

CITIZEN`S SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT 2017

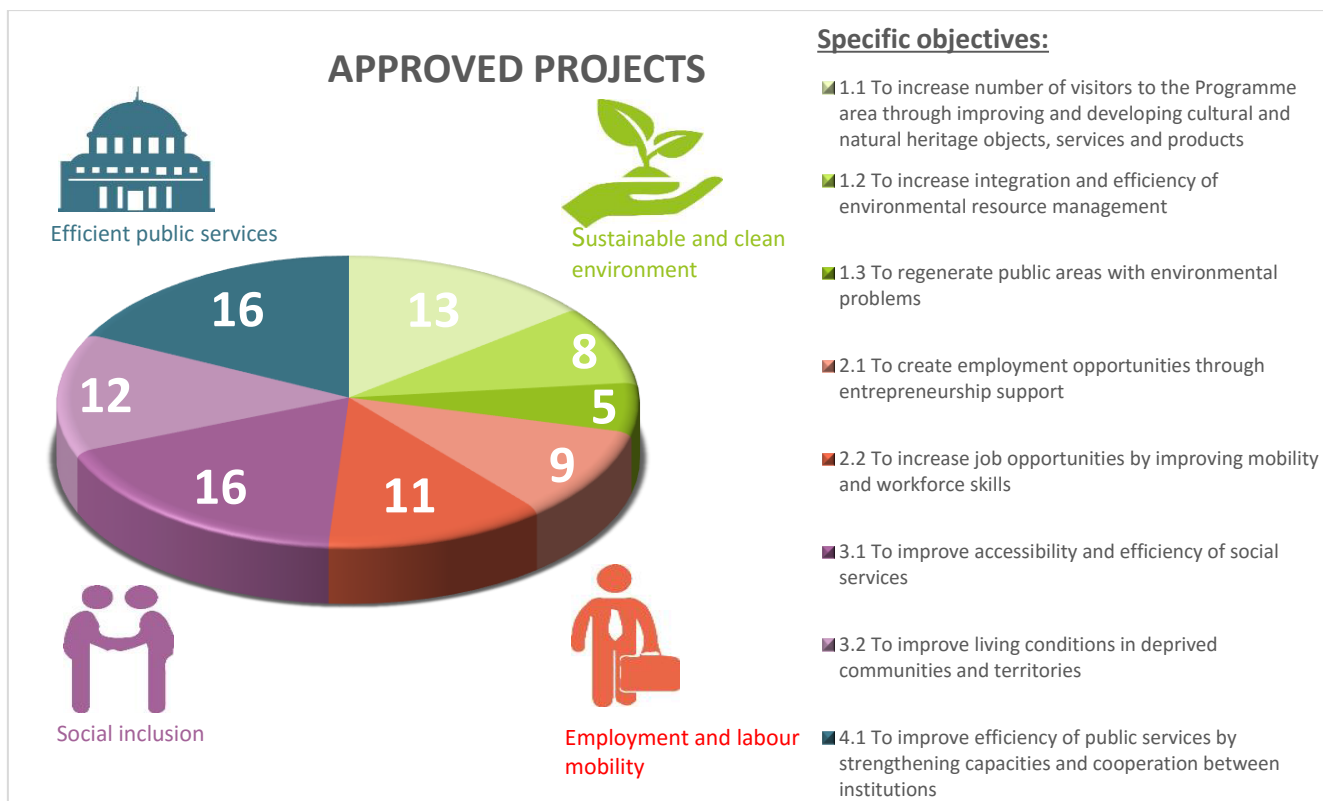
The Interreg V-A Latvia – Lithuania Programme 2014 – 2020 (hereinafter – Programme) was approved by the European Commission on 30 November, 2015 and it continues cooperation started during the Latvia – Lithuania Cross Border Cooperation Programme under European Territorial Cooperation Objective 2007– 2013.

