

The future of the Atlantic territories in the new Interreg Atlantic Area

Interreg Atlantic Area annual event
Together for blue and green Atlantic regions
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Interreg Atlantic Area



Large territory characterized by the prominence of the Atlantic Ocean

→ **Blue in our DNA:** common element of the cooperation area – geography, economy and culture

Marine & maritime activities as connection points
e.g. fishing, aquaculture, agro-industry, renewable energy production, the naval sector, ports

- Sustainable tourism & natural and cultural heritage
- Climate change and natural risks, particularly coastal and waterways-related risks
- The impact of COVID 19: labour market, inequality, structural change. Need for a cross-cutting approach



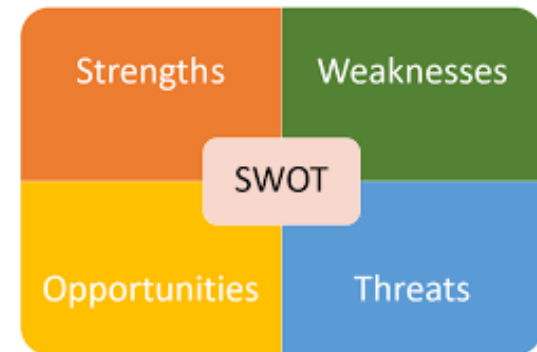
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The new geography

- Regions from 4 MS: Ireland, France, Portugal and Spain, including the islands Açores, Madeira and Islas Canarias

Territorial analysis

- **Extensive territory**, mainly composed of regions linked to the Atlantic with many similarities in economic sectors, culture and biodiversity – **common challenges**
- **Significant territorial disparities**
- **Land-sea link**: the Programme's maritime approach involves interactions with inland territories, given the impact they have on coastal areas and on the ocean itself

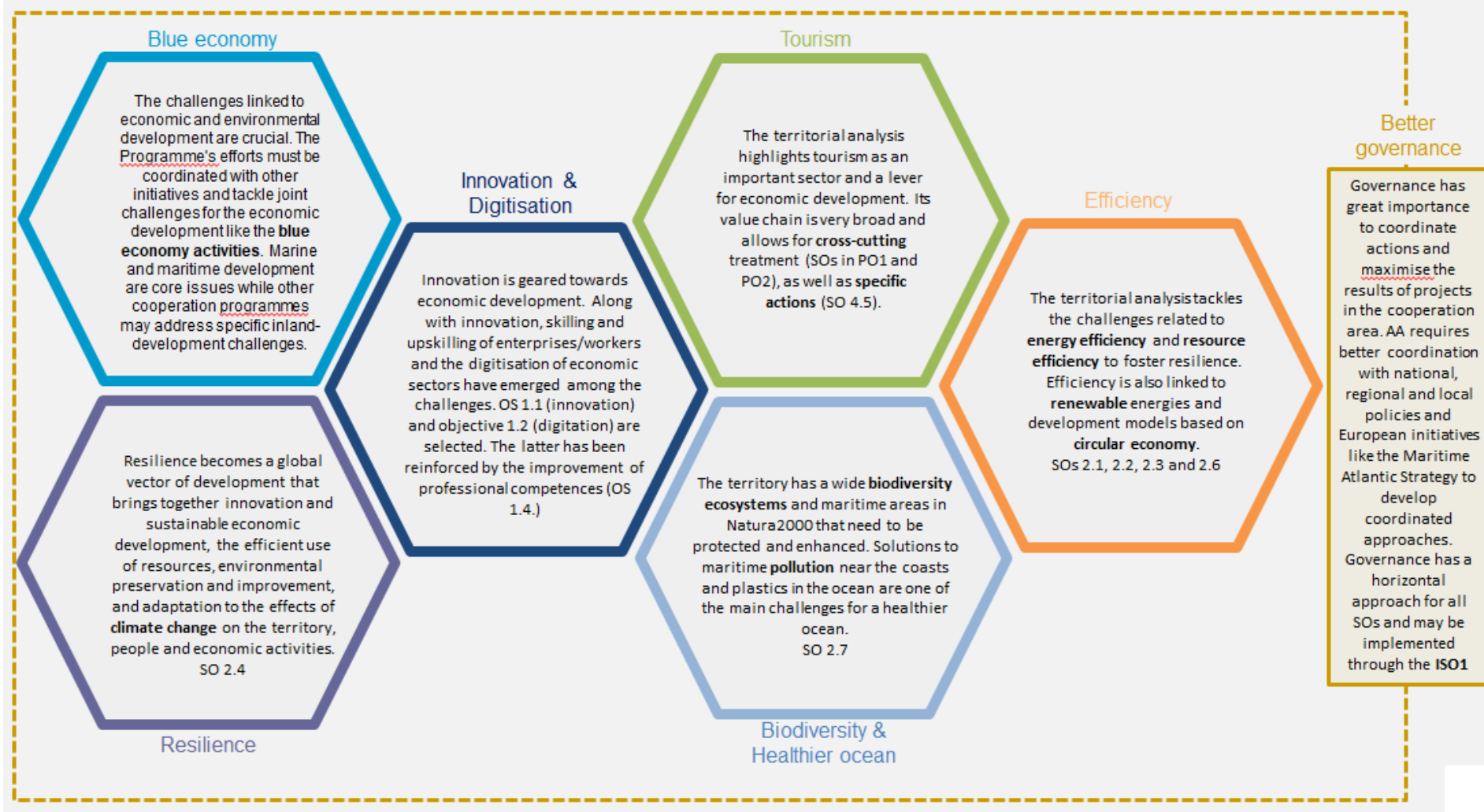


Intervention logic · Consistency with EU policies

Analysis of consistency with the main maritime and 2021-2027 planning documents. Are the needs and challenges consistent with these orientations?



