

TNC Programme Balkan - Mediterranean

28 February 2019 | Ljubljana, Slovenia

Evelin Matiaki
JS Financial & Project Officer



Journey to Growth!

Programme background

2007-2013
South East Europe (SEE)

2014-2020
Adriatic-Ionian
Programme
(Adrlon)
(EU Strategy of
Adriatic-Ionian
Region)

2014-2020
Danube
Programme
(EU Strategy of
Danube
Region)

2014 –2020
Balkan-
Mediterranean
Programme



- a) EU Member States - **Bulgaria, Cyprus & Greece** (ERDF funding).
- b) IPA Partner States - **Albania & Republic of North Macedonia** (IPA funding).

Financing Activities outside BM area

- Such activities shall respect *the 20% threshold of ERDF at project level*.
- Declare under WP6.

Partners outside BM area

- Participation may be deemed necessary due to their **particular competences** that facilitate project implementation.
- Participation possible only under the ***Observer Partner*** status – no EU funds.
- **Travel & Accommodation costs** allocated to a core Partner from the Partnership.

The BalkanMed Programme in a nutshell

Programme budget and co-financing rate

BalkanMed budget incl. national contribution: € 39.727.654,00 M

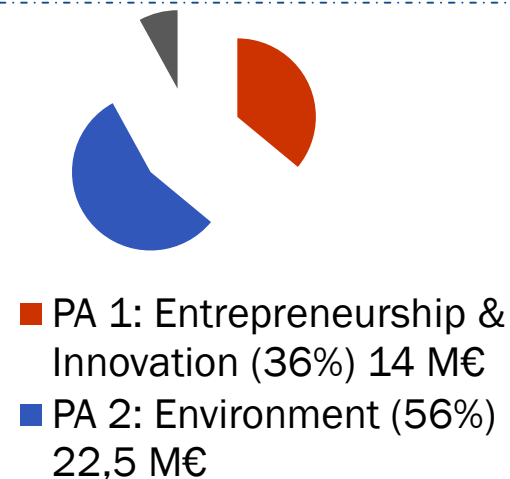
Available EU funds: € 33.456.246,00 M

out of which ERDF funds: € 28.330.108,00 M

IPA II funds: € 5.126.138,00 M

EU co-financing rate: 85%

National Contribution: 15%



BMP Eligibility period

Start date: 01 January 2014

Final date: 31 December 2023

N+3 deadline for the final funds commitment: 31 December 2020

Priority Axis 1: Entrepreneurship & Innovation

S01.1 - COMPETITIVE Territories:

stimulating business performance and extroversion through transnational linkages, clusters and networks

€ 5,6 M.

- Entrepreneurial, social & digital innovation;
- Transnational cooperation schemes of "triple helix";
- Pilot demonstration actions;
- Working solutions to engage SMEs in innovation processes, etc.

S01.2 - INNOVATIVE Territories:

unleashing territorial potential to improve the transnational innovation capacity of the business sector

€ 4,9 M.

- Entrepreneurial, social & digital innovation;
- Transnational cooperation schemes of "triple helix";
- Pilot demonstration actions;
- Working solutions to engage SMEs in innovation processes, etc.

S01.3 - Territories of

KWOWLEDGE: entrepreneurial learning and knowledge transfer for more competitive SMEs

€ 3,5 M.

- Vocational training for skills & lifelong learning (entrepreneurs/ practitioners);
- Tailor-made training schemes for the promotion of entrepreneurial culture & transnational networks;
- Training Programmes to bridge the gap between academic education and practical entrepreneurial learning towards skills development and SMEs competitiveness .

Priority Axis 2: Environment

€ 9 M.

SO2.1 - BIODIVERSITY : taking on the transnational challenge by promoting ecological connectivity and transnational ecosystems' integration

- Natural & cultural heritage's conservation & protection;
- Transnational cooperation networks;
- Pilot demonstration actions;
- Efficient use and valorization of natural resources and cultural heritage (areas of high natural or cultural value, designated areas – land and marine/maritime and coastal areas, Natura 2000 sites, etc.)

