

# CITIZENS' SUMMARY



## INTERREG CBC GREECE-ITALY PROGRAMME





## THE PROGRAMME



The Interreg Greece-Italy Programme is a bilateral and cross-border Cooperation Programme, co-funded by the European Union through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and by the 2 member states through a national co-financing.

The overall objective of the Interreg Greece-Italy 2014-2020 Programme is to support strategic GR-IT cross-border co-operation in order to develop a dynamic economy which fosters smart, sustainable and inclusive growth with the goal to improve the quality of life for those living in the cross-border region, especially in times of economic crisis such as these.

It aims to enable regional and local stakeholders from eligible areas to exchange knowledge and experiences, to develop and implement pilot actions, to test the feasibility of new policies, products and services, and support investment in the areas of interest.

The Programme is designed in the framework of the European strategy 2020 for smart, inclusive and sustainable growth as a way to overcome the structural economic weakness and improve the productivity and a social market economy.

The Programme is aligned with the macro-regional EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR), that helps Adriatic-Ionian Region countries and stakeholders, to address common challenges together and to achieve growth by building on the 4 EUSAIR thematic pillars: “Blue Growth”, “Connecting the Region”, “Environmental Quality”, “Sustainable Tourism”.



The Programme Managing Authority is Hellenic Ministry of Development & Competitiveness.

## THE PROGRAMME AREA

The GR-IT Programme Area covers a territory of 42 401 km<sup>2</sup> and has a total population of 5 286 million.

The Greek and Italian regions are quite heterogeneous as regards both a) the spatial distribution of their population (approximately 4 million inhabitants in Puglia as opposed to 1,2 million inhabitants in all three Greek regions together).





The eligible GR- IT Programme Area covers the following Regions:



**ITALY**  
**Puglia Region:**

Province of Foggia,  
Bari, Brindisi, Lecce,  
Barletta-Andria-Trani (BAT),  
Taranto.



**GREECE**  
**Region of Western Greece:**  
Aitolokarnania, Achaia, Ileia.

**Region of Ionian Islands:**  
Zakynthos, Kerkyra,  
Kefallinia, Lefkada.

**Region of Epirus:**  
Arta, Thesprotia, Ioannina,  
Preveza.

## PROGRAMME BUDGET

The Programme has a total budget of 123,176,896 € and is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) with an amount of 104,700,362 € for the 2014-2020 period.

