

STATEMENT OF CONCLUSIONS OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE OF THE INTERREG V INDIAN OCEAN PROGRAMME

6th-8th December, 2022

CCI 2014TC16RFTN009











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- Speech by Mrs Zamimou AHAMADI, representing the President of the Departmental Council of Mayotte,
- Speech by Mr Soalihy Hamadi, Director General of Aid Programming and Coordination, representing the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Comoros,
- Speech by Mr Tahirimiakadaza RATSIMANDAO, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, representing the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Madagascar,
- Speech by Mr Claude MOREL, Ambassador of the Seychelles to South Africa, representing the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Seychelles,
- Speech by Mr Mahen SEERUTTUN, Minister of Financial Services and Good Governance of the Republic of Mauritius,
- Speech by Mr Laurent AMAR, Diplomatic Advisor to the Préfet, representing the Préfet of Reunion Island,
- Speech (video) by Mr Slawomir TOKARSKI, Director of European Territorial Cooperation, Macro Regions, Interreg and Programme Implementation, representing the European Commission,
- Speech by Mrs Huguette BELLO, President of the Regional Council of Reunion.

1. Decisions of the 2014-2020 Interreg Monitoring Committee of 8th December, 2022

1.1 Progress of the Interreg V Indian Ocean programme (2014-2020)

The Committee noted the programme's progress which, as of 01/12/22, stood at a programming rate of 107% and a certification rate of 56%.

1.2 Update on the summary of assessment work carried out during the 2014-2020 programming period

The Committee noted the assessment work carried out on the INTERREG V Indian Ocean programme. It also noted that a summary of these assessments will be formally transmitted to the European Commission before 31st December 2022.

1.3 Update on the summary of communication actions carried out during the 2014-2020 programming period

The Committee noted the communication actions carried out in 2022, with extensive communication in partner countries and greater exposure for the programme seen in national and European communication campaigns.

2. INTERREG VI Indian Ocean Programme (2021-2027)

2.1 Presentation of the new Interreg VI Indian Ocean programme (2021-2027)

The Committee noted the presentation of the INTERREG VI Indian Ocean programme, one which respects the regulatory requirements for both the thematic breakdown and the programme communication format, as well as covering specific problems of the programme zone.

2.2 Presentation of the 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee and its rules of procedure

The Committee noted the provisional adoption of the composition of the Interreg VI 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee and its rules of procedure, pending the adoption of the Indian Ocean Interreg programme and the notification of the implementing decision approving the programme.

The Committee noted the changes in the 2021-2027 rules of procedure in comparison with those of the 2014-2020 programming period, essentially relating to regulatory requirements and the formalisation of existing practices.

The implementation decision approving the programme having been notified on ..., the 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee and its rules of procedure will be set up, unless otherwise, 15 days from the date of notification of these minutes to the members of the IMC, i.e. on ... December. The final rules of procedure are attached to these minutes.

2.3 Presentation of the framework agreement approach and the draft framework agreement (annex of the rules of procedure)

The Committee noted the draft INTERREG framework agreement and the approach thereto. It is informed that the approval of the framework agreement is without prejudice to the sovereignty of third party countries, and that this has been added to the model framework agreement annexed to the attached rules of procedure.

2.4 Presentation of the next steps in preparing the implementation of the INTERREG VI programme

The Committee noted the forthcoming work to be carried out in order to enable the implementation of the INTERREG VI programme.



INTERREG MONITORING COMMITTEE

ANNEX 1:

Presentation documents









Interreg Monitoring Committee Plenary session



















AGENDA

Part 1 - Interreg V Indian Ocean Programme 2014-2020

- 1. Presentation of the work of 2 Volunteers of International Solidarity (VSI)
- 2. Progress update of the INTERREG V programme
- 3. Update on the assessment work carried out during the programme
- 4. Communication update

Part 2 - Interreg VI Indian Ocean Programme 2021-2027

- 1. Presentation of the INTERREG VI programme
- Presentation of the 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee and its rules of procedure
- 3. Presentation of the framework agreement approach
- 4. Presentation of the next steps