€ 7,9 M.

SO2.2 - SUSTAINABLE Territories: fostering transnational cooperation for resource efficiency and climate change resilience

- Environmental protection & resource efficiency in the waste sector, water sector and with regard to soil and to reduce air pollution;
- Transnational cooperation networks;
- Pilot demonstration actions;
- Climate change prevention;

€ 5,6 M.

SO2.3 - Delivery on Environmental Legal Framework: improving transnational governance capacities

- Education, training & vocational training for skills and capacity building;
- Tailor-made training schemes to exchange mutual learning anchored to environmental legislation;
- Training Programmes to deal with EU environmental targets' monitoring;

Current State of Programme's Implementation (1)

- **1st Call for Project Proposals**

Launch date:	16 December 2015
Close date:	15 April 2016
37 Projects	Selected for Funding
7 Projects	Reserve List



Projects' selection for funding as follows:

- ✓ PA1 – Entrepreneurship & Innovation – 17 projects | **Reserve list: 4 projects**
 - ✓ S01.1 – Competitive territories – 4 projects | **Reserve list: 1 project**
 - ✓ S01.2 – Innovative territories – 6 projects | **Reserve list: 2 projects**
 - ✓ S01.3 – Territories of knowledge – 7 projects | **Reserve list: 1 project**
- ✓ PA2 – Environment – 20 projects | **Reserve list: 3 projects**
 - ✓ S02.1 – Biodiversity – 4 projects | **Reserve list: 1 project**
 - ✓ S02.2 – Sustainable territories – 14 projects | **Reserve list: 1 project**
 - ✓ S02.3 – Delivery on environmental legal framework – 2 projects | **Reserve list: 1 project**

Current State of Programme's Implementation (2)

- ◇ **37 projects contracted** by the end of 2017; overall contracted budget of Projects in PA1 and P2 of approximately 36 MEUR;
- ◇ **7 projects reserve list to be contracted** by the end of 2019; overall budget of Reserve List Projects in PA1 & PA2 of approximately 6.177.053,71 €;
- ◇ **JS recruitment completed** - fully staffed and active since July 2017; comprised of five members plus one ;
- ◇ **5 Info Days on Project Implementation** in 5 BalkanMed countries (September-October 2017);
- ◇ **17 Written Procedures** were launched via which respective MC decisions were taken;
- ◇ **Adaptation of the Management Information System (MIS)** of the Programme to the regulatory requirements of the 2014-2020 Programming Period and the Programme/ Project management needs;
- ◇ **Risk Management and Anti-fraud strategies developed** to reply to demanding regulatory requirements;
- ◇ **Programme Information and Publicity supported** – EC Days, Capitalization event, Website, Social Media



