

What's new in Interreg?

State of play and some updates

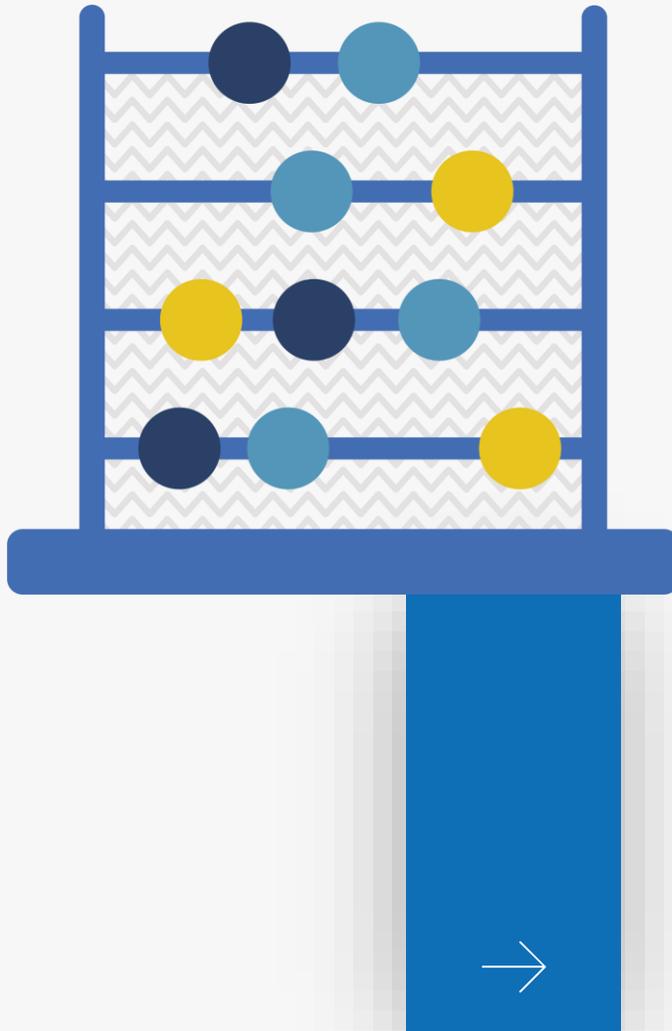
Greek controllers' network/ Thessaloniki, Greece

Iuliia Kauk/ Interact / 13-14.07.2023

Interact



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State of play of Interreg programmes implementation

07 July, 2023

Source: [Cohesion Open Data platform](#)

(Interreg + IPA-II programmes, ENI programmes are not covered in 2014-2020)

Real spending rates are higher!

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Where are we with the „old“ programming period?

9th accounting year

- 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 – July 2023 – submission of the final payment application
- 10th accounting year left – 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024
- Final eligibility of expenditure (N+3) – *for all projects to incur their expenditures* – 31 December 2023
- Programmes can pay later – end of June 2024 final deadline (in the course of July – final payment application to the EC)

STEP Regulation, June 2023, draft

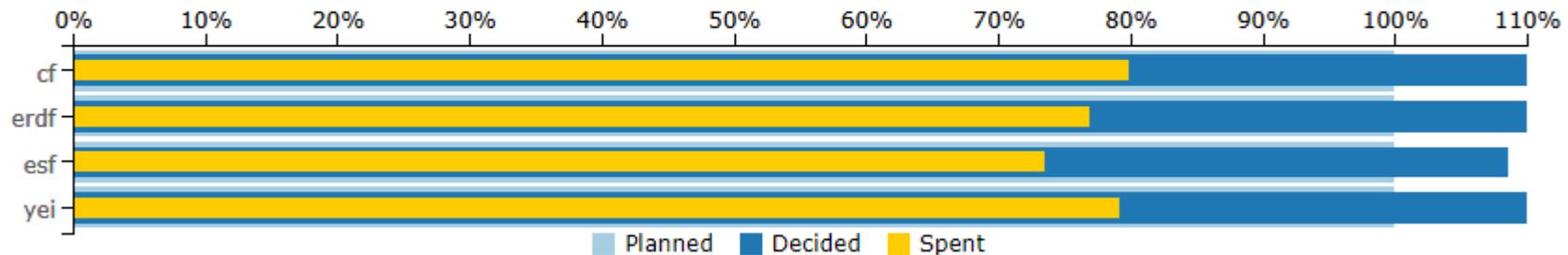
- Article 14 STEP Regulation – an extension of the deadline for administrative closure of the 2014-2020 programmes
- Final eligibility period for projects to incur expenditures not changed – **31 Dec 2023**
- Final accounting year (administrative closure) is extended by 1 year – **31 July 2025**
- Submission of final assurance package and closure documents (FIR) is extended by 1 year – **15 February 2026**
- Draft version! Expected to be adopted by the end of 2023 >> updates of respective guidance will follow based on the approved legal act (e.g., EC closure guidance as of 14 Dec 2022).

