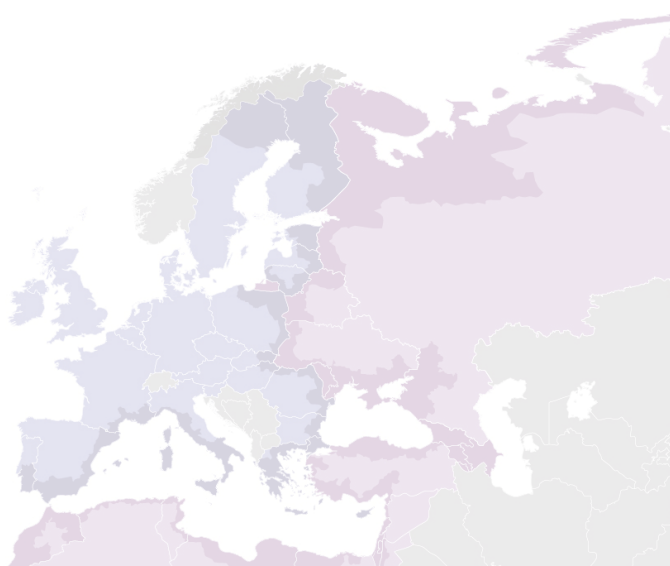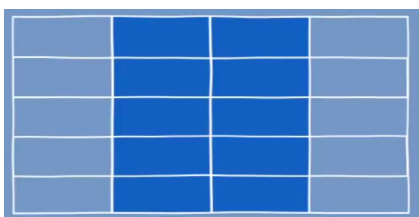# TESIM

Technical support to the implementation and management of ENI CBC programmes

Indicators

Supporting document to the Video tutorial on Project Development, step 7

1. What are the indicators and why are they needed?

It is important not only to set the objectives for your project, but also demonstrate your progress towards them. For this, projects have to define **indicators,** which will be used to measure the achievement of the defined objectives and to assess the performance of the project.

Indicators let you know if your project is delivering a meaningful change, and for this they have to be defined as realistic, reliable and measurable criteria of your project progress. They will show that your planned outputs were indeed delivered, that the planned immediate effects have occurred, and that you have contributed to the long-term improvements. And your indicators will also serve as a useful tool both for the project management, as well as for the monitoring officers of the programme.

Indicators will help you to answer the following questions:

- *Which of the desired changes have materialised?*
- *How far are we from the target?*

2. How to define indicators?

Indicators answer the question: "How will we know that the defined objective has been achieved?" But often achievement of the same objective can be measured in different ways depending on the project focus, and the indicators may help clarify this focus. For example, a project aiming at upgrading the road surface can measure achievement of its objective in terms of:

- Improvement of the traffic safety (e.g. number of accidents on a particular stretch of the road);
- Increase of the speed (e.g. average speed on a specific stretch of a road);
- Shortening the travel time (e.g. travel time from point A to B);
- Quality of the road (e.g. opinion of the local inhabitants about the quality of the road).

Examples provided in the bullet points above can be used as indicators for the different aspects of the objective defined for the project.

There are 2 main types of indicators: **quantitative** (objective, measure the scale, and are usually expressed as number, ratio, share, percentage) and **qualitative** (subjective, measure quality or opinions; capture the status in qualitative terms and can be graded). Each type has its own advantages,

and the one best suiting the purpose has to be selected. You will find some examples in the figure below:

Quantitative indicators	Qualitative indicators
• Number of participants to an event • Tons of waste per annum • Rate (%) of participants who passed certification • Share of households connected to the grid • Ratio of the youth population to the working age population • Number of SMEs participating in the project activities	• Increase of knowledge in participants of the training • Ease of access to the municipal services • Participation level in the community activities • Level of satisfaction with the services

For each defined indicator you will need to identify a:

- **baseline** – the value of the indicator before you implement the project (for the output indicators in most cases it will be "zero");
- **target** – the value that you will achieve as a result of implementation of your project.

You also need to define **where you will get the data** (sources of verification) – think of both internal (data of the project partners, information in the reports) and external (studies, statistics) sources, as well as define who will collect this data at what frequency.

3. What are the different levels of project indicators?

Now, with this information in your hand, take a look at the intervention logic of your project and try to think what could be used as a measure of achievement of the particular objective.

Let us start with the **result indicators**!

- *How can you measure the desired short-term or mid-term change that your project will deliver?*
- *Is the indicator specific to the objective it is supposed to measure?*
- *What is the unit of measurement?*
- *Is information needed to measure this indicator easily available?*
- *Do the others easily understand the indicator?*

particip

Examples of indicators that can be used on result level:
- Capacity of the upgraded landfill (in tons per year);
- Increase in sorting of the waste (in tons);
- Level of satisfaction of the citizens with the new bicycle route.

Follow with the same process for the definition of your **output indicators** – this should already be easier!

Typical examples of output indicators are:
- Number of persons trained;
- Number of equipped premises;
- Number of delivered events;
- Number of supplies delivered and installed.

Please note that this document provides you with general information concerning the indicator definition for your project.

Please take a look at the requirements for definition of indicators in the cross-border cooperation programme to which you will apply!

Now to the **impact indicators** – in order to define these, take again a close look at the objectives and indicators of the ENI CBC programme priority to which you will submit your project proposal.

