

## STATEMENT OF CONCLUSIONS OF INDIAN OCEAN INTERREG MONITORING COMMITTEE

- PROGRAM CCI 2014TC16RFTN009 (2014-2020)
- PROGRAM CCI 2021TC16FFOR004 (2021-2027)

**8TH DECEMBER 2023**



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# 1. Decisions of the Interreg Monitoring Committee 2014-2020 of 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## *1.1 State of progress of the Interreg V Indian Ocean program (2014-2020)*

The Committee takes note of the state of progress of the program and the perspectives for completion.

## *1.2 Current state of communication actions carried out during the programming period 2014-2020*

The Committee takes note of the communication actions carried out in 2023.



## 2. Decisions of the Interreg Monitoring Committee 2021-2027 of 8th December 2023

### *2.1 Presentation of the Interreg VI Indian Ocean program 2021-2027 and its progress*

The Committee takes note of the launch of the first calls for expression of interest, information concerning coordination of NDICI and INTERREG funding, as well as information concerning communication.

### *2.2 Membership of Sri Lanka*

The Committee unanimously approves membership of Sri Lanka to the Interreg VI Indian Ocean program. The Managing Authority will submit a request for modification of the program to the European Commission in order for Sri Lanka to be officially included as a participating country to the program.

### *3.3 Presentation of the assessment plan of the program*

The Committee approves the assessment plan of the program.

## 2. Speech by Pierre-Emmanuel LECLERC (DG REGION – European Commission)

Mr Pierre-Emmanuel LECLERC (DG REGIO) would like to thank the Regional Council of Reunion for organising this Monitoring Committee during a very busy professional period.

To comply with the regulations, the Monitoring Committee has to meet at least once a year, preferably in person (as defined by the Rules of Procedure of the Monitoring Committee). It is important for the members of the Committee to meet once a year, to see each other and discuss.

The topics for discussion are many and varied:

- 2014-2020: end of the programming period and preparation of closure
- 2021-2027: assessment of the first year and perspectives for the coming year
- After 2027: launching as from now an analysis of the future cohesion policy. What will be the future of the cohesion policy after this date? What will be the future of the INTERREG programs and more particularly the programs targeting the Outermost Regions?

Mr LECLERC uses the terms of the Commissioner for regional policy declared during the seminar held in Marseille in June to launch the French INTERREG programs: “There are no absolute barriers between programming periods.”

As regards the closure of 2014-2020 programming period, the Commission would like to thank the Regional Council of Reunion for the work that has been both carried out and started, for at least the last year, with the aim of covering the cost of projects.

However, he should like to express our slight disappointment that, in view of currently available data, the program has only achieved 90% of the allocated funds, the more so as almost all the strands show a rate of achievement that is below 100%. In practice, therefore, it will appear impossible to apply flexibility on closure. We do, however, understand the attitude of caution applied by the managing authority, making it possible to obtain an estimate of cost of projects as close as possible to reality.

Unfortunately, the risk is that the decision-makers will retain the 10% that has not been spent, rather than the 90%. An analysis aimed at avoiding insufficient financing for current and future programs should thus be carried out.

Among this year’s achievements regarding the launch of the 2021-2027 program, he should like to mention:

- Adoption of criteria for selecting projects, which made it possible to launch the first call for projects in October;
- Creation of an Internet page dedicated to the program, taking into consideration the new obligations under the Interreg regulations;
- Drawing up of an assessment plan;
- Transmission of financial data, with a focus on respect for regulatory provisions.

Concerning the assessment plan, he should like to express our satisfaction that the regulatory deadlines have been respected by the managing authority. He takes the liberty of making a few suggestions concerning the content of this plan:

- Involving organisations outside Reunion Island (notably European Union delegations: EUDs)
- Taking into consideration coordination and exchanges with programs managed by the EUD, notably the DG for International Partnerships.
- Introducing a plan for monitoring of recommendations for the assessment.

Another positive point: the **progress made in your relations with our EUD colleagues and progress as regards coordination of ERDF funds and overseas policy.**

While relations with the Mauritius EUD are well-established, those with the EU bureau in the Comoros and the Madagascar EUD, though also in existence for a long time, have been reinforced through regular and structured exchanges. A new element to note is the beginning of a collaboration with the EUD in Tanzania, which manages a cooperation programme in the Indian Ocean around blue economy.

He should also note the coordination with the regional program of the TAAF (in addition to the more classic cooperation program with intra-regional funds dedicated to the TAAF).

As regards coordination of funds, the results of the studies aimed at entrusting the funds to the French Development Agency are now available (ERDF under shared management and NDICI under indirect management). Even though the outcome has not been positive, what is important is that we have set off the process of analysis and explored all the possible solutions.

The perspective is now that of the transfer of an amount of NDICI funds from the regional “Sub Saharan Africa” program to the Indian Ocean Interreg program. This is a key period. The DG REGIO, which will manage these funds, will do everything possible to support the managing authority, enabling them to make a success of this experience, which is a true step in the right direction as regards quality.

However, there remains one point that has not been covered which is the composition of the pilot committee (for selection) of the program. The members of the selection committee represent the structures in Reunion and Mayotte, which is not acceptable for several reasons:

- The first reason is that the structure of the pilot committee must reflect that of the monitoring committee. In actual fact, that the monitoring committee includes partners of third countries, which is not the case of the pilot committee. There exists therefore a breach here which needs to be resolved.
- The second reason is that a key element of the INTERREG programs has always been associating partner third countries in the selection of projects. The INTERREG regulations cover and involve all partners concerned.
- Finally, all the INTERREG programs (90 in number), including those with external frontiers, and including those targeting the Outermost Regions, include third parties in the selection committees.

This issue has been raised several times with the managing authority. Up till now, the selection of projects has been carried out contrary to the Regulations of the program. It is quite clear that this cannot continue.

A final point concerns the period after 2027, for which an initial analysis has already been carried out. The programs will, on the one hand, consult their partners, and, on the other hand, the citizens. The Director of Cooperation at the DG REGIO wishes to specifically commit himself to the Outermost Regions. He is ready to go out into the field, which he will do during the second half of March, and will find it useful to meet the appropriate partners. I should like to thank the services of the General Council in advance for the very warm welcome he will be given during this process.



## **INTERREG MONITORING COMMITTEE**

### **ANNEX 1: Opening speech by Mr Wilfrid BERTILE**

## Opening speech by Mr Wilfrid BERTILE

First of all, I'd like to once again greet you all and wish you a warm welcome. We are all here today for the monitoring committee of the European Interreg program, a European fund for territorial cooperation implemented by the territorial authorities. The Reunion Regional Council of is the managing authority for European funds of the Interreg program in Reunion. These European cooperation funds are used to finance cooperative projects set up in your countries, in partner countries and, since the latest programming, the different partner countries have been associated in the use of these funds through the Interreg monitoring committee, which is why we are meeting here today. I should therefore like to greet the representative here of the European Commission, Mr Pierre-Emmanuel Leclerc, regional rapporteur for the GD REGIO, who is thus in charge of application of Interreg programs, implemented from Reunion for the Indian Ocean program and from Mayotte for the Mozambique Channel program.

In the context of both our development policy in the zone and that of our cooperation policy, Europe has always been an important partner. From the start, Europe has supported developing countries through European development funds, now referred to as the NDICI, both in the context of national indicative programs as well as that of regional indicative programmes when these countries are grouped together within a regional integration body.

Interreg funds are thus another source of support from the European Union for regional cooperation and development. These cooperation funds are additional to EDF funds, now referred to as NDICI. Also, since the start of the 2000s, as I stated in my introduction, the Reunion Regional Council has been implementing these programs and has been the managing authority for these European funds. Since the early 2000s, these funds have seen an important increase, with 5 million Euros for the period of 2000-2006 being increased to over 60 million for the current period, for previous program and the one now being set up. The amounts have increased, as has the number of partners, and we now have a number of overseas partners outside the French Indian Ocean regions of Mayotte, the TAAF (French Southern and Antarctic Territories) and Reunion.