Implemented finances, total costs

2014-2020: Cohesion Policy financial implementation (total cost) by Fund

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Period Covered:

CF, ESF, ERDF, YEI: 31/12/2022

Refresh Date: 04/07/2023

■ Planned: € 308 269 198 186 (100%)
 ■ Decided: € 368 916 001 602 (120%)
 ■ Spent: € 237 204 187 836 (77%)
 *% of planned

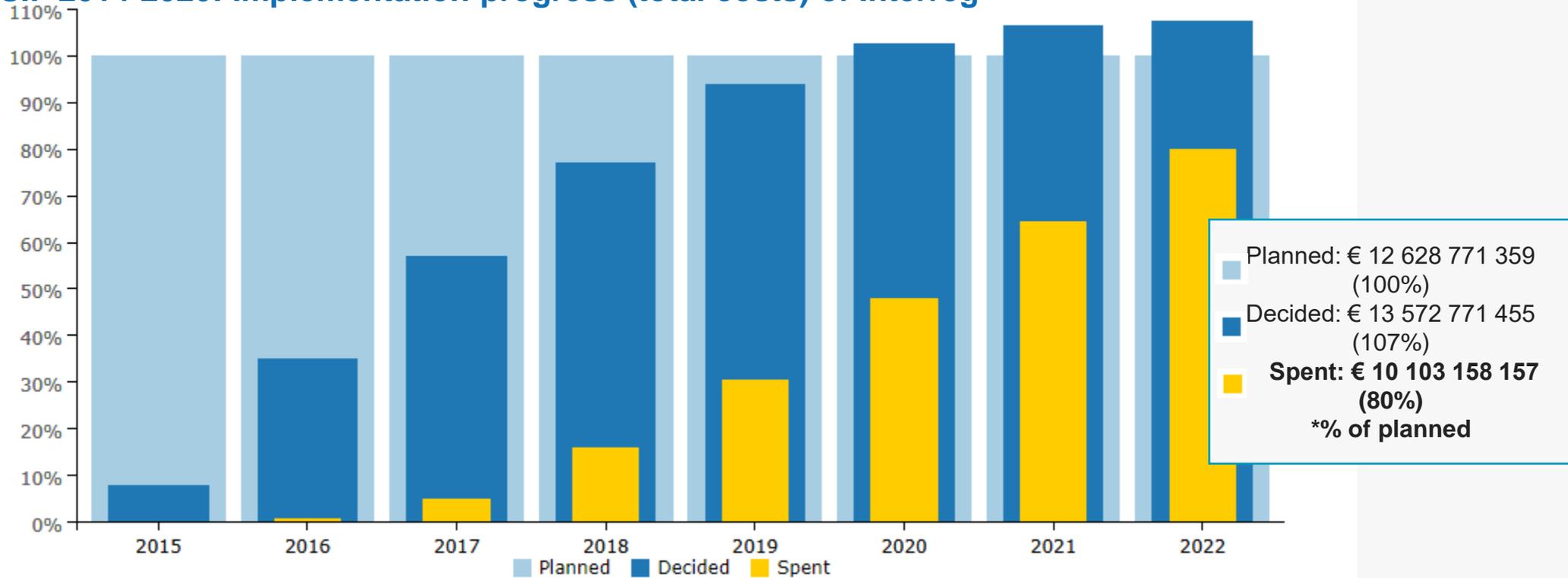
Implemented finances, total costs

ESIF 2014-2020: Implementation Progress (total cost) for Interreg

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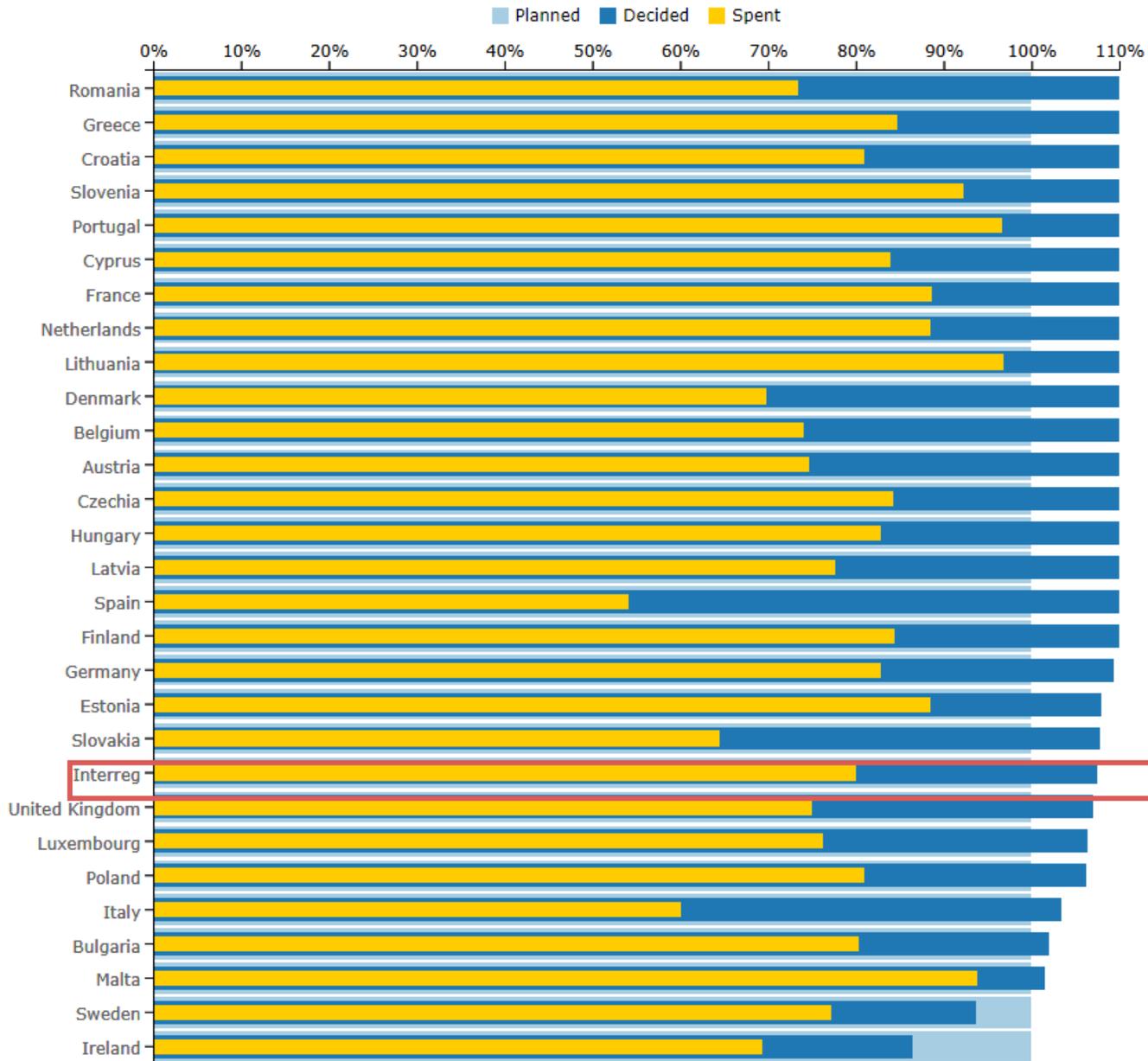
ESIF 2014-2020: Implementation progress (total costs) of Interreg