PART 1 INTERREG V PROGRAMME 2014-2020









1- VSI video testimonials from the Seychelles and Madagascar









2- Progress update of the INTERREG V programme

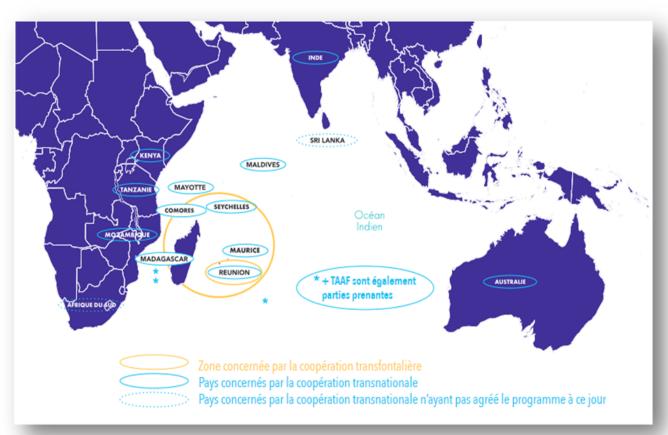








Presentation of the Interreg V IO programme



THE PROGRAMME

- 11 third-party states
- The Regional Council of Reunion as managing authority
- €74.3M total budget:
 - **√**€63.1M ERDF (EU)
 - ✓€11.1M€ national counterbalance
- 2 components
 - √ Cross-border €41.3M
 - ✓ Transnational €21.7M

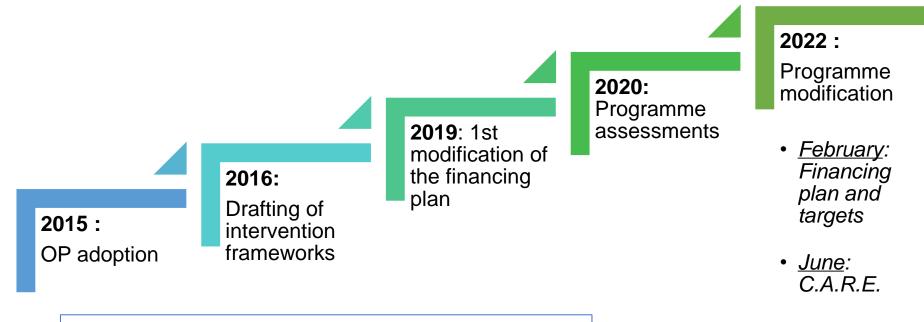








Programme implementation



Governance bodies:

- Since the beginning of the programme, the Interreg Monitoring Committee has met 7 times
- In 2022, the *Interreg Steering Committee* met 8 times, between February and December 2022









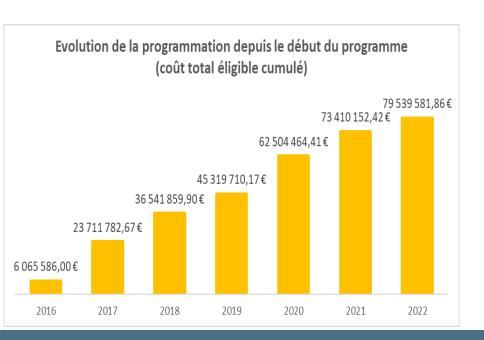
Overview of progress

PROGRAMMING

• 248 projects funded

Total eligible costs: €79.5M,

Programming rate: 107%.

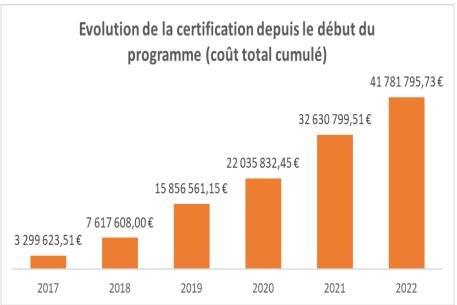


CERTIFICATION

• Total cost: €41.7M

• <u>Certification rate</u>: 56%.

 Automatic decommitment to be reached by end of December











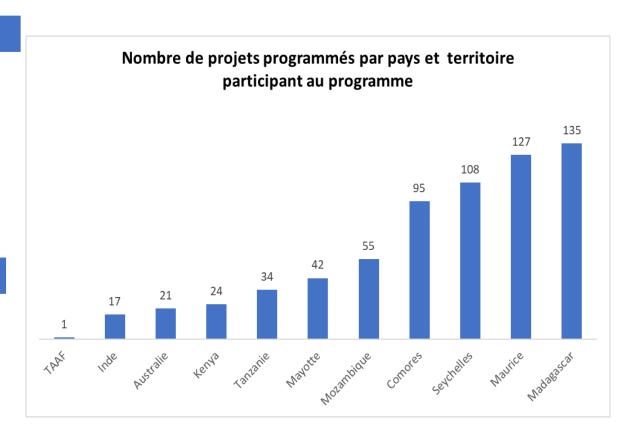
Involvement of partner countries

CROSS-BORDER SECTION

- 141 projects
- <u>Total cost:</u> €51.1M€, i.e.
 105% of the budget for this component