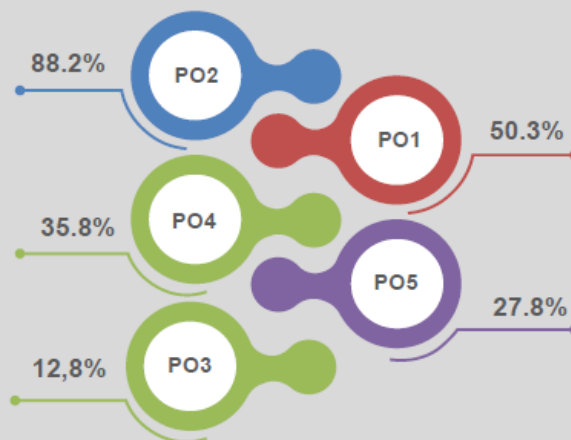
Intervention logic · Summary of rationale



The participants



In your opinion which are the most important Policy Objectives for the Atlantic Area?



Some general remarks



Strengthening the **link between coastal and inland areas**: i.e. energy, biodiversity, agri-food, transport, training



Need for **transversality** of several thematic areas: innovation, sustainability, resilience, biodiversity, circular economy; and blue growth/blue economy.



ISO1, better governance: proposals to improve articulation with other programmes and non-EU regions.



Coordination with the **Maritime Atlantic Strategy**, even complementing issues not addressed in the AAP 2.0 such as tourism, culture and heritage, nautical activities.



Tourism as a critical element in Atlantic maritime regions and as a transversal element (value chain).



Importance of **ports** as articulating elements of the territory and the economic activity: main fields: digitalisation, circular economy, connectivity between ports.



Potential of the **blue energy** sector to absorb workers from other sectors of the blue economy most impacted by Covid-19, through training and skills.

Priority areas for intervention - marine and maritime areas, and coastal areas (non-coastal areas exploiting direct links with the coast, in the form of synergy and added value of joint work)

PO1 – SMARTER EUROPE

- Blue innovation and competitiveness

PO2 – GREENER EUROPE

- Blue environment

PO4 – MORE SOCIAL EUROPE

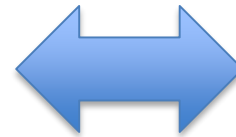
- Blue sustainable tourism and culture

ISO1 – Better Governance



IMPACT

**Collaboration with
other Interreg and
mainstream funds**



**Fully exploit the
strength of the
Atlantic cluster
stakeholders**

The future Atlantic Area (AA) programme

PO1 - Smarter Europe

P1 - Blue innovation for competitiveness

1.1. Enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies

1.2. Reaping the benefits of Digitisation for citizens, companies and governments

1.4. Developing skills for Smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship

PO2 - Greener Europe

P2 - Blue environment

2.1. Promoting energy efficiency measures and reducing greenhouse gas emissions

2.2. Promoting renewable energy

2.3. Developing smart energy systems, grids and storage outside TEN-T

2.4. Promoting climate change adaptation, and disaster risk prevention, resilience taking into account ecosystem-based approaches

2.6. Promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy

2.7. Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity, green infrastructure including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution

PO4 - more Social Europe

P3 - Sustainable tourism & culture

4.5. Enhancing the role of culture and tourism in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation

INTERREG Specific Objective 1

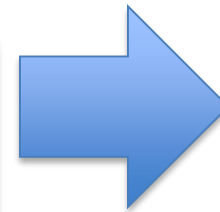
ISO1 - Better governance for the Atlantic Area

Well aligned with the Blue Growth Strategy & the Atlantic Strategy

- The **relevance of maritime spatial planning in the EU**
- The **Atlantic Action Plan 2.0**

Atlantic Strategy and the **future AA** mutually supporting to achieve **common objectives & stronger results** for the benefit of the citizens of the Atlantic

↑ **Blue and Green efficiency**
↑ **Resilience**
↑ **Synergies**
↑ **Added Value of maritime cooperation**



**Sustainable
development
of the Atlantic
Area**

Keep a **strong commitment to the Blue Economy** and contribute to achieving the **Sustainable Development and New Green Deal goals**

Within the European Policy

Promote **synergies between maritime activities**, namely in the **MRE**: identify investment **opportunities** and **strengthen coordination** between countries and regions

- The importance of **coordination** between **flagship local studies** and **transnational actions**



One of the **challenges** for the Atlantic regions and for the AA Programme is the achievement of a **balance** between **sustainable energy** and the **network of protected areas, tourism** and the **development of fishing and maritime transport activities**

Lessons Learned for the Next Period – A Synthesis

- Improve the **articulation** with networks and sources of expertise associated with the **Atlantic Maritime Strategy**
- Improve the **efficiency and effectiveness in the communication** of the AA Programme:
 - Internally - with the Programme partners and authorities
 - Externally - with other regions and territories
- Promote **efficient governance** - ensure good articulation with the Programme bodies and strategic partners
- Promote **synergies between maritime activities** (*e.g.* in MRE): identify **opportunities for investors** and **strengthen coordination** between countries and regions



**Reflection and
continuous
improvement**

PROMOTING SYNERGIES ACHIEVING RESULTS