These funds have made it possible to support a large number of projects. For the period of 2014-2020, 264 were supported, to the benefit of all our partners.

This afternoon's work session will first of all consist in a review of the 2014-2020 program referred to as Interreg V, now coming to an end, as well as an overview of the progress of implementation of the Interreg VI 2021-2027 program. We will also discuss the inclusion of a new member, Sri Lanka, and draw up an assessment plan for the coming period.

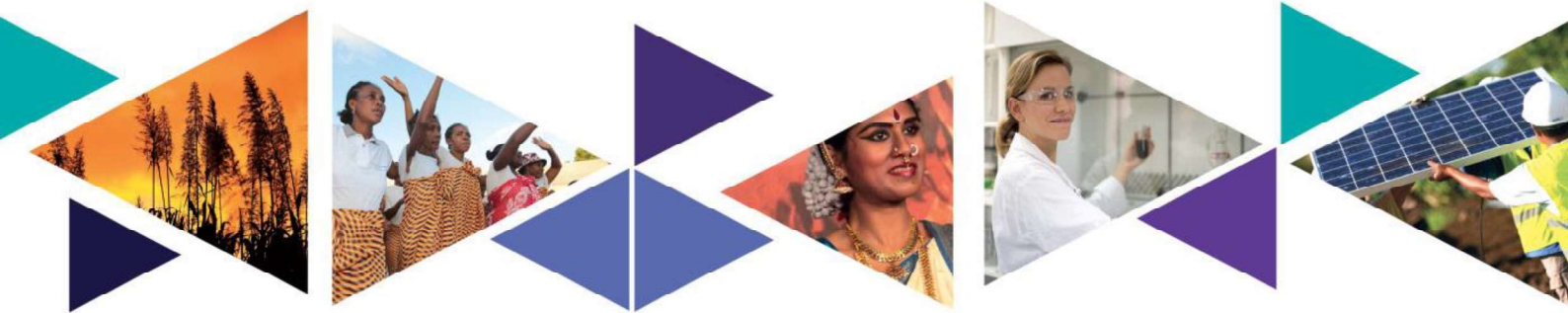




## **INTERREG MONITORING COMMITTEE**

### **ANNEX 2: Presentation Support of the CSI/IMC**

# Meeting of the Interreg Monitoring Committee



8th December 2023

## AGENDA

### 1st phase - Interreg V Indian Ocean Program 2014-2020

1. Dynamics of progress of the program
2. Communication and information

### 2<sup>nd</sup> phase - Interreg V Indian Ocean Program 2021-2027

1. Dynamics of progress of the program
  2. Membership of Sri Lanka
3. Plan of assessment of the program

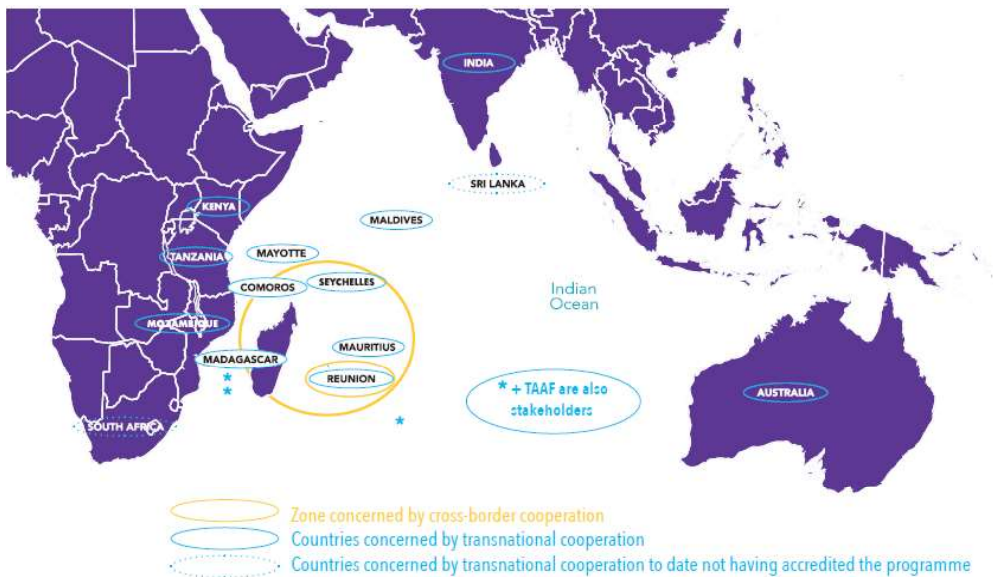
# 1st PHASE

## INTERREG V PROGRAM

2014-2020

# 1- Dynamics of progress of the program

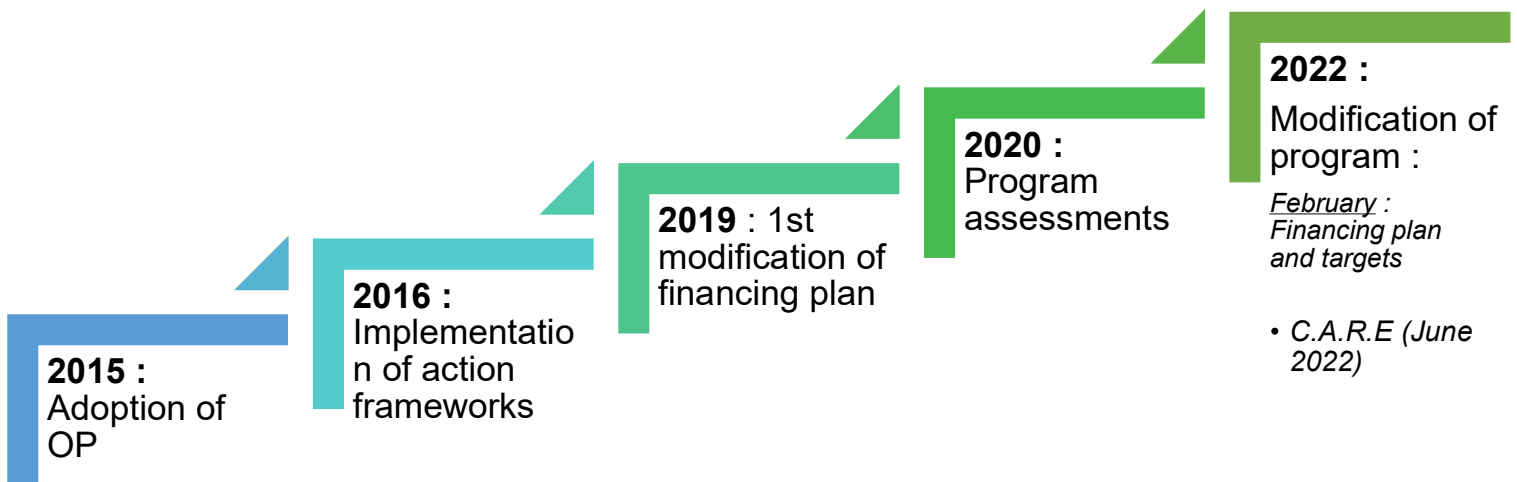
## Presentation of the Interreg V IO programme



### The programme

- 10 third-party states
- Région Réunion managing authority
- **€ 74.3 M total budget :**
  - ✓ € 63.1 M ERDF (EU)
  - ✓ € 11.1 M national counterpart
- **2 strands**
  - ✓ Cross-border € 41.3 M
  - ✓ Transnational € 21.7 M