TRANSNATIONAL ASPECT

- 107 projects
- Total cost: €28.3M€, i.e. 111% of the budget for this component











Discussions during the technical meeting

Comments regarding the programme's progress	Details provided by the Managing Authority
The European Commission noted that the description of the EDF-ERDF projects within the report is complete.	
Details were requested concerning the results of the funded projects.	The Managing Authority's services specified that on-site visits have been carried out to observe project results (collection of deliverables, fulfilling indicators, etc.). The Managing Authority will provide the Commission with information on the projects mentioned.









DECISION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE









3- Summary of the assessment work carried out for the 2014-2020 programming period









Assessments carried out during the programming period

2016:

Establishment and approval of the assessment plan

2020:

assessment work (impact and themes)

2022: Summary of assessments sent to the European Commission











2019:

development of the terms of reference for assessments

2021:

presentation of conclusions & recommendati ons to the CRE

Presentation to the CRE in November 2022









Discussions during the technical meeting

Comments regarding the assessments	Details provided by the Managing Authority
The Commission welcomed the quality of documents submitted to the Committee.	









DECISION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE









4- Communication update









Communication actions (1/3)

NEWS

- Training of 3 VSIs within the MA services (before starting their jobs)
- Annual Interreg meetings in Brussels (26th-28th October 2022)

MFDIA

- Website: www.regionreunion.com
- Social networks and regional website: testimonial videos, project monitoring, newsletters, communication dedicated to the 'Pretty Month of Europe' celebrations
- Public consultation on the environmental assessment of the Interreg VI programme
- Local television: promotion of projects in the 'Mazin Rényon' TV programme
- Posting on Youtube of communication videos by the project leaders: TAAF, OVPF, Regional Council of Reunion (Moring project)

NEW PROJECTS

- Two newsletters for partner countries (No. 11 and No. 12)
- Testimonial videos
- Update of the dedicated web page













Communication actions (2/3)

Among partner countries

Comorian press 14th November 2022

HATARI: the sources of seismic and volcanic hazards in Comoros



Le premier journal des Comores

Observatoire Volcanologique du Karthala (ovk) I L'Ovk renforce ses capacités de contrôle des mouvements du Karthala





Les équipements seront installés dans des zones basses, dans les localités identifiées selon leur proximité avec le cratère. «Nous allons installer les équipements dans des sites des Comores télécom où des mesures de sécurité ont été déployés. Des séances des sensibilisations sont organisées pour renforcer la collaboration et les systèmes de surveillance des voisinages contre les malfaiteurs», rassure Moussa Mogne Ali de l'Ovk.

Seychelles press 20th August 2022 and 11th July 2022

Knowledge, transmission and valorisation of the traditional Indian Ocean fighting tools
International Economic Solidarity Volunteering Programme 2021





ELECTIONS 2020 | DOMESTIC+ | PRESIDENCY | BUSINESS | ENVIRONMENT | TOURISM | SPOR

DOMESTIC -

Le Tingué seychellois intégré au projet de sauvegarde du patrimoine culturel immatériel à l'Ile de la Réunion |20 August 2022

Un séminaire en faveur d'un patrimoine culturel vulnérable

Du 19 au 24 mai 2022, un séminaire à la Maison Foucque à la Réuniona mis en avant un projet mené par la région pour la reconnaissance des arts de combat traditionnels de l'Océan Indien. Six zones sont concernées: la Réunion, le Mozambique, Madagascar, Mayotte, les Comores et les Seychelles.

Co-financé par l'Union européenne dans le cadre du programme de coopération INTERREG V Océan Indien 2014-2020, ce projet a pour but de valoriser un patrimoine culturel immatériel commun aux six régions impliquées. En effet, ce que les réunionnais appellent le moring, les Seychellois l'appellent le tingué et à Grande Comore, cet art de combat se nomme le mourengué.

