div> <div> <p>Given the fact that the ecosystem-based approach is essential to carrying out interventions under this specific objective, it is expected that some projects would carry out such investments. This means that nature-based solutions will be preferred, wherever possible, above hard or grey infrastructure.</p> </div> <p>In SO 2.7, investments in green infrastructure are expected to enhance and to protect green areas in human settlements and raising awareness of the benefits of green spaces. Measures addressing green infrastructure (together with those targeting reduction of all forms of pollution) will be considered a higher priority among the rest of the activities under this specific objective.</p> <div> </div> <div> <p>The purpose of building or significantly upgrading the green infrastructure must be linked to one or more of the following objectives: biodiversity / species protection, improving water management, ensuring food production and security, ensuring recreation, improving well-being and health, supporting culture and community (based on referenced document)</p> </div>
8	Data collection	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>Supported projects</p> <p>Programme indications:</p>

		<p>The green infrastructures works must be clearly identified by the project partners, from the on-set of the project, in the application form, for example: urban forest, green spaces, parks, gardens, green corridors, green sport facilities, forests, riverbank greens, green walls, biodiversity-rich parks, etc.</p> <p>The surface of the developed infrastructure must also be provided, in hectares.</p> <p>Project partners are responsible for collecting the data for this indicator, from their projects.</p> <p>The data is expected to be generated from the specific assessments carried out as part of preparation of the works, for example in the cost-benefit analysis or other specific studies.</p>
9	Time measurement achieved	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>Upon completion of output in the supported project.</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Contribution to this indicator is measured upon output completion, based on the project implementation schedule. The output is considered to have been completed once the reception is signed by the project partners of the works/investments.</p>
10	Aggregation issues	<div>  <p>The indicator does not cover investments in Natura 2000 sites reflected by indicator RCO37 (not selected by the Programme), nor green infrastructure built or upgraded for adaptation to climate change (covered by indicator RCO26, selected by the Programme under SO 2.4).</p> </div> <div>  <p><u>Interventions in Natura 2000 sites, if proposed by partners, can be captured by other indicator pairs included in the Programme, namely:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>RCO84 (Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects) - RCR104 (Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organizations)</u> • <u>PSO3 (Tools implemented for mitigating pollution) - PSR3 (Population living within the area covered by the tools implemented for mitigating pollution)</u> </div>

11	Reporting	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>Rule 1: Reporting by specific objective. Forecast for selected projects and achieved values, both cumulative to date (CPR Annex VII, Table 3).</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Forecast values will be made by the Programme authorities based on the values provisioned by each project, in the financing contract, for reporting purposes.</p> <p>Projects will set up targets for this indicator in the application form. The targets should be reasonable and realistic, in direct connection with the Specific Objective of the Programme.</p> <p>Achieved values will be reported by the project partners upon output finalization, according to the project implementation schedule.</p>
12	References	<p>Neumann et al. (2011) - Assessment of the potential of ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation in Europe¹</p> <p>For definition see:</p> <p>https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/ecosystems/index_en.htm</p> <p>https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/10102/2019/EN/SWD-2019-193-F1-EN-MAIN-PART-1.PDF</p>

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/climatechange/pdf/EbA_EBM_CC_FinalReport.pdf

RCR95 Population having access to new or improved green infrastructure

Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1	Indicator code	RCR95
2	Indicator name	Population having access to new or improved green infrastructure
3	Measurement unit	persons
4	Type of indicator	Result
5	Policy objective(s)	PO2. A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe
6	Specific objective	<p>This indicator is used for monitoring interventions under SO 2.7. Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution, in respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting the development of green infrastructures, including by developing and protecting green areas in human settlements and raising awareness of the benefits of green spaces. • enhancing biodiversity conservation, recovery and sustainable use and protection of natural heritage, including Natura 2000 and RAMSAR sites.
7	Definition and concepts	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>Estimated population living within a 2 km radius from the public green infrastructure built or significantly upgraded in urban areas and supported by the projects (see EC 2012 study in references).</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Resident population refers to the total number of persons living in a given area.</p>
8	Data collection	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>Supported projects</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Project partners are responsible for collecting the data for this indicator, from their projects.</p> <p>It is expected to use data from statistical or administrative sources, such as population register. In absence of such data, project partners are responsible for conducting their own analyses. The calculation methodology, including data sourced, will be clearly described in the project application.</p> <p>It is also expected that the data will be present in the specific documentation accompanying the development / upgrading works, such as the cost-benefit analysis.</p>
9	Time measurement achieved	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>Upon completion of output in the supported project</p>