## Implementation of the program



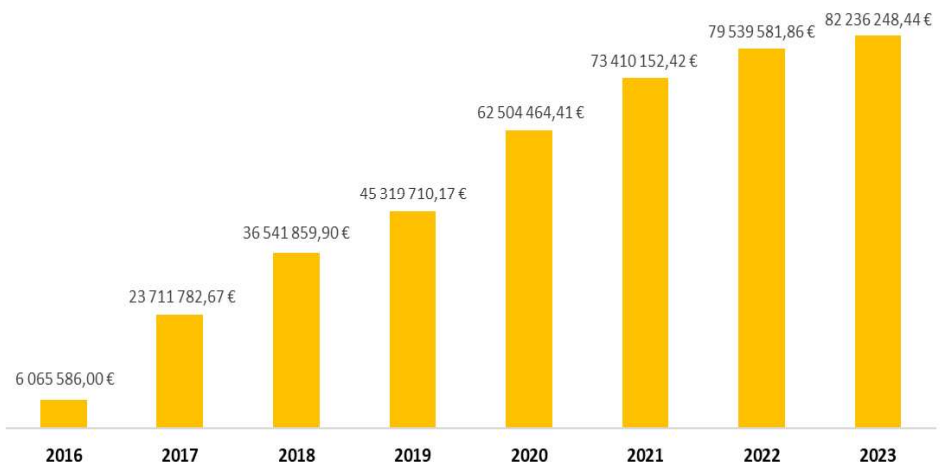
**Note:** Since the programme was set up, the Monitoring Committee has convened **7 times**

## Programming evolution

### PROGRAMMING on 01.12.2023

- 267 projects supported
- Total eligible cost: €82.4M  
(€69 M from ERDF)
- Programming rate: 112%

Evolution of programming since the beginning of the program  
(total cumulated eligible cost)

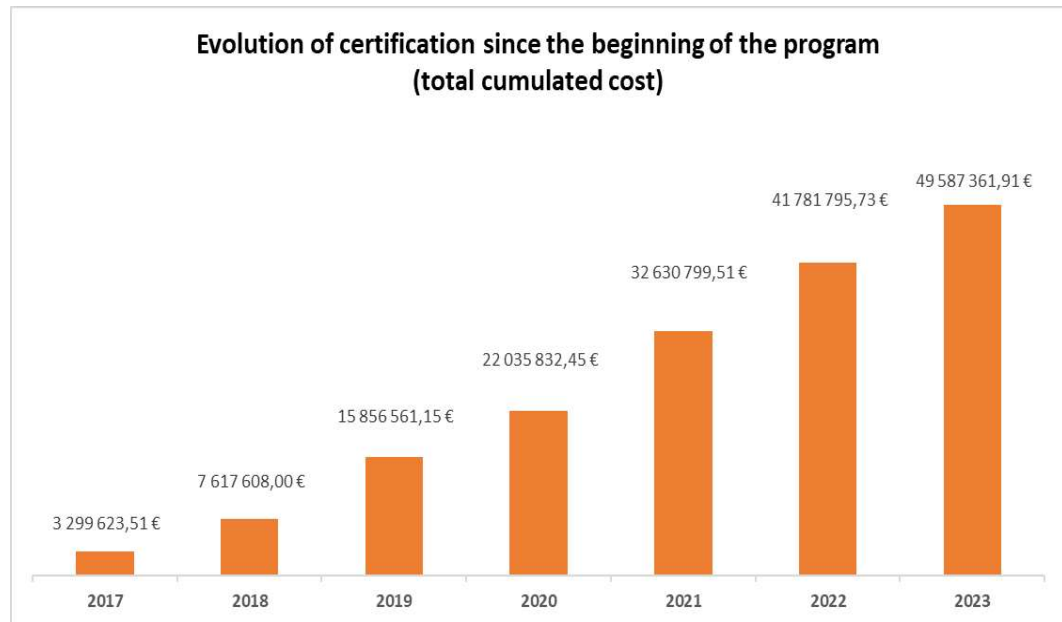




## Evolution of certification

**CERTIFICATION  
on 01.12.2023**

- Total cost: €53.42 M
- ERDF Amount: €45.41 M
- Certification rate: 72.30%



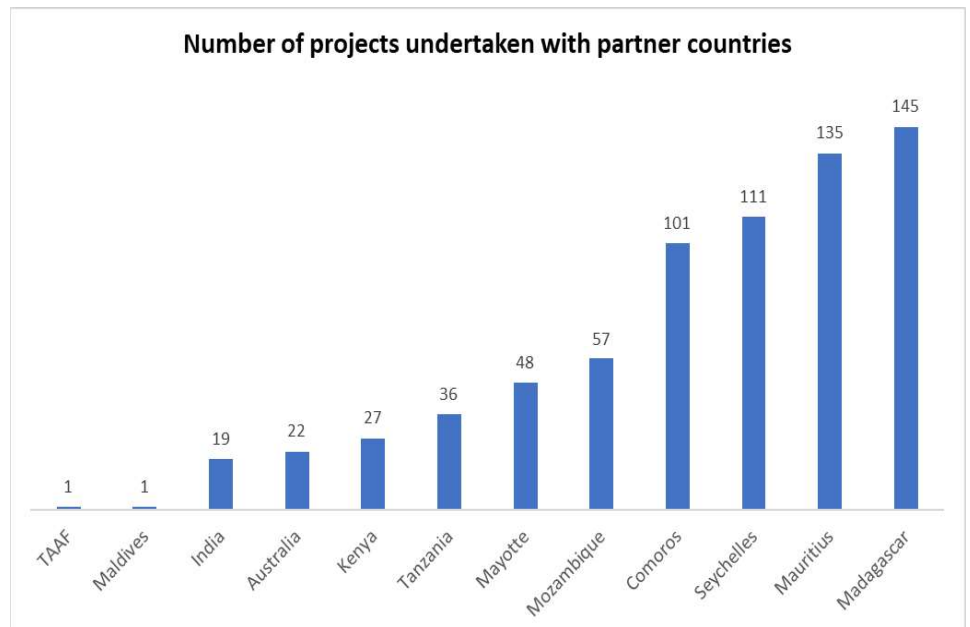
## Involvement of partner countries

### CROSBORDER STRAND

- 149 projects
- Total cost: €52.5M, i.e. 108% of the model devoted to this strand

### TRANSNATIONAL STRAND

- 118 projects
- Total cost: €29.9M, i.e. 119% of the model devoted to this strand



## A few of the projects funded by the INTERREG V IO program

### Two structuring projects

#### Construction of the Plant Protection Pole (3 P)

Piloted by: CIRAD

Extension of the pole through construction of tertiary premises and laboratories (total of 670 m<sup>2</sup>) aimed at welcoming researchers of the CIRAD working on cooperative projects, as well as partner structures in the IO zone.



#### Construction of the PIROI CENTER



Piloted by: PIROI

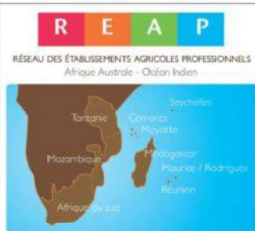
Creation of a regional centre for expertise, training and innovation, dedicated to management of risks and climate change: the PIROI Centre. Support for construction of the warehouse for emergency pre-positioned PIROI stocks (900m<sup>2</sup>).

### Des projets d'échanges en faveur de jeunes étudiants ou doctorants de la zone océan Indien

#### Echanges étudiants

Coopération éducative dans le cadre du Réseau des Etablissements Agricoles professionnels de l'océan Indien

- Portée à La Réunion par les lycées agricoles de Saint-Paul et Saint-Joseph et, à Mayotte, par le lycée agricole de Coconi



#### Allocations Régionales de Recherche

accordées à des doctorants proposant un sujet de recherche s'inscrivant dans les thématiques des organismes de recherche de la zone océan Indien, et d'intérêt pour La Réunion.