Seychelles ATT & N



ELECTIONS 2020 | DOMESTIC+ | PRESIDENCY | BUSINESS | ENVIRONMENT | TOURISM | SPORT

DOMESTIC

Coopération Seychelles – La Réunion Une nouvelle VSI INTERREG est arrivée aux Seychelles |11 July 2022



Mme Desix (deuxième à partir de la droîte) est la nouvelle Volontaire de Solidarité internationale (VSI) du programme INTERREG ; en présence de la Secrétaire Générale du Département des Affaires étrangères, l'Ambassadeur Vivianne Fock Tave ; l'Ambassadeur









Communication actions (3/3)

At national and European level

The Interreg programme for outermost regions

HATARI - the sources of seismic and volcanic hazards in Comoros

Annual Interreg Meeting in Brussels 'Paré pas paré' project – digital application

RoadTripEUR event organised by the DGOM

Visit to the Plant Protection Unit (3P)

















Discussions during the technical meeting

Comments on communication and assessments	Details provided by the Managing Authority
The European Commission expressed its satisfaction with the impact of media communication in third party countries.	









DECISION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE







PART 2 INTERREG VI PROGRAMME 2021-2027







1- Presentation of the INTERREG VI Indian Ocean programme





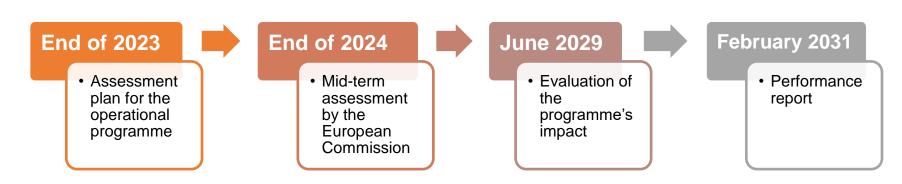


Breakdown by theme (Art. 15 of ETC regs.) and Assessment

Compulsory breakdown by theme - INTERREG 'D' component (ETC Art. 15)

- 60% minimum for SO2 and a maximum of two other SOs
- Maximum 20% on ISO 1 improving cooperation governance
- 30% of programme funds to support climate change objectives

Art. 35: Drawing up and approving an assessment plan no later than one year after approval of the INTERREG programme









The programme's new visual identity





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Océan Indien







Communication (art.36 of ETC regs)

CHALLENGES

Objective: to give greater importance to communication, and to place the citizen at the heart of the programme

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Commission Recommendations:

Budget allocated for communication: €125k/year or 3% of the programme

INCLUDED WITHIN THE PROGRAMME

Approach to communication and visibility within the programme, as governed by article 17.3.h (no longer a separate communication strategy)

+

Advertising requirements for all projects (reduction of up to 2% of fund support)

+

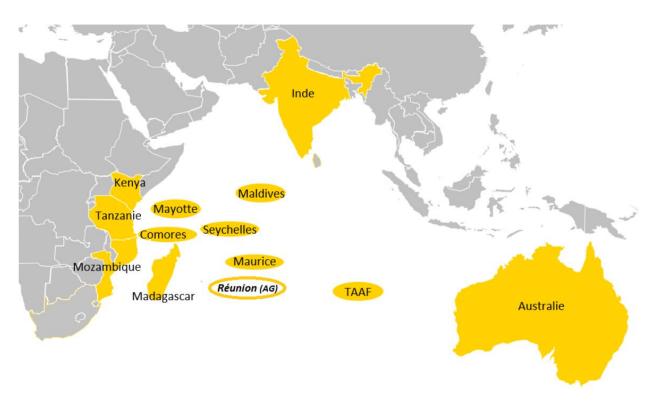
Improved online communication







Programme scope



PROGRAMME

- Regional Council of Reunion as Managing Authority
- 11 third party countries
- 2 agreements under negotiation (South Africa and Sri Lanka)

