Project intervention logic

Projects have to strictly apply a result-oriented approach\(^1\), clearly defining the results and the changes the project is striving for and linking them with the territorial challenges and needs identified. The coherence of the project intervention logic with the targeted specific objective of the programme is a pre-condition for a project to be approved and funded.

Project intervention logic has to be coherent and shall provide the necessary information for the programme to assess the contribution of a project to the “achievement of the specific objectives and results of the relevant priority”, in line with Article 125(3) (a) (i) of the CPR.

A project should demonstrate through its intervention logic that it:

- Targets one single programme priority specific objective;
- Contributes to the respective programme result and result indicator;
- Links in a logic sequence the project activities and outputs to the specific objective target

In order to be able to assess and measure project’s contribution to the achievement of programme objectives, the project needs to establish project intervention logic mirroring the programme intervention logic\(^2\).

This has to be highlighted and justified in the Application Form, under section C.2.1. where project overall objective and results are asked to be linked with a programme specific priority and programme result.

Projects will be assessed by their contribution to both output and result indicators related to the programme priority specific objective under which they have submitted their Application Form. Projects have to demonstrate in their Application Form how they will contribute to achieving both types of indicators by clearly linking their foreseen outputs and main results to the corresponding indicators under the chosen Programme priority specific objective. This implies a shift in the approach and focus of projects compared to previous programming periods: the emphasis is now first and foremost on the delivery of outputs and results rather than on the implementation of project activities.

LINK BETWEEN PROGRAMME AND PROJECT INTERVENTION LOGIC

Project and programme intervention logics are intrinsically linked and cannot be considered separately.

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1 For more detailed information about the result-oriented approach please refer to Factsheet “Interreg MED Strategic framework” – Key principles.

2 INTERACT, Establishing ETC Programme logic and linking Programme and Project intervention logics.
The project intervention logic has to show how a desired change will be achieved.

Programme and Project Intervention Logic (source: INTERACT)

In the above scheme, the keywords should be interpreted as follows:

- Priority axis -> thematic area which reflects the most relevant needs and potentials of the programme area
- Programme specific objective -> what the programme wants to change for its inhabitants in this thematic area
- Actions to be supported -> the kind of activities the programme intends to finance to achieve this change
- Programme outputs -> the direct products of the activities, which will contribute to the change
- Programme results -> the measurements which will capture the effect of the actions financed

The theory of change

The theory of change should be at the heart of each project. The aim of this approach is to produce a narrative of how the change envisaged will take effect. By focusing project logic on the theory of change, the ability to establish contribution to results in the programme cooperation area that were deliberated in their theory is strengthened.

Projects have to develop an intervention logic taking into account the attempted change as the basis for result-orientation. The project intervention logic will have to show how a desired change will be achieved. It should thus reflect the current situation (e.g. a problem), its underlying causes...
and the change which the project seeks to achieve by implementing the planned activities. It also needs to indicate what has to happen in order to trigger the change.

Project development should start from describing the initial situation, i.e. the problem and/or issue to be addressed. Project partners should then think about what they want to achieve and define expected outcomes and results. These envisaged results have to reflect the desired change and need to be translated into specific project objectives.

**THEORY OF CHANGE**

After the intervention logic is set in place (starting from the initial situation and ending with the envisaged change), preconditions, activities and outputs necessary to reach the objectives and results need to be defined.

Please consult the Factsheet on “Methodological tools for preparation and implementation” for developing the project intervention logic.