**19 doctorants ont pu bénéficier de ce dispositif : 14 de Madagascar, 2 de La Réunion, 1 de Maurice, 1 des Comores et 1 d'Inde.**



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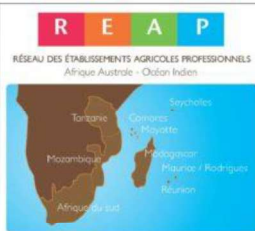
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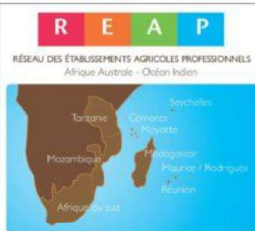
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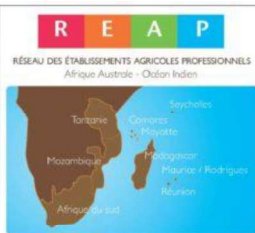


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### Projects for exchanges aimed at young students and doctoral students in the IO zone

#### Student exchanges



Educational cooperation in the context of the the Network of Indian Ocean Professional Agricultural Establishments

- Piloted in Reunion by the agricultural high schools of Saint-Paul and Saint-Joseph and in Mayotte by the agricultural high school of Coconi



**Regional Research Grants for doctoral students** proposing a research topic focusing on issues covered by research structures in the IO zone and relevant to Reunion.

**19 doctoral students have benefitted from this measure: 14 from Madagascar, 2 from Reunion, 1 from Mauritius, 1 from the Comoros and 1 from India.**

## Difficulties of implementation encountered since the start of programming

### Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the implementation of the program

- Periods of lockdown – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2020
- Flights suspended – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2020
- Reopening of certain flights early 2021 with periods of compulsory isolation and compelling reasons to justify travel, in a context of new strains circulating in the IO zone.



- Prolonged time-frames for implementation of projects.
- Cancellation or postponement of certain payments, including missions and travel, which represent one of the main expenditure items of Interreg projects (particularly significant for 2021 and 2022, with important rates of decrease for projects programmed in 2019 and 2020, the application of which was greatly disrupted over two years)
- ISV Program particularly disrupted, as well as programs aimed at mobility of artists, students and high-school pupils.

## *Measures taken by the managing authority to compensate for these difficulties and optimise the program's certification rates*

- ⇒ Initial two-month postponement for implementation of projects to have been completed during the periods of lockdown.
- ⇒ Reinforced dematerialisation of Managing Authority services, making it possible to inform and treat applications during the periods of lockdown and curfew as well as organisation of project Steering Committees by visio-conference or written procedure in order to maintain the programming rate.
- ⇒ Organisation of continuous monitoring of the beneficiaries by the instructing departments (regular assessments with pilots of projects the implementation of which was delayed, warnings concerning end of contract deadlines) and drawing up of a quarterly certification schedule followed by a monthly schedule until completion.
- ⇒ Regular meetings based on monitoring tools (dashboards) with instructing departments in order to detect delays and potential difficulties.
- ⇒ Drawing up of annual prospective implementation enabling readjustment of financial models in application of estimated remaining amounts until completion (final adjustment in December 2021).
- ⇒ Mobilisation of the mechanism proposed by the CARE regulations (temporary increase of co-financing rate of the programme at 100% during the 2021-2022 financial year), making it possible to release a prepayment in order to achieve the 2022 automatic threshold.
- ⇒ Programming in 2023 of operations with implementation deadlines that were compatible with the date of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

**In view of these works in general, the final estimated certification rate of the INTERREG V program is close to 90%.**



## ***Progress of the program by strand***

**STRANDS 1 and 2: INCREASING THE INTERNATIONAL  
POTENTIAL OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN THE INDIAN  
OCEAN**

**SINCE THE START OF PROGRAMMING**

Strand	Number of projects programmed	Programming rate of the strand	Total cost of projects	Certification – 01/12/2023	Certification – closure forecast
1st strand (CB)	29	104%	€22.2 M	69,54%	88%
2 <sup>nd</sup> strand (TN)	15	122 %	€7 M	76,25%	94%
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>€29.2 M</b>		

## STRANDS 3 and 4: SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC EXCHANGES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

### SINCE THE START OF PROGRAMMING

Strand	Number of projects programmed	Programming rate of the strand	Total cost of projects	Certification – 01/12/2023	Certification – closure forecast
3rd strand (CB)	44	100 %	€6.7 M	80,52%	83%
4th strand (TN)	39	126 %	€9.4 M	91,25%	92%
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>€16.1 M</b>		

## STRANDS 5 and 6: REINFORCING ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE, PREVENTION AND RISK MANGEMENT

### SINCE THE START OF PROGRAMMING

Strand	Number of projects programmed	Programming rate of the strand	Total cost of projects	Certification – 01/12/2023	Certification – closure forecast
Strand 5 (CB)	7	130 %	€6.7 M	84.95%	99%
Strand 6 (TN)	7	103 %	€4.5 M	35.43%	99%
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>€11.2 M</b>		

## STRNDS 7 and 8: REINFORCING KNOWLEDGE AND ENHANCING THE NATURAL HERITAGE

### SINCE THE START OF PROGRAMMING

Strand	Number of projects programmed	Programming rate of the strand	Total cost of projects	Certification – 01/12/2023	Certification – forecast closure
Strand 7 (CB)	12	117 %	€3,8 M	78.40%	88%
Strand 8 (TN)	15	118 %	€4 M	46.12%	89%
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>€7.8 M</b>		

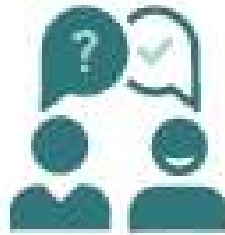
**STRANDS 9 et 10 : RAISING THE LEVEL OF COLLECTIVE SKILLS  
THROUGH SUPPORT FOR TRAINING AND EXCHANGES**

**SINCE THE START OF PROGRAMMING**

Strand	Number of projects programmed	Programming rate of the strand	Total cost of projects	Certification – 01/12/2023	Certification – closure forecast
Strand 9 (CB)	50	108 %	€9.8 M	66.33%	76%
Strand 10 (TN)	32	107 %	€3.1 M	53.26%	79%
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>€12.9 M</b>		

## Discussions

### QUESTIONS / COMMENTS



## 2- Communication and information



## Information and communication (1/3)

### CREATIONS

- Latest INTERREG V OP newsletter notably aimed at partner countries (newsletter n°13)
- Update of information on dedicated page

### COMMUNICATION

Website: [www.regionreunion.com](http://www.regionreunion.com)

- Social networks and Regional Council website: personal account videos, monitoring of projects, newsletters, communication dedicated to Europe Day
- Local television: promotion of projects on *Mazin Rényon* program
- Communication on Youtube of videos by pilots of projects : TAAF, OVPF, Regional Council of Reunion (*Moring* project)



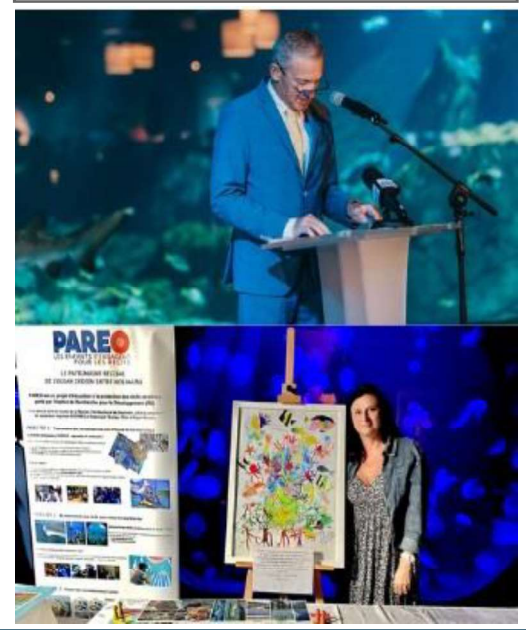
# Information and communication (2/3)