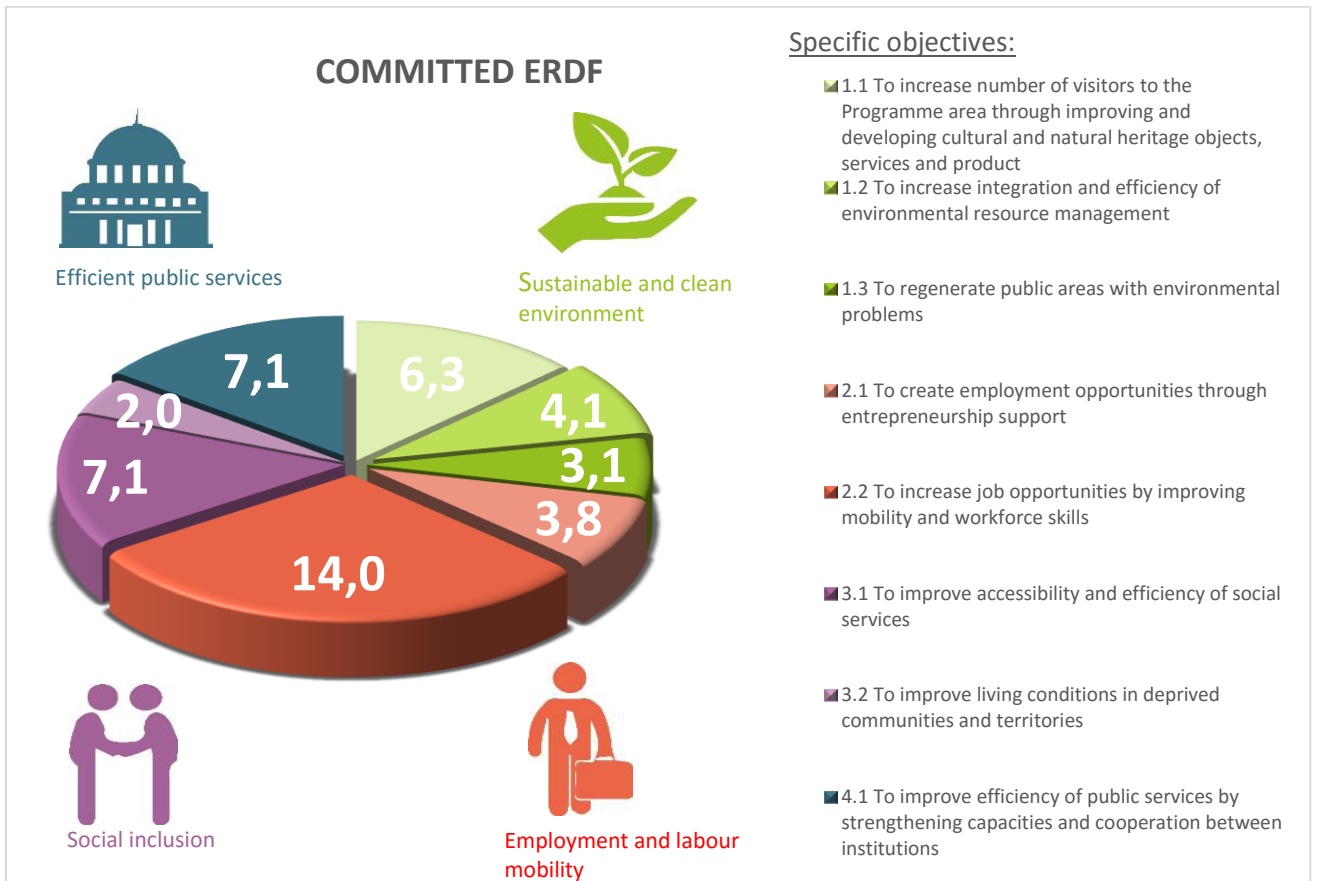
The objective of the Programme is to contribute to the sustainable and cohesive socio – economic development of the Programme regions by helping to make them more competitive and attractive for living, working and visiting.

The Programme area includes Kurzeme, Zemgale and Latgale in Latvia and Klaipēda, Telšiai, Šiauliai, Panevėžys, Utena, Kaunas in Lithuania.



In 2017 the Monitoring Committee for implementation selected 41 project from the 1st Call for Proposals, 48 projects from the 2nd Call for Proposals and 1 direct award project, thus covering all Programme priorities, in total committing 47,5 EUR ERDF co-financing and reaching almost all Programme indicators.





In order to support project partners from the 1st Call for Proposals, Joint Secretariat held 15 seminars on project implementation, reporting, communication and public procurement requirements. For potential applicants of the 2nd Call for Proposals were organised 3 seminars during which application process was explained. In order to support Financial Controllers and gain common understanding about control process in both countries was organised Managing Authority's and Joint Secretariat's meeting with financial controllers from Latvia and Lithuania.

During 2017 was ensured successful operation of Programme's Electronic Monitoring System, elaboration and update of Programme procedures, risk assessment and preparation of Risk Management plan, preparation and submission of different reports (Annual Implementation report 2016, Annual Control report 2016, Annual accounts, etc.), were submitted payment applications to the European Commission and in the end of 2017 made first payments to the projects.



The Programme was promoted in number of events. Programme's annual event took place during Balts Unity Day celebration in Palanga (Lithuania) on 23 September 2017 and Programme was popularised by organising cycling tour Nidasciems-Palanga, by showing photos of Programme's projects in exhibition in the Jūratē and Kastytis square (the main celebration place of the event), as well as during international tourism forum "Balts' Road: Cultural Tourism Perspectives", which was organised by Programme's project "Balts' Road".

In cooperation with other Interreg programmes European Cooperation day celebration was organised in Doma square, Riga (Latvia) on 16 September 2017 and it also served as opening of Programme's projects exhibition.

Information about the Programme was presented and photos of Programme's projects were exposed during the Joint Session of the Latvian - Lithuanian Intergovernmental Commission for Cross-Border Cooperation in Tērvete (Latvia) on 18 October 2017. As part of the 10th anniversary celebration of Latvia - Lithuania cooperation, Programme's projects exposition was shown during the 3rd meeting of Monitoring Committee.



Following the submission of closure documents of Latvia - Lithuania Cross Border Cooperation Programme 2007 - 2013 by 30 March 2017, providing of additional information to the European Commission and Final report update, on 22 November 2017 was received European Commission letter stating that the programme is closed on 15 November 2017.

More information on Programme is available on webpage www.latlit.eu