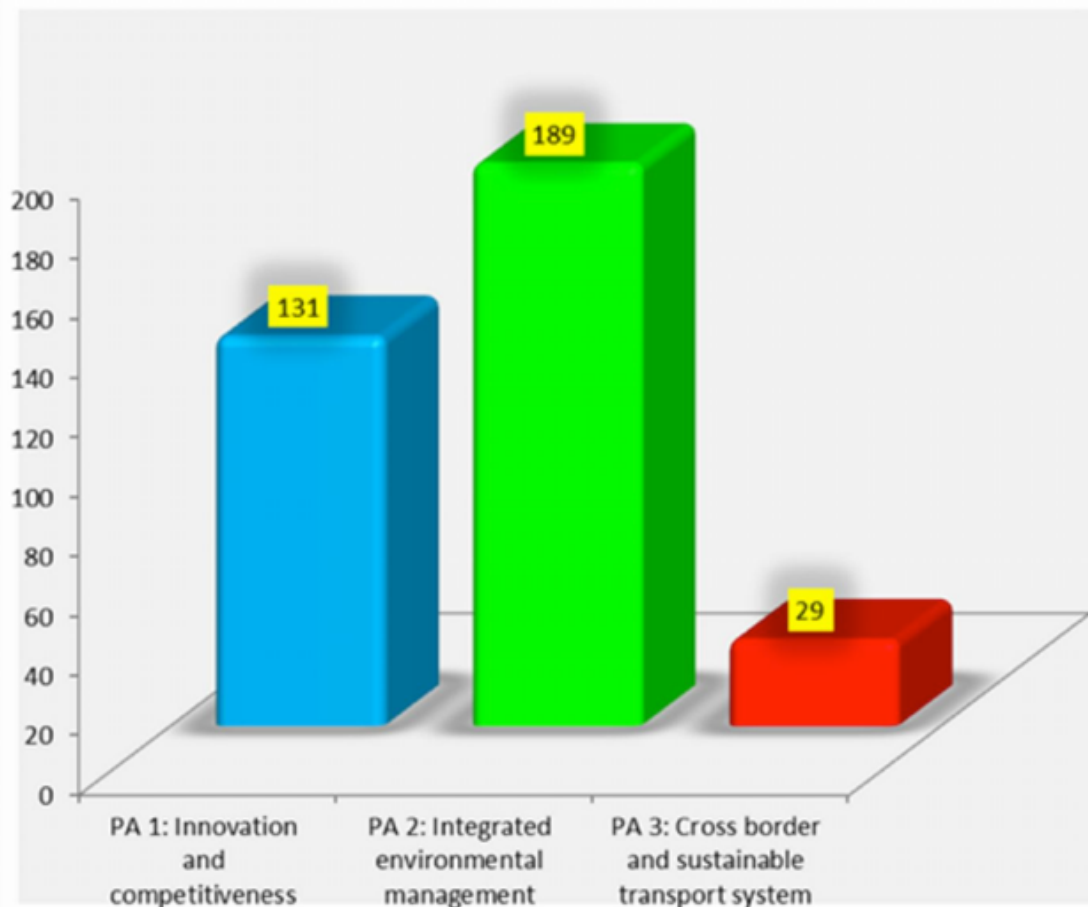


## 1<sup>st</sup> CALL FOR ORDINARY PROJECT (deadline 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016)

The total available budget for the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Ordinary Project Proposal was Euro 53.148.184 (including Union Support and National CounterPart).

349 proposals were submitted under the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for ordinary projects:

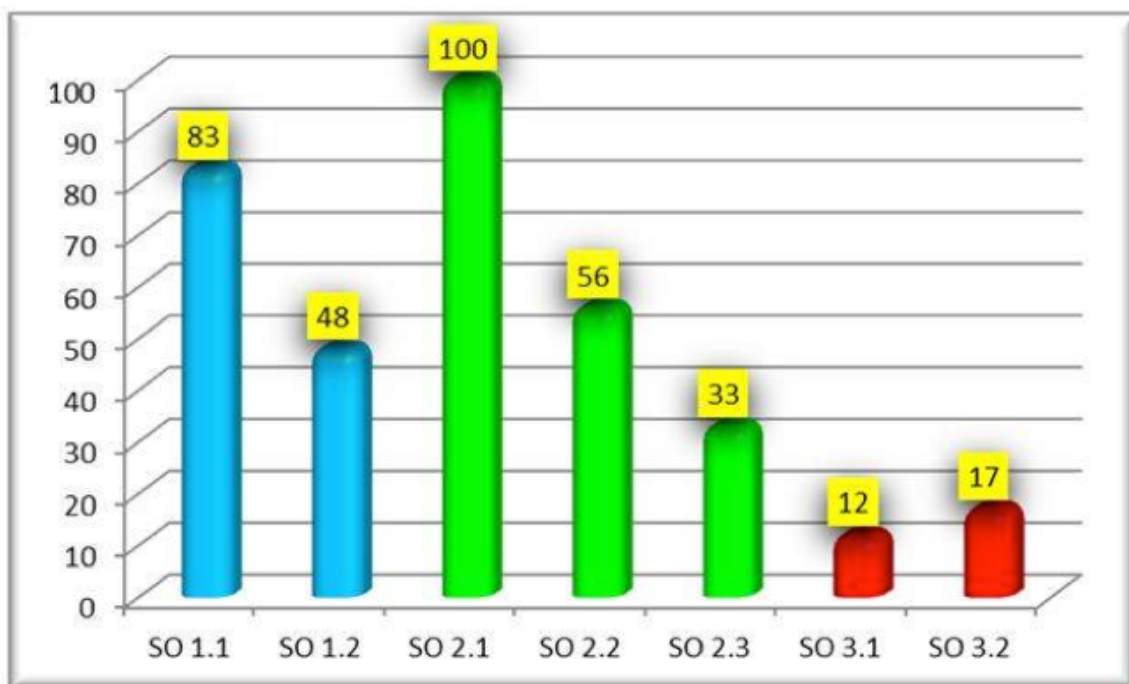
- 189 proposals targeted Priority Axis 2 - Integrated Environmental Management.
- 131 proposals for Priority Axis 1 - Innovation and Competitiveness.
- 29 proposals for Priority Axis 3 - Sustainable Transport System.



Valorisation of cultural heritage and natural resources is the most popular specific objective (2.1) with 100 submitted proposals.

In the second place, 83 proposals for delivering innovation support services and developing clusters across borders to foster competitiveness (specific objective 1.1).

The specific objective 3.1, (Boosting maritime transport, short-sea shipping capacity and cross-border ferry connectivity) attracted the smallest number of proposals.





## PRIORITY AXES AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The Programme is focused on three (3) Priority Axes, which are structured into four (4) Thematic Objectives and seven (7) Investment Priorities.



### Priority Axis 1 Innovation & Competitiveness

The first Priority Axis links innovation & research with SME competitiveness. It aims to contribute to the building of a strong export based economy through increased awareness of, and engagement in innovation among the Programme Area's SME-dominated business base. It specifically addresses the need to strengthen specific growth sectors representing important jobs potential for the Programme Area, such as agribusiness, blue growth, tourism, cultural heritage, cultural and creative industries.