## In partner countries

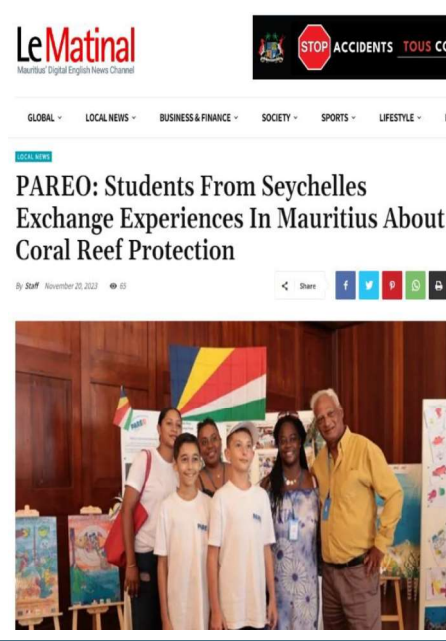
Participation in European week of Reunion Regional Council bureau in Comoro islands – Setting up a stand representing research projects and projects to support students (Scientific Days of the Faculty of Science and Technology)



European Day in Port-Louis organised by the delegation of the European Union in the presence of the Reunion Regional Council bureau in Mauritius



Article in the Mauritian press on the PAREO / IRD project



## Information and communication (3/3)

### On the national and European levels

Promotion of the PIROI Centre project during the 'Histories of Europe' exhibition in Paris, on the esplanade of the Town Hall (13<sup>th</sup> May 2023)

The graphic features the 'histoires d'Europe' logo with the European Union flag, the text 'Le PIROI Center, expert dans la gestion des risques climatiques dans l'Océan Indien', and the 'Océan Indien' logo. It includes a QR code and a photograph of a Red Cross volunteer in a red vest serving water to a child at a public water station. The text describes the PIROI platform's role in regional climate risk prevention and response, its base in Réunion, and its goal of strengthening emergency response capacities and climate risk awareness.

**Le PIROI Center, expert dans la gestion des risques climatiques dans l'Océan Indien**

Océan Indien

La PIROI est la plateforme d'intervention régionale de l'Océan Indien de la Croix-Rouge française qui intervient dans la prévention des risques et la réponse aux catastrophes climatiques de la région.

Basée à la Réunion, la plateforme agit dans les pays de l'Océan Indien et compte plus de 35 000 volontaires. La Croix rouge va consacrer un nouveau centre pour regrouper un ensemble d'expertises et un espace de travail entre acteurs de l'humanitaire et de la gestion des risques.

L'objectif est d'une part de renforcer les capacités de stockage dans des entrepôts pour les mesures d'urgence mais aussi de faciliter la formation et la sensibilisation à la gestion des risques climatiques.

# DECISION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE

**2<sup>nd</sup> PHASE**

**INTERREG VI PROGRAM**

**2021-2027**

# 1- Presentation of the program and its progress

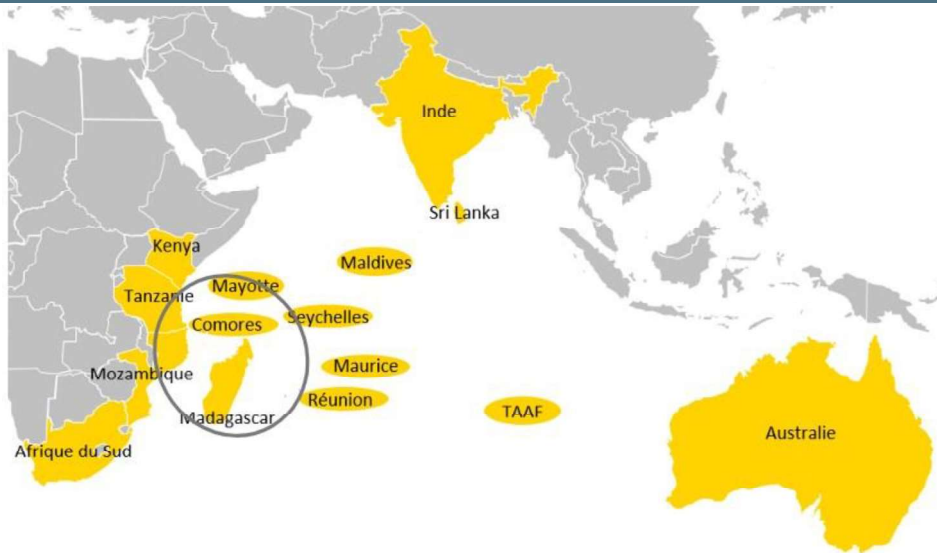
## ***Reminder of the Indian Ocean Interreg VI program***

## Evolution of the Indian Ocean Interreg VI program

- ✓ **REMINDER:** The selection criteria were approved by the Permanent Commission of the Reunion Regional Council on 16th June 2023
  
- ⇒ A More accessible program: an action file dedicated to **small-scale projects through the IOS axis and simplification measures**
- ⇒ **Improved governance** for the program: a dedicated action file (reinforced links with partner countries)
- ⇒ **Greater proportion dedicated to green projects:** attribution of 30% of program funds to objectives linked to climate change and sustainable approaches: circular economy, energy efficiency, biodiversity, green mobility



## The area covered by Program



■ Areas of Interreg Indian ocean programme 2021-2027, providing agreement from the partner countries – Managing Authority : Reunion Island

○ Areas of « Mozambique channel » 2021-2027, providing agreements from the partner countries – Managing Authority : Mayotte

### THE PROGRAM

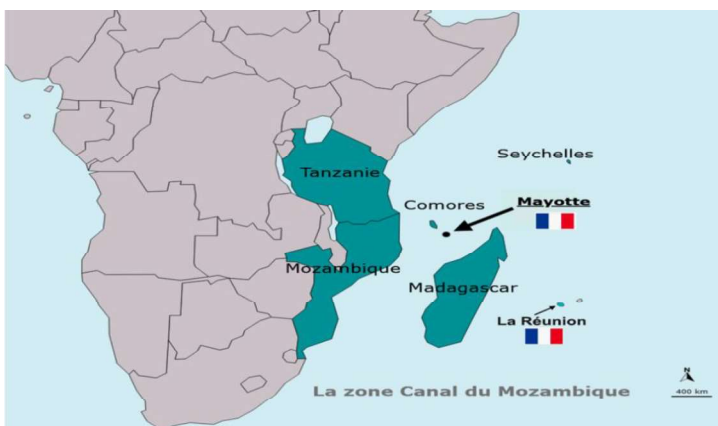
- 10 third-party States
- Reunion Regional Council as Managing Authority

**Total budget €73.2M**

- €62.2M ERDF (EU)
- €10.9M national contributions

## Coordination measures of cooperation programs in the Indian Ocean zone

- **2 INTERREG programs in the Indian Ocean zone:** the INTERREG VI Indian Ocean program (Managing Authority: Reunion Regional Council) and the Mozambique Channel program (Managing Authority: Departmental Council of Mayotte)







Area covered by the Mozambique Channel program

### What are the implications?

- Joint participation in Monitoring Committees
- Coordinating Committee (bimonthly or more as necessary) between managing authorities of the Indian Ocean and the Mozambique Channel programs.