€73.2M total budget

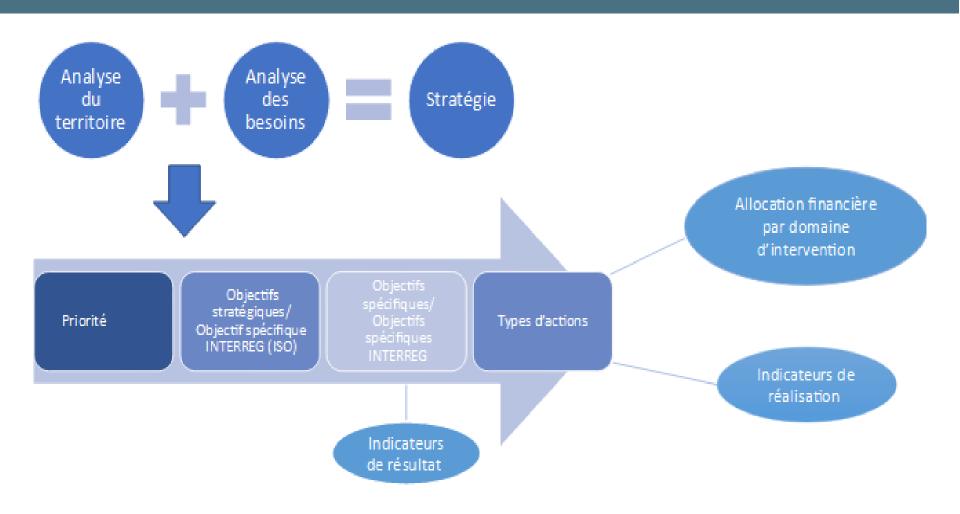
- €62.2M ERDF (EU)
- €10.9M€ national counterbalance







Breakdown of programme intervention

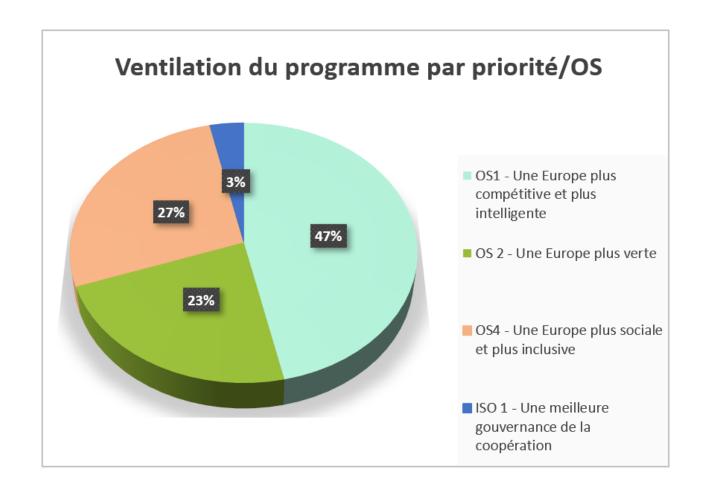








Programme model









PRIORITIES AND TYPES OF ACTION WITHIN THE INTERREG VI INDIAN OCEAN PROGRAM

Priority 1: Strengthening collaborative research and economic cooperation

- 1.1: Partnership research projects on shared issues between stakeholders in the region
- 1.2: Networking of researchers, the sharing of scientific knowledge and actions to capitalise on, disseminate and simplify research results
- 1.3: Regional research grants
- 1.4: Development of economic exchanges and value creation across the Indian Ocean region
- 1.5: Development of cooperation in the agricultural sector
- 1.6: Development of cooperation in the maritime sector

Priority 2: Resilience & Sustainable Development

- 2.1: Prevention and management of natural and health risks in the Indian Ocean
- 2.2: Biodiversity protection projects
- 2.3: Support for sustainable energy transition in the Indian Ocean
- 2.4: Development of the circular economy in the Indian Ocean







PRIORITIES AND TYPES OF ACTION WITHIN THE INTERREG VI INDIAN OCEAN PROGRAM

Priority 3: Inclusion, culture, social & economic development

- 3.1: Training and sharing of experiences across the Indian Ocean
- 3.2: Young professionals volunteering across the Indian Ocean
- 3.3:Strengthening cultural, sporting and artistic exchanges across the Indian Ocean
- 3.4: Support for tourism development

Priority 4: Improving cooperation governance

- 4.1: Capacity building, experience sharing and coordination between cooperation stakeholders (notably between offices)
- 4.2: Small-scale projects promoting cooperation between citizens (education, culture, sport)







Comments regarding the programme presentation	Details provided by the Managing Authority
The Seychelles INTERREG Focal Point stressed that the INTERREG VI programme has learned lessons from the previous programming period, and welcomed the work carried out over the last 2 years.	
The INTERREG Focal Point in Mauritius emphasised the close cooperation seen during the development of this programme.	
 The European Commission: stated that the programme is well-balanced and addresses the issues of our region. welcomed the fact that the programme respects the thematic breakdown as set by the regulations, even going beyond rates set for the climate objective. 	