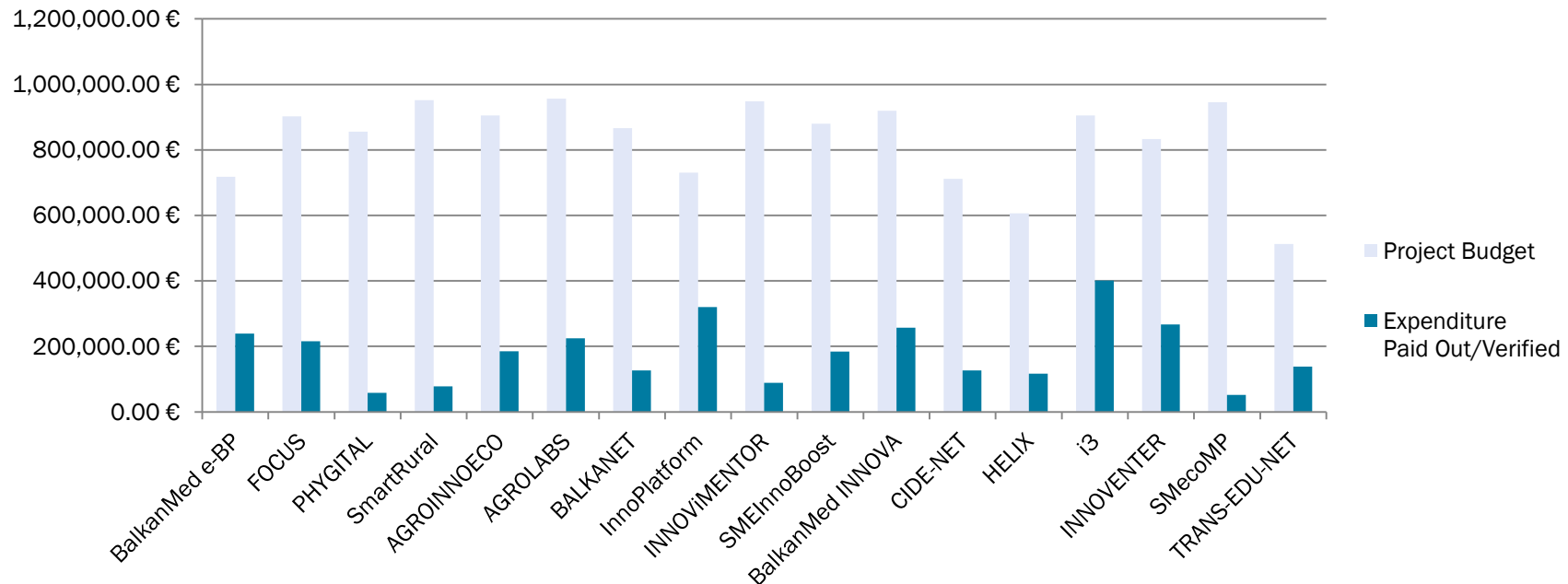
All major project variables stay on track
COST – TIME – SCOPE – QUALITY OF DELIVERABLES



Financial Performance

Priority Axis 1 – Entrepreneurship & Innovation

Rate of project selection and expenditure



PA1: 14.147.798,53 €
 99,85% contracted CP budget

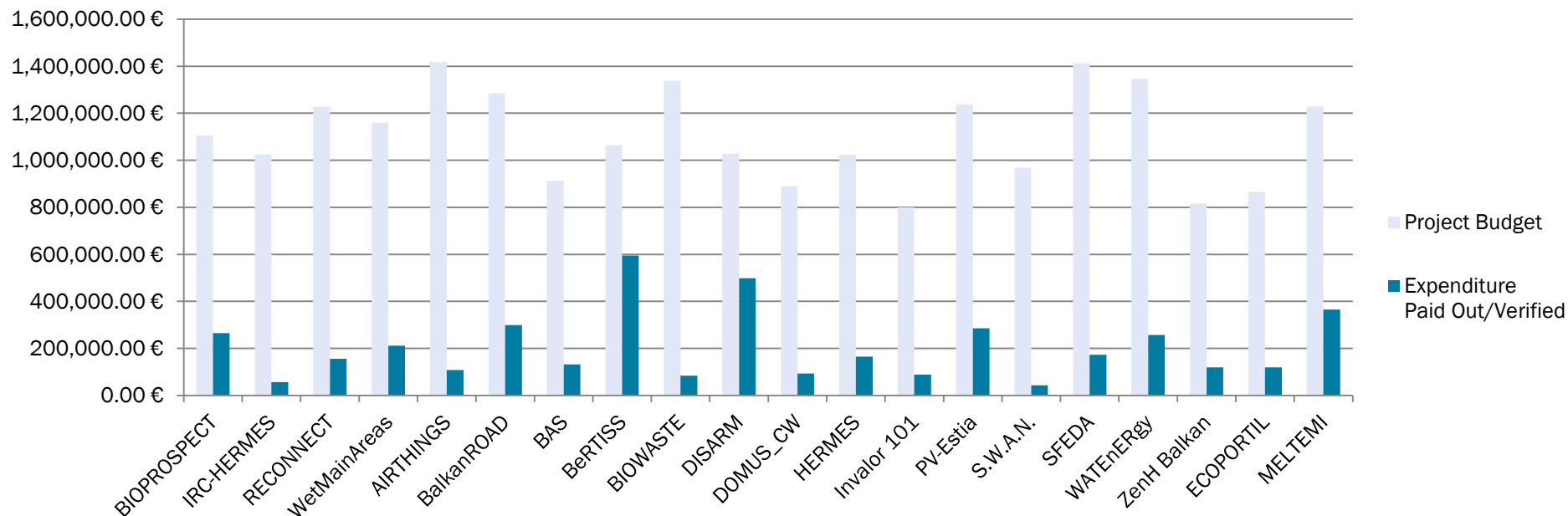
21,77% Paid out/Verified
 [December 2018]