## Priority Axis 2 Integrated Environmental Management

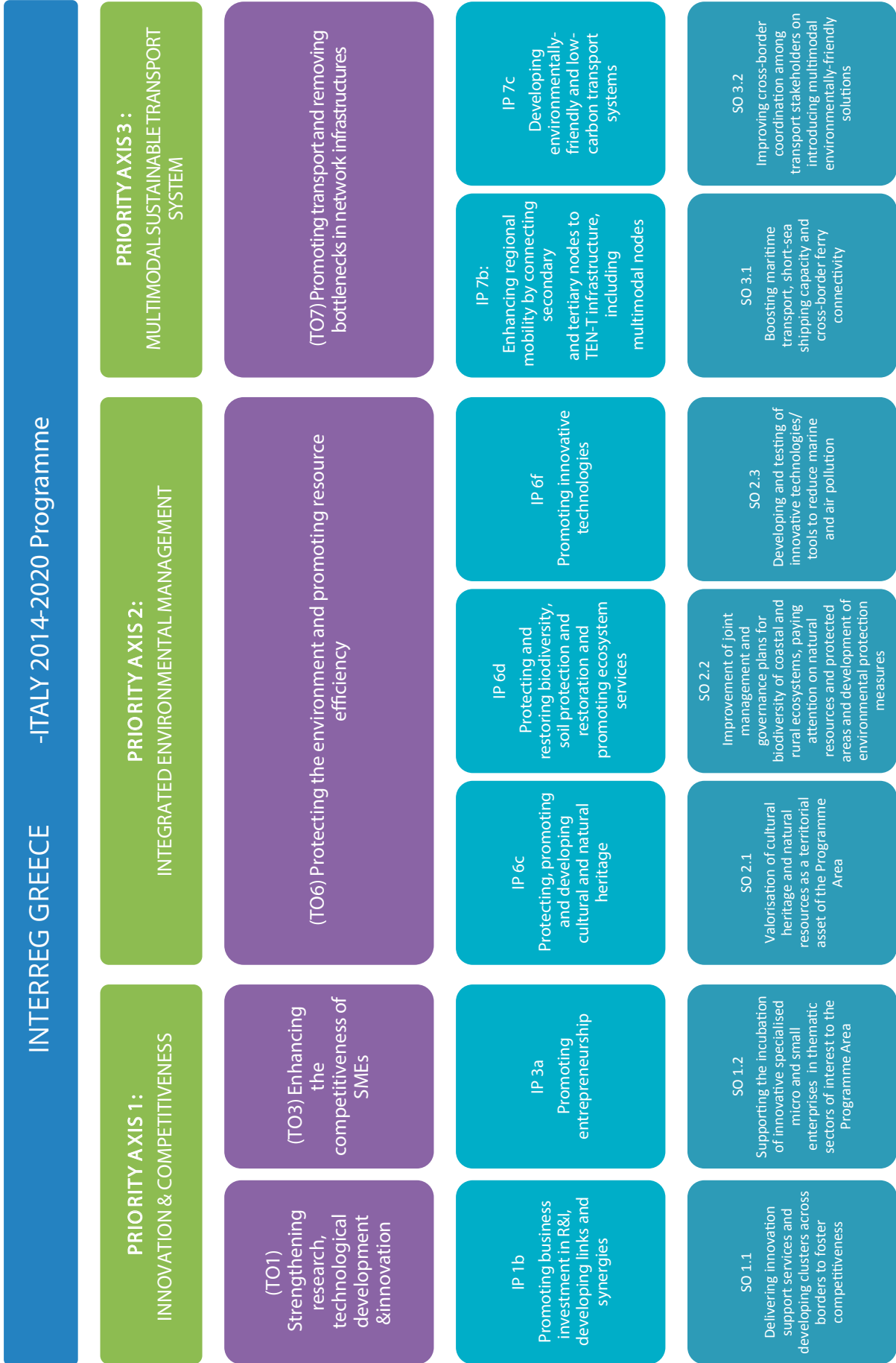
The second Priority Axis aims to facilitate the development and implementation of common approaches to the management of the environment, supporting the valorisation of cultural and natural heritage and fostering shared potentials and responsibilities in the field of environmental protection and risk prevention.

## Priority Axis 3 Multimodal Sustainable Transport System

The third Priority Axis responds on needs related to regional and cross-border connections in the Programme Area, accessibility to transport infrastructures, coordination of cross-border transport systems and procedures, the integration with regional, national and cross border Transport Plans, and the promotion of an efficient and environmental friendly mobility and transport system.



## Programme Strategy: Objective Tree



**MANAGING AUTHORITY OF ETC  
GREECE-ITALY PROGRAMME**

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