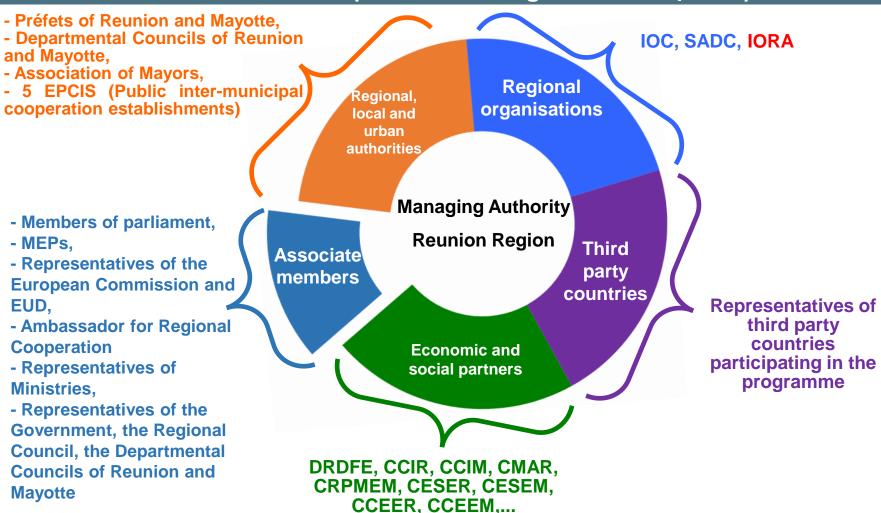
2- Presentation of the Monitoring Committee 2021-2027 and its rules of procedure







Composition of the INTERREG Monitoring Committee (Art 29 of EU Regulation 2021/1059)















Committee remit (art. 30 of EU regulation 2021/1059)

Monitoring Committee chaired by the Regional Council President

MAIN REMIT OF THE IMC (Art. 4 Rules of Proc.)

To ensure the quality of programme implementation

To approve the selection criteria and any amendments made

To approve the assessment plan and the final performance report, and any amendments thereto

DECISION MAKING (Art. 3)

Consensus rule or absolute majority

IMC DELEGATING to other meetings (art. 4)

To delegate project selection to the COPIL

To delegate the monitoring of the assessment plan implementation to the ETC







Steering Committee (COPIL) - see art 22 of EU reg. 2021/1059) and art 8-3 of EU reg. 2021/2060

COMPOSITION OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE (art. 4)

- Regional Council
- Departmental Council of Reunion Island
- Prefecture of La Réunion
- CESER of La Réunion
- CCEE of Reunion
- Departmental Council of Mayotte
- CESER of Mayotte
- CCEE of Mayotte

MAIN ROLES (art. 4)

- Project selection
- collection of co-financing intentions related to national counterbalances

The first Indian Ocean Interreg Steering Committee adopted its rules of procedure.







Joint Secretariat of the programme - see Article 46.2 of EU regulation 2021/1059

The Managing Authority will set up a joint secretariat to manage the partnership

TASKS OF THE JOINT SECRETARIAT

To assist the Managing Authority in the organisation and preparation of documents for the IMC, COPIL and ETC meetings

Organisation of meetings in the *margins of* the IMC (together with the focal points, a coordination committee with the Mozambique Channel programme, and with the IOC mission officer, etc.)







Coordination of cooperation programmes in the Indian Ocean region

2 INTERREG programmes in the Indian Ocean zone:

 Coordination Committee (bimonthly or more as needed) between the managing authorities of the Indian Ocean and Mozambique Channel programmes (within 3 months of the validation of the Interreg Mozambique Channel programme)







Comments on the Rules of Procedure

The European Commission asked Mayotte if the provisions of the rules of procedure met with their approval.

The Departmental Council of Mayotte emphasised efforts made by the Managing Authority to make contact and establish links. They confirmed that most proposals made have been taken up and indicated that these provisions will also be included in the rules of procedure of the Mozambique Channel programme.

Details provided by the Managing Authority

The services of the Managing Authority presented the changes that have arisen between the 2014-2020 rules of procedure and those of the 2021-2027 period, with 2 types of changes:

- 1. Regarding regulatory developments
- 2. Regarding the formalisation of existing practices







Comments on the Rules of Procedure

The Commission and the representatives of third party States provided the Managing Authority with comments on the draft rules of procedure of the ISC 2021-2027:

1- Comments on paragraphs on page 2:

Comments from the Commission: The Commission specifies that, according to regulations, the 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee will be officially established after the programme has been approved. In this respect, all participants approved the composition of the Monitoring Committee and its rules of procedure, pending this approval.