## Model of the INTERREG VI program

Priority	Strategic objective	Amount per priority	Technical Assistance amount: 10% per priority	Total amount of program by priority
 <p>Priority 1 – Consolidating collaborative research and economic cooperation to favour common solutions and create added value on the regional level</p>	SO1 – A more competitive and more intelligent Europe through encouraging innovative and intelligent economic change and regional connections through ICTs	€ 28,335,450	€ 2,833,545	€ 28,988,995
 <p>Priority 2 – Increasing the resilience and sustainable development of territories</p>	SO2 – A greener and more resilient Europe with low carbon emissions evolving towards a net zero-carbon-emission economy through promoting a clean and equitable energy transition, green and blue investments, circular economy and mitigation of climate change and adaption to the latter, prevention and management of risks and sustainable urban mobility.	€ 13,048,317	€ 1,304,832	€ 14,353,149
 <p>Priority 3 – Reinforcing skills, culture and tourism to favour economic and social development</p>	SO4 – A more social and inclusive Europe applying the European social rights framework	€ 15,284,378	€ 1,528,437	€16,812,815
 <p>Priority 4 – Improving the governance of cooperation in the Indian Ocean</p>	ISO 1 – Improved governance for cooperation	€ 1,925,000	€ 192,500	€ 2,117,500

## ***Launching the first calls for expression of interest***

## Calendar of Calls for projects/Calls for expression of interest end 2023 – start 2024

Action file N°	Call for Projects/Call for Expression of Interest: Title	Date start CP/CEI	Date end CP/CEI
1.1	Partnership research projects around shared challenges	October	January
1.2	Structuring research projects for the Indian Ocean zone	January	April
1.3	Networking between researchers, sharing scientific knowledge and actions to disseminate, capitalise and popularise results of research	October	January
1.5	Developing cooperation in the economic sector	October	January
1.6	Developing cooperation in the agricultural sector	October	January
1.7	Developing cooperation in the maritime sector	October	January
2.1	Support for sustainable energy transition in the Indian Ocean	October	January
2.2	Prevention and management of natural and health hazards in the Indian Ocean	October	January
2.3	Developing circular economy in the Indian Ocean	October	January
2.4	Projects to protect biodiversity	January	April
3.1	Training and sharing of experiences in the Indian Ocean	October	December
3.3	Reinforcing cultural, artistic and sports exchanges in the Indian Ocean	October	January
3.4	Support for development of tourism	October	January

## Discussions

### QUESTIONS / COMMENTS



## ***NDICI-INTERREG Coordination***

## Reminder – Financial coordination

### ➤ Importance of coordination between the NDICI and ERDF

The European Outermost Regions programs cooperate with those of non-European states benefiting from funds of the EU external policy (formerly EDF, now NDICI).

Consequently, cooperation with these 'third-party' States of the EU necessarily implies coordination between these funds and the funds of the EU cohesion policy (ERDF-European Territorial Cooperation).

### ➤ Joint funding on the increase (programming 2007-2013 and 2014-2020)

### ➤ Statutory evolution for 2021-2027 enabling integrated management of the two sources of funding

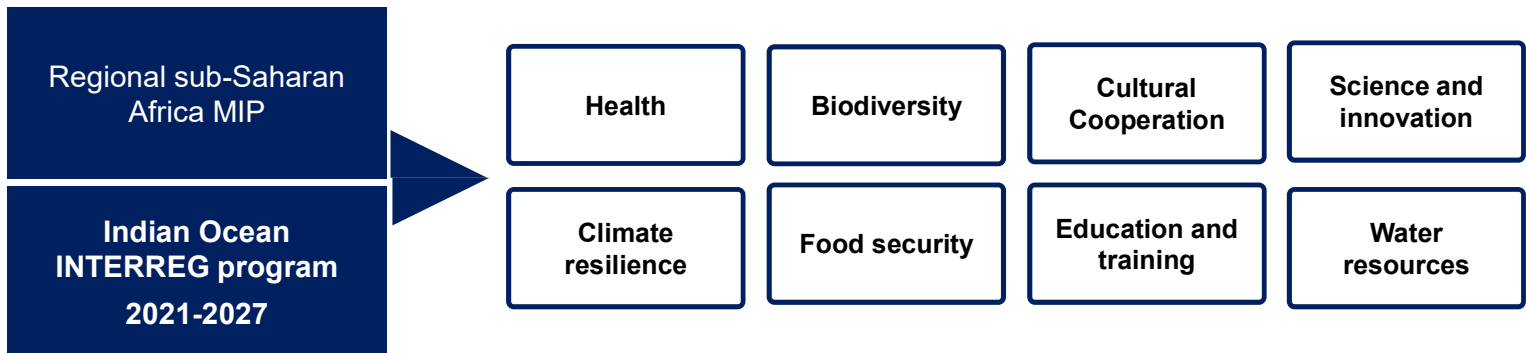


Coordination of priority topics in common with the regional MIP 1/3

INTERREG VI INDIAN OCEAN	SOUTHERN AFRICA AND INDIAN OCEAN Multi-annual Indicative Program (MIP)
<p><b>Priority 3: Reinforcing skills, culture and tourism to facilitate economic and social development</b></p>	<p><b>Sector 1 – Human development:</b> Health, education and skills</p>
	<p><b>Sector 2 - Governance, peace and security:</b> Culture</p>
<p><b>Priority 2: Increasing resilience and the sustainable development of territories</b></p>	<p><b>Sector 3: Green transition:</b> - Climate ; Energy ; Agriculture ; Biodiversity ; Environment</p>
<p><b>Priority 1: Consolidating collaborative research and economic cooperation</b></p>	<p><b>Sector 4 – Science, technology and innovation</b></p>
	<p><b>Sector 5 – Sustainable growth and decent employment:</b> Economic integration, development of the private sector</p>

## Coordination of common priorities with the regional MIP – (reinforcing – study of French Ministry for Overseas ) 2/3

**Analysis of the fields of action** of the regional sub-Saharan Africa MIP and those of the Indian Ocean INTERREG OP has made it possible to **identify common topics in the two programs** qualifying for joint funding of cooperation projects:



## Coordinating priority topics in common with national MIPs 3/3

IO Interreg VI priorities	MIP Mauritius	MIP Madagascar	MIP Comoros	MIP Mozambique
Priority 1: consolidating collaborative research and economic cooperation	X (sector 1: transition towards blue economy, sustainable food transition)	X (sector 2 : digital trade; sector 3: agriculture and rural development)	X (growth and employment)	
Priority 2 : increasing resilience and the sustainable development of territories	X (sector 1: green transition)	X (sector 2: energy; sector 3 : environment)	X (green and blue pact)	X (growing green)
Priority 3: reinforcing skills, culture and tourism to encourage economic and social development		X (sector 1 : human development - health, education)		X (youth development)
Priority 4: improving the governance of cooperation in the Indian Ocean			X (governance: encouraging integration of environmental challenges on a local level)	X (governance, a fair society)

## Options for the new regulations

Période 2014 - 2020

FEDER

Gestion  
partagée

FED

Gestion  
directe

Gestion  
indirecte  
(agence / gov)

Articulation au niveau des  
projets avec financements de  
dépenses complémentaires

