

DD ITI monitoring forum in Tulcea, 19/06/2018

The implementation of the ITI is delayed, as regards to the earmarked investments from the programmes under REGIO's responsibility.

The overall allocation is 1.1 billion €, coming from 8 different ESIF programmes. The biggest part is earmarked within ROP (446 M) and LIOP (408 M).

Although there has been an evolution in the projects submission under the different calls (the value of the projects submitted covers now half of the earmarked allocation for all the ESIF), the selection of the projects is very low under ERDF and CF: 10% of the allocation from ROP, 2% for the allocation from LIOP, 0 for COP).

The ADI (intercommunal development association responsible for the implementation of the ITI DD mechanism) is justifying those delays by different reasons:

- Lack of administrative capacity
- Lack of interest of the beneficiaries (other possibility of funding, competing with ERDF, the most competitive being the PNDL)
- Property fragmentation and litigations
- Discrepancies between the rules of different programmes and the needs and possibilities of the territory

Several projects are under preparation in order to be submitted /selected. The next few months will be decisive for the earmarked ITI allocation. If the selection rate doesn't improve, the MA authorities will have to reallocate the budget to other priorities.

E2 to reflect on the possibility to make available additional external expertise (2 AMI experts) to support the regions in developing detailed assessments and in fine tuning recommendations for areas of intervention linked to the governance issues, the tourism potential and the reasons for hampering the implementation of environmental projects

Detailed situation by programme:

TAOP

Earmarked allocation to the ADI ITI: 5 M

Absorption: 2 M (from 1/1/2016-31/12/2018)

LIOP

Indicative allocation: 408 M

13 submitted projects: 45 M

5 contracted projects: 10,5 M

3.1 waste 1 project contracted (7.4M)

3.2 water 1 project contracted (1.6M)

4.1 biodiversity 1 project contracted (24K)

5.1 risk management 2 projects contracted (1.3M)

Projects under preparation: improving safety and security at Tulcea airport (18M), Braila bridge (433M), modernisation of Tulcea port (40M) and Sulina port (8M)

Environment projects

Very little has been done regarding environment projects.

The indicative allocations under LIOP: waste+water 60M, biodiversity 60M, climate and risk management: 48 M

Projects contracted: waste (7.4 M), water (1.6 M), biodiversity (24K), and risk management (1.3 M)

DD Biosphere Reserve Administration is responsible for implementing environmental projects. The Administration is subordinated to the Ministry of Environment which will be partner for the projects to be implemented.

No project has been submitted until now. A representative of the DDBRA was present at the MC and signalled that the administration is understaffed and that the salaries are very low. The transfer of the DDBRA under the Ministry of Environment delayed project preparation as well.

Another reason for delays is the fragmentation of the property and the procedures for its transfer.

ROP

Indicative allocation: 446 M

302 submitted projects: 243 M

Contracted projects: 44 M

In general, the beneficiaries are not ready with the fulfilment of the requirements for contracting – urban plans not ready, local and national administrations do not respond to requests and do not provide the beneficiaries with approvals, the beneficiaries are busy applying for several EU and national programmes at the same time.

The territory is also facing issues related to property titles and litigations.

COP

Indicative allocation 60M

8 projects submitted: 26M

0 projects selected due to delays in launching the call.

OP Administrative capacity (EMPL)

Indicative allocation 16 M

0 project selected

2 projects submitted (152K)

Lack of eligible applicants.

OP Human capital

Indicative allocation 60M

0 project submitted

POPAM

Indicative allocation 38M

Projects submitted 24M

Selected projects: 13M

PNDR

Allocation: 168M

Submitted: 177M

Selected: 127M

No difficulties regarding this funds.