Period Covered: up to 31/12/2022

Refresh Date: 04/07/2023

Financial progress by country



Planned: € 12 628 771 359 (100%)
 Decided: € 13 572 771 455 (107%)
Spent: € 10 103 158 157 (80%)
 *% of planned

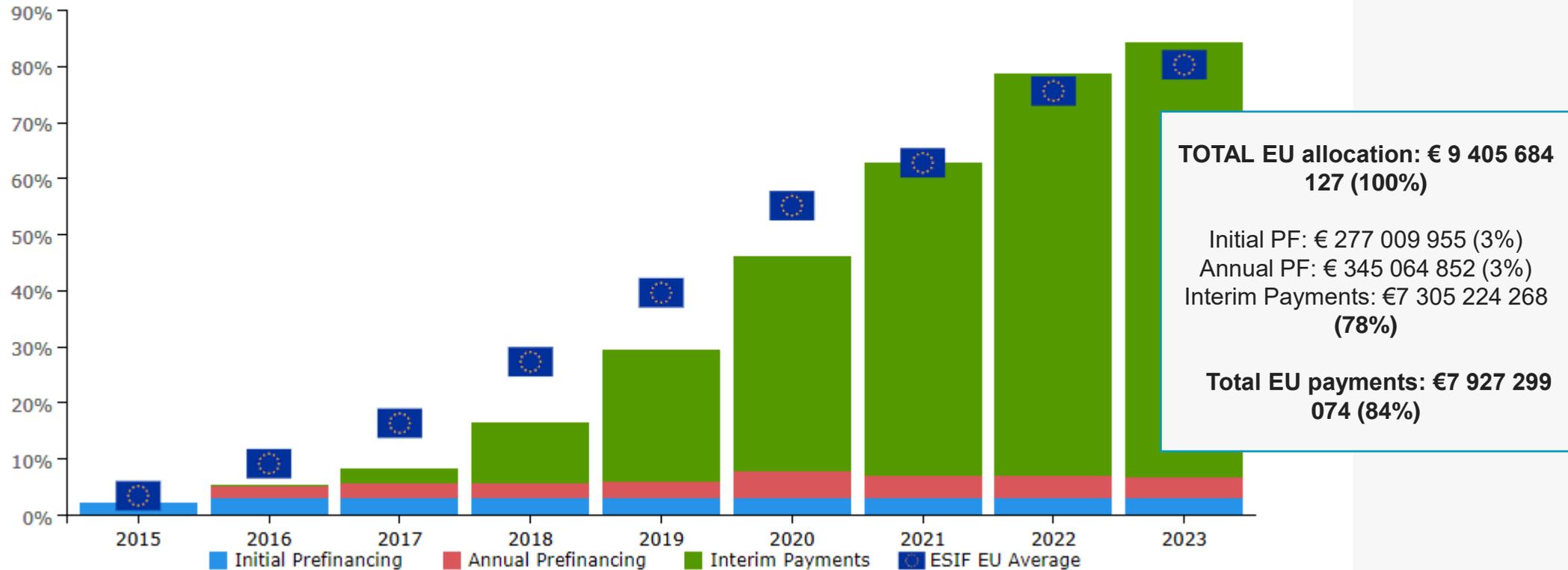
EU average spent
 – 79%

Total EU payments

ESIF 2014-2020: Total EU payments all ESI Funds – time series cumulated to the end of each year
(daily update): Interreg