Période 2021 - 2027

FEDER

Gestion  
partagée

NDICI / OAD

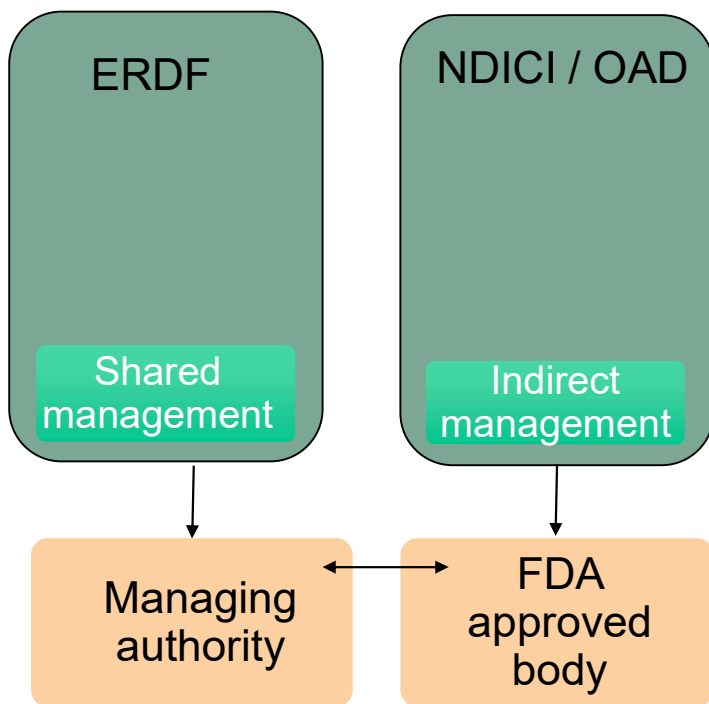
Gestion  
partagée

Gestion  
indirecte

Gestion  
indirecte  
agence/ ET/ AG

Articulation au niveau des  
programmes

## Approaches considered by the managing authority 1/3



- Indirect management of the NDICI by the FDA (approved body) and shared management of ERDF par the FDA (which would be the intermediary body benefitting from a global ERDF subsidy delegated by the Managing Authority of the Regional Council of Reunion)
- This 'combined' structure has been the object of a study piloted by the FDA and funded by the French Ministry of Overseas.

## Approaches considered by the managing authority 2/3

- **First conclusions of the study (mid-2023):** not in favour of the application of this option in the Indian Ocean (different procedures for release of funds, adaption to software (synergies), high costs for FDA: training and recruitment of agents (linked to compulsory separation of study/certification processes)).
- **Continuation of the study (to be completed end 2023):**
  - Enhancement of working processes to be set up in the context of management of an NDICI amount by the FDA and management of ERDF-INTERREG by the Regional Council managing authority.
  - Scenario of delegation of ERDF-INTERREG funds and of NDICI to the FDA by indirect management of a topic presenting a common interest.

## Approaches considered by the managing authority 3/3

The perspectives of coordinating the Indian Ocean Interreg VI program and the MIP (NDICI) were presented in the Canary islands, in the presence of the GD REGIO and the managing authorities of the ORs during the seminars held on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023 around the regional integration of the ORs.

⇒ A question was raised during this event concerning **the possibility of the Managing Authorities of the Madera-Azores-Canaries and the Indian Ocean programs managing NDICI funds provided by the regional Sub-Saharan Africa MIP** (with procedures of indirect management).

A meeting with the GD REGIO to discuss this possibility was held on 17<sup>th</sup> November of this year, piloted by the French delegation in Brussels. The managing authority was able to propose possibilities of coordinating topics with the regional MIP, referring to the study of the French Overseas Ministry.

## Discussions

### QUESTIONS / COMMENTS





## Information and communication (1/4)

### Ongoing events

- Training of an ISV at the Interreg events pole: their role will be to promote and facilitate the **Interreg VI program** in the Seychelles.

*\* Made available by France Volontaires at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Seychelles.*

### CREATIONS and DISSEMINATION

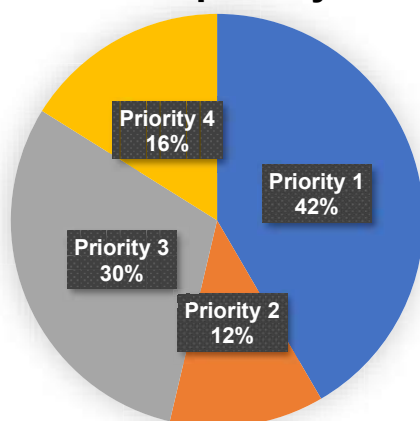
WebSite : [www.regionreunion.com](http://www.regionreunion.com) / update of information on the Reunion Regional Council website

- Social networks and Reunion Regional Council website: calls for expression of interest, communication around the new program in the context of the 40th anniversary of the Regional Council, as well as Europe day
- Presentation of the new program to the various partners in third-party countries (DUE, IOC...) and during networking events: ANCT, AVCOI, INTERACT, OR meeting in Canaries etc.
- General information files on INTERREG VI transmitted to diplomatic posts in the zone (via the diplomatic mission)
- Collective information for pilots of projects (circular e-mails and information meetings)
- Individual 'support' (cf. following slides)

## Information and communication (2/4)

Since January 2023 : **149 projects supported**

### Projects supported in 2023 by priority



Detail of the number of projects by priority:

Priority 1: **57 projects**

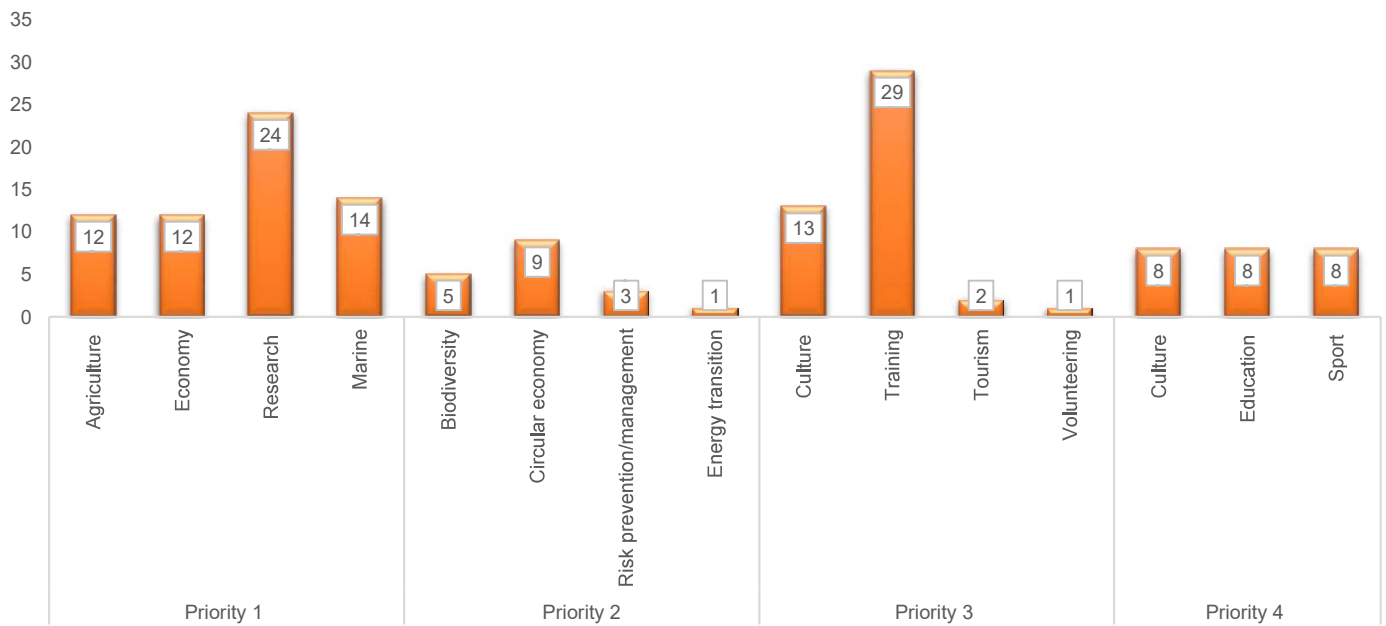
Priority 2: **22 projects**

Priority 3: **46 projects**

Priority 4: **24 projects**

## Information and communication (3/4)

Number of projects supported in 2023 by theme



## Information and communication (4/4)

**'Governance' workshop with Interreg focal points**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023**



**Objective of the workshop:** to reinforce links with the focal points of partner countries

**Topics covered:** presentation of the regional authority: the INTERREG V and VI programs and their functioning, cooperation strategy in the Indian Ocean, perspectives for improvement of running of the program, national workshops in 2024.