Financial Performance

Priority Axis 2 - Environment

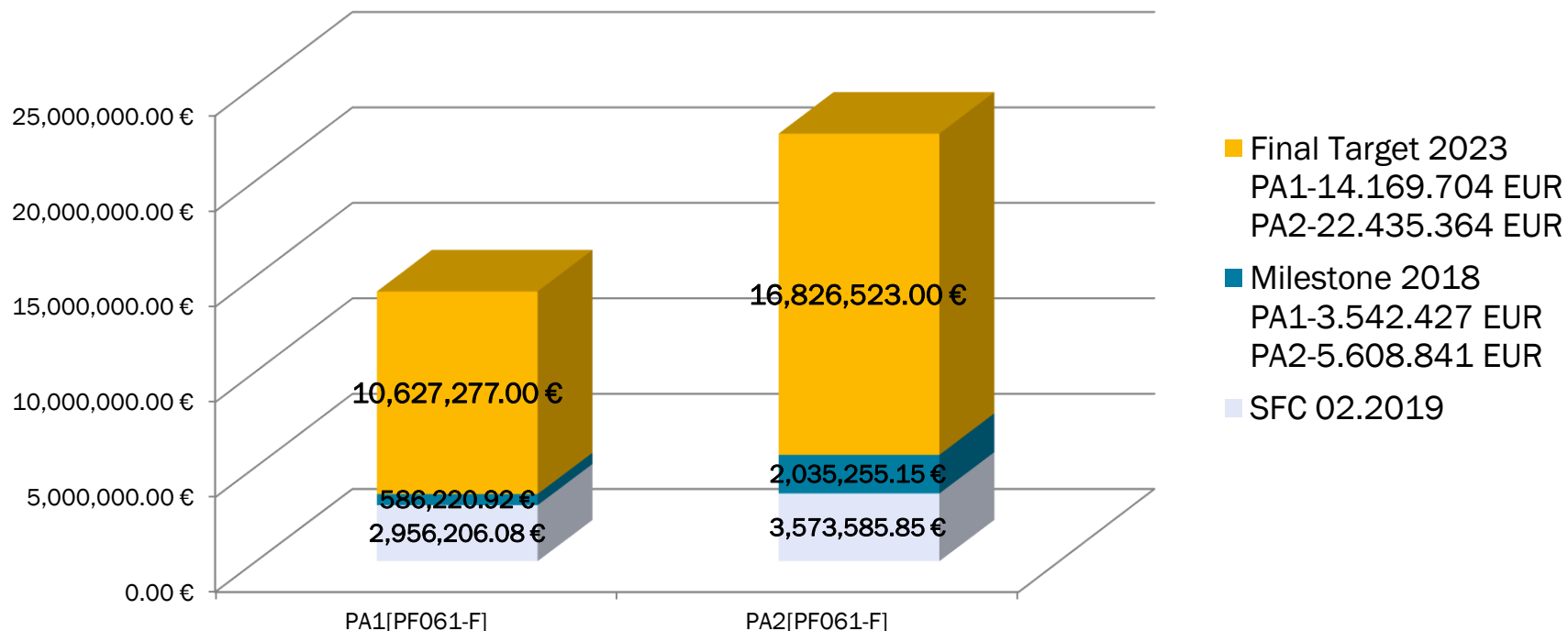
Rate of project selection and expenditure