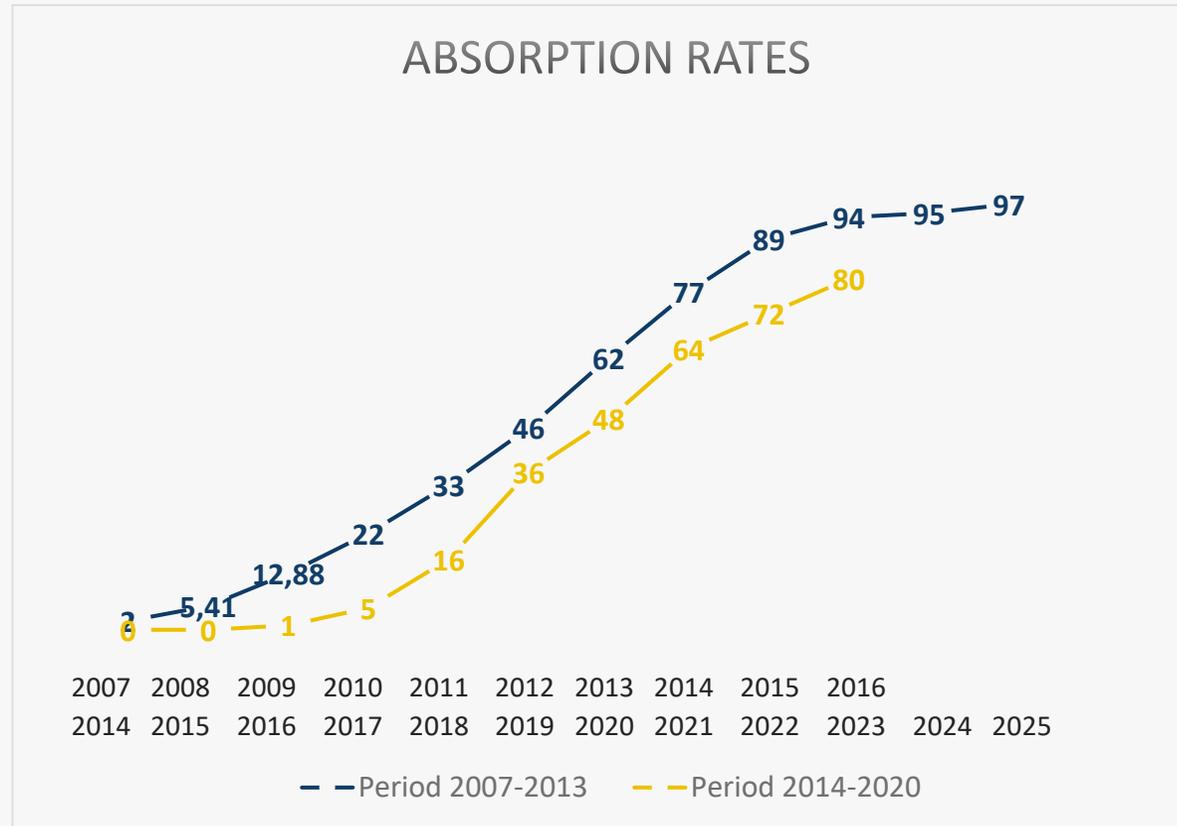
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Refresh Date: 05/07/2023

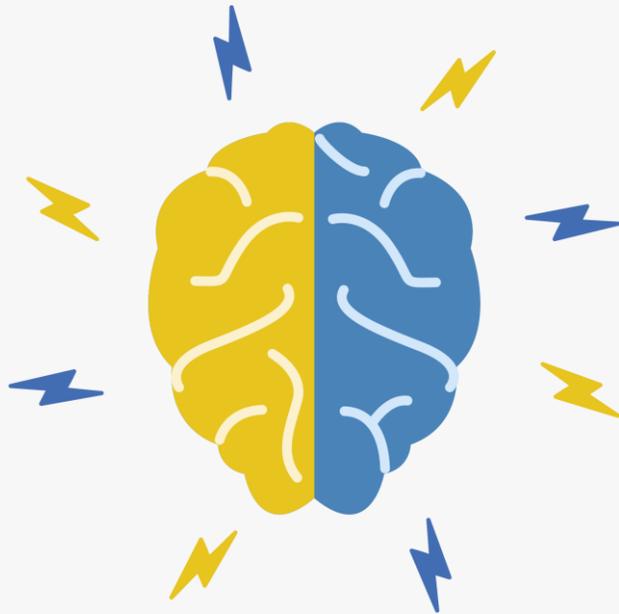
ERDF Absorption rates, total costs



Reasons for lower absorption rates in 2014-2020

- Late adoption of the main legal documents (+ lots of “secondary” legislation);
- New designation process for MA/CA – the majority of programme’s bodies designated in 2017 – 4th year of the programme implementation;
- Closure of the 2007-2013 programming period (clearance of the accounts with the final accounting year);
- Slower submission of payment applications as compared to forecasts;
- COVID-19 pandemic;
- Energy crisis;
- War of Russia in Ukraine.