		<p>Programme indications:</p> <p>The output is considered to have been completed once the reception is signed by the beneficiary of the works.</p>
11	Reporting	<p>EC instructions:</p> <p>Rule 1: Reporting by specific objective</p> <p>Forecast for selected projects and achieved values, both cumulative to date (CPR Annex VII, Table 3).</p> <p>Programme indications:</p> <p>Projects will set up targets for this indicator in the application form.</p> <p>The targets should be reasonable and realistic, in direct connection with the Specific Objective of the Programme.</p> <p>Achieved values will be reported upon finalization of output in the project.</p> <p>Forecast values will be made by the Programme authorities based on the values proposed by each project, in the financing contract, for reporting purposes.</p>
12	References	<p>The Multifunctionality of Green Infrastructure, 2012²</p>

PSO3 Tools implemented for mitigating pollution


Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1	Indicator code	PSO3
2	Indicator name	Tools implemented for mitigating pollution
3	Measurement unit	Number
4	Type of indicator	Output
5	Policy objective(s)	PO2. A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe
6	Specific objective	<p>This indicator is used for monitoring interventions under SO 2.7. Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution, in respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing all types of pollution, by supporting investments in monitoring and data collection on air, soil and water pollution. supporting the development of green infrastructures, including by developing and protecting green areas in human settlements and raising awareness of the benefits of green spaces. enhancing biodiversity conservation, recovery and sustainable use and protection of natural heritage, including Natura 2000 and RAMSAR sites.

² [Green Infrastructure.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)

7	Definition and concepts	<p>Programme indications</p> <p>The indicator counts the number of tools implemented for mitigating pollution.</p> <div> <p><i>HOW do we define a 'tool'?</i></p> <p>Tools may refer to investments such as networks of sensors, applications, platforms etc. (list not exhaustive) which would allow the reduction of pollution, monitoring and data collection on air, soil and water pollution, particularly in urban areas, including measuring the air, soil and water quality and providing real-time data.</p> </div>
8	Data collection	<p>Programme indications</p> <p>Project partners are responsible for collecting the data for this indicator, from their projects.</p>
9	Time measurement achieved	<p>Programme indications</p> <p>Upon output finalization - reception of works, services etc. by the partners. Upon reception, the tools need to be fully functional, as per producers' specifications and intended purpose, specified in the application form.</p>
11	Reporting	<p>Programme indications</p> <p>Projects will set up targets for this indicator in the application form.</p> <p>The targets should be reasonable and realistic, in direct connection with the Specific Objective of the Programme.</p> <p>Forecast values will be made by the Programme authorities based on the values proposed by each project, in the financing contract.</p> <p>Achieved values will be reported upon project finalization.</p>

PSR3 Population living within the area covered by the tools implemented for mitigating pollution

Row ID	Field	Indicator metadata
1	Indicator code	PSR3
2	Indicator name	Population living within the area covered by the tools implemented for mitigating pollution
3	Measurement unit	Persons
4	Type of indicator	Result
5	Policy objective(s)	PO2. A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe
6	Specific objective	This indicator is used for monitoring interventions under SO 2.7. Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution, in respect to:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing all types of pollution, by supporting investments in monitoring and data collection on air, soil and water pollution. supporting the development of green infrastructures, including by developing and protecting green areas in human settlements and raising awareness of the benefits of green spaces. enhancing biodiversity conservation, recovery and sustainable use and protection of natural heritage, including Natura 2000 and RAMSAR sites.
7	Definition and concepts	<p>Programme indications</p> <p>The indicator counts the estimated population which lives in an area of 2 km radius of where one or more additional tool for pollution mitigation has been implemented with the support of the program and are functional, one year after the intervention end.</p> <p>Tools may refer to investments such as networks of sensors, applications, platforms etc. (list not exhaustive) which would allow monitoring and data collection on air, soil and water pollution, particularly in urban areas, including measuring the air, soil and water quality and providing real-time data, etc.</p>
8	Data collection	<p>Programme indications</p> <p>Project partners are responsible for collecting the data for this indicator, from their projects.</p> <p>The data is expected to be generated from the specific assessments carried out, for example as part of the cost-benefit analysis of the planned works.</p> <p>The calculation methodology, including data sourced, will be clearly described in the project application.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">  <div style="border: 1px solid green; border-radius: 10px; padding: 10px; margin-left: 20px; background-color: #e6f2e6;"> <p>Only the population residing in the area covered by the pollution monitoring systems monitored under PS003 is counted for this indicator.</p> </div> </div>
9	Time measurement achieved	<p>Programme indications</p> <p>Upon output finalization - reception of works, services etc. by the partners</p>
11	Reporting	<p>Programme indications</p> <p>Projects will set up targets for this indicator in the application form.</p> <p>The targets should be reasonable and realistic, in direct connection with the Specific Objective of the Programme.</p> <p>Achieved values will be reported upon project finalization.</p> <p>Forecast values will be made by the Programme authorities based on the values proposed by each project, in the financing contract.</p>