PA2: 22.149.474,20 €
98,73% contracted CP budget

18,59% Paid out/Verified
[December 2018]

Performance Framework – Milestone 2018



- **N+3 rule achieved for 2018**
- **80% of Performance Framework achieved**

Key Features in Implementation

- No pre-financing payment to ERDF & IPA Project Partners
- No flexibility rule on MIS verification of Expenditures
- No 2nd Call for Project Proposals



BM challenges

- Working (remotely) in large partnerships
- Meeting European reporting, control and audit requirements – complicated processes, bureaucracy, slow implementation -- ERDF-IPA funds, limited IPA funds
- Need for partner liquidity – no advance payment
- Project modifications
- Partnership modifications – i.e. problematic partner liquidity; staff costs limits; public procurement

Need for more simplification and flexibility

Participation in PANORAMED Project

➤ INTERREG MED Project

- Balkan Med participation as an **Associated Partner**
- PANORAMED envisages a new approach for coastal and maritime tourism in the Mediterranean Basin

➤ Objectives

- To define new policies or adjusting existing ones; effectiveness in the long term;
- To provide guidance for implementation of policies;

EC DAY 2018: For a World Full of **Colours**

- **Date of Event:** 28/9/2018
- Cooperation with the IPA CBC Programme “**Greece-Albania 2014-2020**”
- Public event in **Konitsa, Albania** for pupils to get informed on the importance of cooperation!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJjmpEpZvgg>



European Week of Regions and Cities (Brussels, 8-11 October 2018)

- 6.000 participants @ Square Convention Center;
- Balkan-Mediterranean Programme – together with *Baltic Sea, MED & North Sea* – participated in the coordination team of the exhibition;
#MadeWithInterreg a joint action of the 12 European Interreg Transnational Programmes;
- BalkanMed was successfully represented by 2 projects “Innoplatform” & “Disarm” disseminating the Programme’s aims and results;
- “Innoplatform” participated in the Q&A event delivering a presentation on business innovation.





Application of the Visual Identity

BalkanMed Website

<http://www.interreg-balkanmed.eu/home/>

Latest News : Annual Implementation Report 2016



**Journey
to growth!**

Entrepreneurship and Innovation and Environment are the routes we have chosen to our success.

Social Media

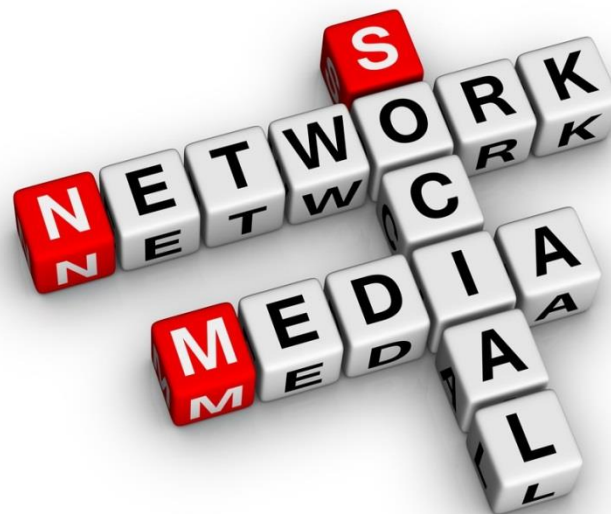


Follow us on
twitter

https://twitter.com/Balkan_interreg

Join us on
Linked in

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/balkanmed-programme-12a374127/>





Thank you for your attention!



Evelin Matiaki

JS Balkan Mediterranean, Financial & Project Officer

ematiaki@mou.gr

+30 2310 469673