4. Video illustration

Below you will find the indicators defined in the example used in the video tutorial.

particip

INTERVENTION LOGIC		INDICATORS				SOURCES AND MEANS OF VERIFICATION
			Baseline	Current	Target[i]	
IMPACT/ OVERALL OBJECTIVE	**Maintained biodiversity and species populations in the water bodies of the Rivala & Alavir regions**	Number of ecosystem species (Habitats Directive) in Rivala & Alavir water bodies	88 (2016)		88 (2022)	State Biodiversity Studies (2016, 2019 and 2022)
RESULTS/ SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE/ OUTCOMES [ii]	**Oc: Reduced amount of land-derived nutrients reaching the Rivala & Alavir water bodies in run-off**	Average levels of dissolved oxygen saturation (%), nitrogen (mg) and phosphorous (mg) per litre of water in run-off samples	Oxygen 30-40% Nitrogen 5-7 mg Phosphorous 1-2 mg		Oxygen 80% (2022) Nitrogen 2 mg Phosphorous 0,5 mg (2022)	Semi-annual measurements in region
	iOc **1**: Reduced amount of excess use of fertilizer by farmers in the Rivala & Alavir border regions	1. Excess nitrogen used by farmers in the Rivala & Alavir regions (tons)	15 000		10 000	Measurement report, research Rivala & Alavir Universities
	iOc **2**: Larger proportion of nutrients in run-off intercepted by vegetation on lake and river shores in Rivala & Alavir regions	2. % of total annual nutrients runoff deposited in riparian zones	5%		35%	Measurement report, research Rivala & Alavir Universities
	iOc **3**: Higher awareness among farmers, property owners, municipal and regional officials, and other stakeholders of causes, effects, and prevention of eutrophication and harmful algal bloom phenomena	3. Proportion of each target group able to name at least one cause, one effect and one measure of prevention of eutrophication in Rivala & Alavir regions	10%		40%	Survey
	iOc **4**: Enhanced capacity of authorities and NGOs for regular cross-border monitoring of oxygen, phosphorus and nitrogen levels in Rivala & Alavir key water bodies	4. Number of environmental NGO staff and officials involved in cross-border exchange of data	0		20	Survey
OUTPUTS	Op **1.1** Equipment for nitrogen and phosphorus soil testing available for use by farmers in 25 locations in Rivala & Alavir regions	1.1 Number of pieces of soil testing equipment delivered	0		25	Delivery note supply contract
	Op **1.2** Farmers trained on fertilizer use and soil testing equipment	1.2 Number of farmers trained on soil testing equipment	0		100	Lists of participants
	Op **2.1** Shores of rivers and lakes at selected places buffered with plants	2.1 Km of shores buffered with plants	10		80	Final report delivery and planting contract
	Op **3.1** Awareness raising campaigns delivered for each target group in Alavir & Rivala regions on causes, effects and prevention of eutrophication and harmful algal bloom phenomena	3.1.a Number of participants in the information events (disaggregated by target group and by gender)	0		900	Lists of participants
		3.1.b Number of radio shows aired	0		4	Radio show programme
		3.1.c Number of articles in specialised and local newspapers	0		40	Newspaper editions

	Op **3.2** Project website created in 2 languages on eutrophication, harmful algal bloom and their prevention	3.2 Number of website created	0	1	Delivery (handover) note
	Op **4.1** Water analysis equipment available for cross-border monitoring	4.1 Number of pieces of mobile sampling measurement equipment for water analysis delivered	0	10	Delivery note supply contract
	Op **4.2** Shore water samples analysed for oxygen, phosphorus and nitrogen levels in both regions	4.2 Number of water samples analysed	0	100	Report on analysis
	Op **4.3** Selected environmental NGOs and officials trained in relevant measurements and procedures for cross-border data exchange	4.3 Number of NGO staff and environmental officials trained	0	50 (20 NGO staff +30 officials)	Lists of participants
	Op **5.1** Effective project management procedures in place	5.1 Number of outputs delivered on time	0	8	Project reports
ACTIVITIES	A **1.1.1** Purchase soil nitrogen and phosphorus testing equipment	**MEANS & COSTS**			
	A **1.1.2** Set up scheme for rotating testing equipment among farmers				
	A **1.2.1** Study and demonstrate economic and environmental gain of accurate use of fertilizer				
	A **1.2.2** Inform farmers and train them on testing equipment				
	A **2.1.1** Organise information events for waterside property owners				
	A **2.1.2** Select and instruct property owners				
	A **2.1.3** Put in place riparian buffer plants at selected properties and municipal areas				
	A **3.1.1** Develop information and communication material on eutrophication and algal bloom phenomena for each target group: farmers, property owners, municipal and regional officials, other stakeholders				
	A **3.1.2** Survey target groups' level of awareness on eutrophication and harmful algal bloom				
	A **3.1.3** Organise information events with each target group				

A **3.1.4** Organise annual "Happy Water" event
A **3.1.5** Develop active media campaign: newspaper articles and radio show in 2 languages on "water stories"
A **3.2.1** Create a website in 2 languages with data, tips and hints on eutrophication, harmful algal bloom and their prevention
A **4.1.1** Purchase measurement equipment for water analysis
A **4.2.1** Take and analyse water samples in various parts of the shores
A **4.3.1** Draft procedures and templates for regular cross-border exchange of data and measurements
A **4.3.2** Select and train environmental NGOs and officials in measurements and procedures
A **5.1.1** Organise steering and progress meetings of project partners
A **5.1.2** Monitor project progress
A **5.1.3** Draft project reports

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[i] Target for year 2020, except when indicated otherwise

[ii] At the level of results, although it is usually allowed to have more than one specific objective, it is often good practice to determine only one specific objective (main outcome = Oc) with intermediary outcomes (iOc) when needed. However, **please remember to check carefully the template, terminology, definitions and requirements of your programme** to present each level of your project intervention logic in the logical framework matrix, as these may vary.