2- Comments on Article 3 Adding and deleting terms

Details provided by the Managing Authority

All the comments made have been incorporated into the rules of procedure:

1- In the paragraphs on page 2:

- The title of the implementing decision to be included in the opening paragraphs (concerning the programme area)
- Last paragraph on page 2:

"The composition of the Committee and its rules of procedure have been provisionally adopted, pending the implementing decision which approves the programme. The Monitoring Committee will be set up on the day after the date whereby Member States are notified of the Commission's decision to approve the Interreg VI Indian Ocean programme. The MA will proceed by written procedure to record the final adoption of the rules of procedure of the Monitoring Committee."

2- In Article 3:

- addition of the words "the IMC will meet <u>primarily</u> in person"; and deletion of the words "with voting rights".







Comments on the rules of procedure	Details provided by the Managing Authority
There was a discussion on the Monitoring Committee's decision-making process in the absence of consensus. The Seychelles INTERREG Focal Point proposed that decisions should be taken by a two-thirds majority in the absence of consensus.	Following these discussions, the Mauritius Focal Point was satisfied with this alternative. The proposal of the Seychelles Focal Point has therefore been accepted. (Article 3)
The Commission requested that the agenda be added to the list of documents sent to the members of the Monitoring Committee.	Article 3 of the Regulation has been amended accordingly.
The Commission advised that the rules of procedure should distinguish between the method of consultation of IMC members by written procedure and the traditional method of consultation.	Consultation by written procedure will be the subject of a specific paragraph in Article 3.







Comments on the rules of procedure	Details provided by the Managing Authority
The Commission requested that IMC members be informed when COPIL minutes become available.	Information concerning the availability of these documents will be provided to IMC members. (art. 4)
It was requested that the COPIL rules of procedure be forwarded to IMC members.	The COPIL rules of procedure will be transmitted to IMC members. (art. 4)







Comments on the Rules of Procedure	Details provided by the Managing Authority
The Commission requested that the list of associated members of the IMC include the following: the AFD and the EU Delegations in third party countries as provided for by the implementing decision EU2022/75 of 17th January 2022.	rules of procedure.







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Comments on the rules of procedure	Details provided by the Managing Authority	
In an email to the Managing Authority on 6th December 2022, the IOC Secretary General commented on Articles 6 and 9 of the rules of procedure of the Monitoring Committee.	art 6: The France/Reunion mission officer made available to the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) by the Managing Authority (MA), will be able, in consultation with and after the agreement of the Secretary General, to promote and monitor NDICI/INTERREG projects and to act as a relay for the MA by acting as an intermediary with the EU delegation in Mauritius in situ.	
	art 9: At the request of the Managing Authority or the Secretary General, the France/Reunion mission officer made available to the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) by the Managing Authority (MA) may take part in technical meetings organised in conjunction with the Interreg 21-27 ISCs. The MA proposed that these comments be taken into account.	













3- Interreg 2021-2027 Framework Agreements







Interreg framework agreements



Convention-cadre signée le 11 octobre 2016



Convention-cadre signée le 30 novembre 2016



Convention-cadre signée le 14 août 2017



Framework agreement signed on 6 **April 2019**

A model framework agreement for 2021-**2027** has been proposed as an annex to the > Promotes the integration of Reunion rules of procedure

REMINDER - 2014-2020

- Voluntary approach of the Managing Authority and partner countries
- Provided for in the general governance scheme of the Interreg V Indian Ocean programme 2014-2020
- Has strengthened the involvement of third party states in the implementation of the programme.
- Specifies common priorities and facilitation means (focal points, local offices) and monitoring (by local committees)
- within the rest of the region







Comments on the draft framework agreement	Details provided by the Managing Authority
Clarification was requested from the Managing Authority on the scope of the framework agreement.	It was agreed that the approval of the Framework Convention holds no prejudice to the sovereignty of third party States. This will be specified in the framework agreement.
The response given satisfied all third party countries present.	
The Commission requested the deletion of references to the Financing Agreement (Art. 59 of EU regulation 2021/1059)	This change has been made in the draft convention.













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4- Next steps







Next steps

Approval of selection criteria by the IMC depending on the approval date of the programme's 1st quarter of

2023

Development and approval of an assessment plan by the end of 2023

Adoption of the programme (ongoing)













Thanks for listening