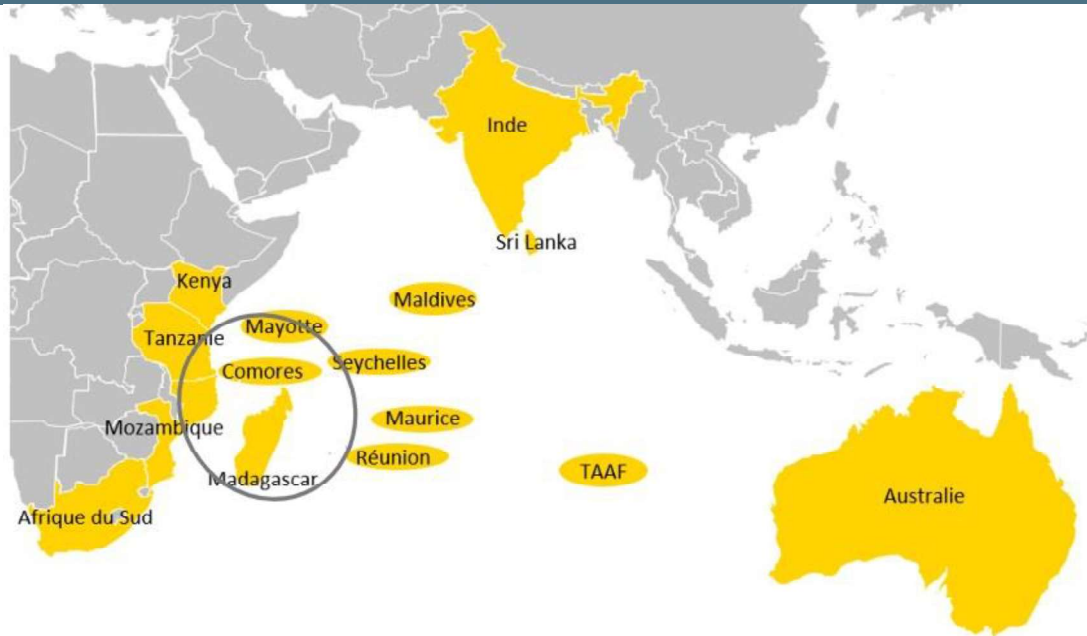
## Discussions

### QUESTIONS / COMMENTS



# DECISION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE

## 2- Membership of Sri Lanka



■ Areas of Interreg Indian ocean programme 2021-2027, providing agreement from the partner countries – Managing Authority : Reunion Island

○ Areas of « Mozambique channel » 2021-2027, providing agreements from the partner countries – Managing Authority : Mayotte



## Discussions

### QUESTIONS / COMMENTS



# DECISION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE

# **3- Assessment plan**

## **2021-2027**

## FRAMEWORK OF ASSESSMENT PLAN

### REGULATORY OBLIGATIONS (art. 35 reg. n°2021/1059)

The Managing Authority must submit an Assessment Plan to the Monitoring Committee *at the latest within one year* following adoption of the INTERREG program.

The Managing Authority carries out assessments on the basis of one or several criteria: efficiency, effectiveness, relevance, coherence, added value of the EU.

An assessment of each program aimed at measuring its impact is to be carried out *on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2029 at the latest*.

### ROLE OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE (art. 30 reg. n°2021/1059)

- Approving the Assessment Plan and all amendments of the latter
- Examining the progress made regarding assessments and follow-ups on results

### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

- Examine le Plan d'Evaluation à soumettre au CSI
- Emet un avis sur les cahiers des charges des évaluations et les rapports finaux des évaluations
- Formule des observations sur les résultats des évaluations

## Planned assessments of the program (1/2)

- 4 assessments of the program planned

Priority of the Union	Priority of the program	Topic	Assessment questions (examples)
PO1 – A more competitive and intelligent Europe	P01 – Consolidating collaborative research and economic cooperation	Research and innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To what extent has the program contributed to providing solutions to issues facing the countries in the zone?</li> <li>- To what extent has the program contributed to raising the level of knowledge of actors working in the field of research and the civil society through popularisation of the results of research?</li> </ul>
PO4 – A more social and inclusive Europe	P03 – Reinforcing skills, culture and tourism aimed at economic and social development	Training and apprenticeships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To what extent has the level of skills and/or the expertise of learners and professionals increased?</li> <li>- What has been the leverage effect of the actions supported by the program?</li> <li>- What has been the impact of the IVS mechanism related to the conclusions of previous assessments and the new provisions drawn up during the period 2021-2027 ?</li> </ul>

The assessment questions will be defined in the contractual requirements of the assessments

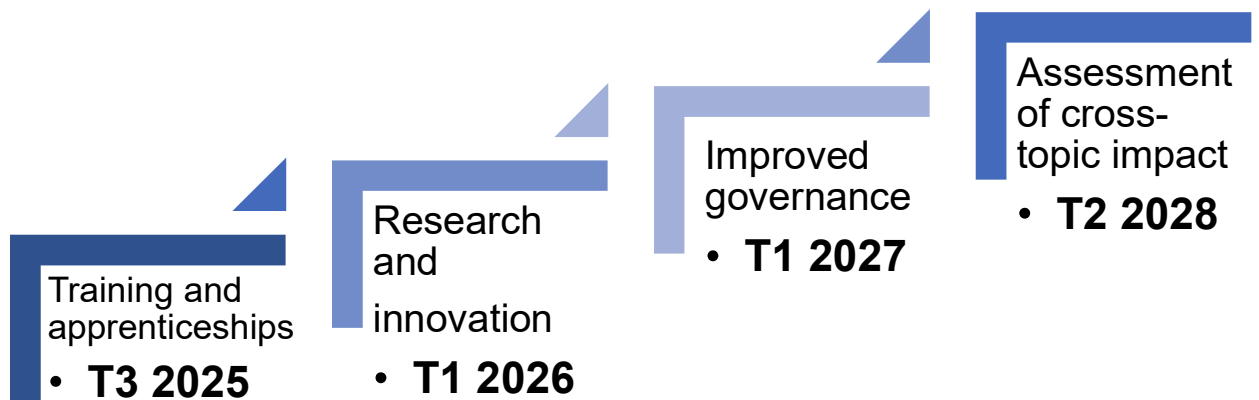
## Planned assessments of the program (2/2)

- 4 assessments of the program planned

Priority of the Union	Priority of the program	Topic	Assessment questions (examples)
PO6 – INTERREG : Governance of cooperation	P04 - Improving the governance of cooperation in the Indian Ocean	Improved governance for cooperation (support for small-scale projects)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How do the actions deployed (and other strategies of organisations in the zone) function together? Do they make it possible to achieve the objectives defined in the strategy of the program ?</li> <li>- What are the elements targeting almost exclusively non-European countries that make it possible for cooperation in the zone to function?</li> </ul>
The priorities as a whole mobilised by the program		Assessment of cross-functional assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What are the cross-functional impacts of the INTERREG VI program? For integration of Reunion and Mayotte ? For the development of mutually beneficial cooperation?</li> <li>- Is there a causality that can be demonstrated between the actions supported and the results expected?</li> <li>- What European added value can be observed?</li> </ul>

The assessment questions will be defined in the contractual requirements of the assessments

## (INDICATIVE) CALENDAR OF ASSESSMENTS



## Discussions

### QUESTIONS / COMMENTS





## Provisional schedule 2024

- Interreg Monitoring Committee March 2024
- National workshops 1st semester of 2024  
(Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles)
- Workshops dedicated to NDICI - INTERREG  
coordination 1st semester of 2024

# DECISION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE

# Thanks for listening