What is your programme's current spending rate (2014-2020)?



- Below 50%
- 50 – 60%
- 60 – 70%
- 70 – 80%
- 80 – 90%
- 90+ %

Early closure* of the 2014-2020 programmes

*in 9th accounting year – 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023



- 3 Interreg programmes so far – anyone else?

Programme closure 2014-2020

- [New closure guidance for Interreg and IPA-CBC](#) – NB: as of 14.12.2022! (amended after FAST-CARE Regulation adopted)
- Not covering ENI-CBC – separate guidance
- By 30.09.2023 – transfers between PA of the same OP/Fund + request/ notification/ amendment of major projects
- July 2024 (2025) – final application for an interim payment (with overbooking) – paid at 90%
- 15.02.2025 (2026) – submission of 5 closure documents (FIR, accounts, management declaration + annual summary, audit opinion and audit control report) – possible extension to 1 March 2025 (2026). [Interact's seminar on programme closure](#)
- 5 month (July 2025) (2026) for EC to comment + 2 month for MS to reply to the EC's observations



Programme closure 2014-2020

- Final balance – calculated by the EC!
 - Clearance of initial and annual pre-financing, 2020 accounts (amounts cleared or recovered), 15% flexibility (CRII+) by Priority/ Fund; + overbooking (only if declared in the final accounting year!)
 - Payment – 3 months from the date of acceptance of the accounts OR 1 month from the date of acceptance of the FIR whichever is later



[Interact's seminar on programme closure](#)

Programme closure 2014-2020 – few clarifications

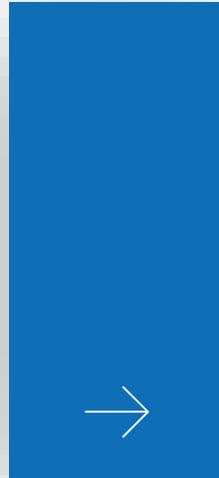
- In case of an early closure (with the accounting year 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023), the AIR due in May 2023 is not required
 - Article 111(1) CPR: AIR due every year, incl. 2023
- FIR – same structure as AIR but with annexes (I-III)
- The last transmission of financial data is made together with the final implementation report (Annex V, section 3.4 of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/207)
- New Q&A from EC expected + calculation of the final balance.



[Interact's seminar on programme closure](#)



Progress with the 2021-2027 programmes



Interreg programmes adoption



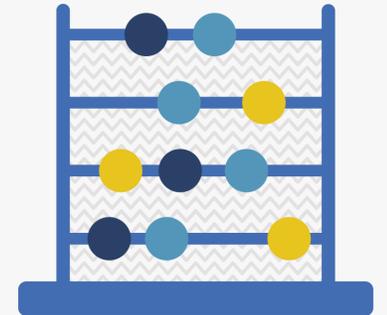
- 4 strands
- [Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2022/74](#) – list of programmes + amounts (as per Article 11 IR)
- All 86 Interreg programmes adopted by the end of 2022
 - *(incl. 6 programmes with participation of Ukraine and Moldova; 10 programmes with Russia and Belarus discontinued)*
- 3% of the cohesion policy budget, ca EUR 10 billion (incl. external EU funds)



Decommitment (N+3)

- Financial allocations start with 2022 for all
- First decommitment target for all – from 2025:
 - *1st target is increased by 25% of the 2021 allocation – reprogramming mechanism (2025 target – 2022 allocation + 25% of the 2021 allocation)*

Decommitment target (amounts to be submitted in the payment applications, 100%) = financial allocation – pre-financing – deductions



[Calculate your decommitment targets](#)

1st accounting year

1 January 2022 – 30 June 2023

- All Interreg programmes approved (re-programming of 2021)
- Many calls launched (for regular, small-scale projects, SPF)
- No payment applications submitted to the EC in the 1st accounting year



Cooperation **works**

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