

## FRAMEWORK

Impact Assessment, focused on determining the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of the interventions supported by PO SEUR, with different methodological depth for each Specific Objective (SO) of each Investment Priority (IP) mobilized in each Priority Axis.

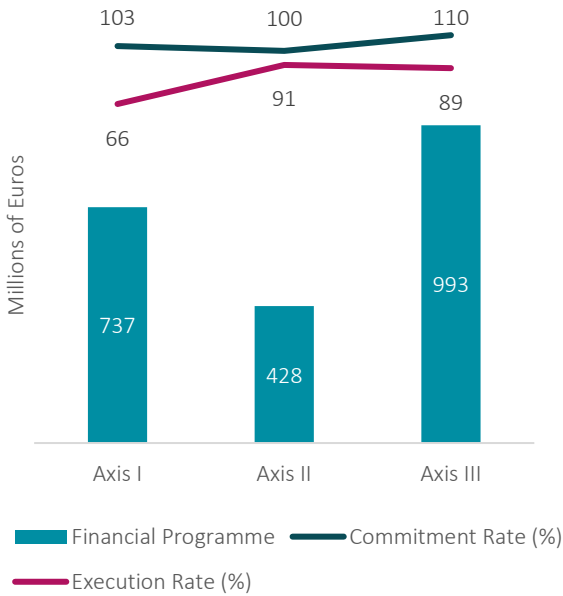


Figure 1 - Financial Programme, and Commitment Rate and Execution Rate

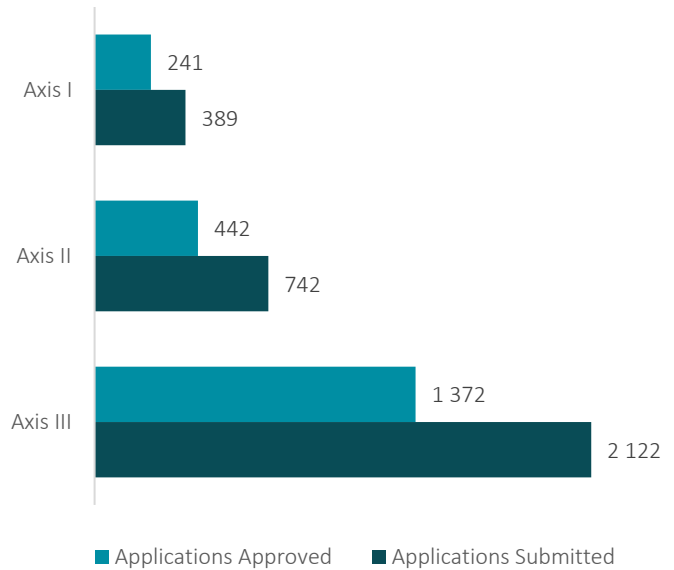


Figure 2 – Number of Applications Submitted vs Applications Approved

## OVERALL EVALUATION OBJECTIVE

Identify how PO SEUR supporting typologies have contributed to sustainable growth, responding to the challenges of transitioning to a low-carbon economy, based on more efficient use of resources and promoting greater resilience in the face of climate risks and disasters.



Assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the Programme, identifying its contribution to the Specific Objectives pursued in each IP mobilized in each Priority Axis. Whenever relevant, consider the PO operationalization dimensions that explain the levels of progress observed

Identify the contribution (verified and expected) of the programme to the objectives of the sector policies to which the interventions are subordinate and to the achievement of the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, and territorial cohesion

Identify the European Added Value associated with the implementation and results of PO SEUR

Assess the relevance and coherence of the PO's configuration in relation to the needs of its main beneficiaries and the evolution of the context over the programming period, considering the effectiveness, efficiency, and potential impact revealed by the PO

## ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Theory of Change

Document Analysis

Indicator Analysis

211 Surveys

27 Interviews

14 Case Studies

3 Thematic Focus Groups

## KEY FINDINGS

### Effectiveness

- C1. The results evaluated suggest that a significant part of the programme's objectives will be achieved.
- C2. There are programme objectives that are overly ambitious and will not be achieved.
- C3. Various external factors have contributed to the delay or non-achievement of the programme's objectives.
- C4. Several internal factors have also contributed to the delay or non-achievement of the programme's objectives.
- C5. Analysis of the indicators shows that it is difficult to realise achievements into results.

### Efficiency

- C6. The identified inefficiencies can be linked to economies of scale and public policy options.
- C7. There is evidence of lower efficiency in operations focused exclusively on awareness-raising, communication, or knowledge.
- C8. The use of instruments such as reference costs can lead to greater efficiency and comparability of operations.

### Operational Efficiency

- C9. Beneficiaries rate the performance of the PO SEUR MA very positively.
- C10. Beneficiaries point to opportunities for improvement in the simplification of administrative processes and in the management of call schedules.
- C11. The PO SEUR MA's partnerships with other public administration bodies have contributed to the programme's success.

### Impact

- C12. The evidence supports that PO SEUR has been decisive in achieving European and national policy objectives.
- C13. PO SEUR has adequately translated the objective of territorial cohesion.

### European Added Value

- C14. PO SEUR plays a key role in ensuring the financial viability of operations.
- C15. The level of contribution to sectoral objectives reflects the beneficiaries' high dependence on Community support.
- C16. European Added Value is also seen in the procedural dimension.

### Relevance and Coherence

- C17. The PO SEUR is aligned and coherent with national policy priorities.
- C18. There is a lack of complementarity and synergies between operations, between the ESI Funds and with other national instruments.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

**RE1** - Promote the maturity of operations at the application stage.

**RE2** - Intensify the launch of calls for proposals at the start of the programmes.

**RE3** - Strengthen mechanisms to promote economic efficiency.

**RE4** - Favor large-scale awareness-raising and education actions or those that are part of operations with a broader scope.

**RE5** - Strengthen the mechanisms for involving and monitoring the programme's beneficiaries.

**RE6** - Create a governance model that guarantees the sharing of knowledge and good practices between the PO SEUR MAs and the MAs of the Portugal 2030 regional programmes.

**RE7** - Strengthen planning to promote complementarity and synergies between the ESI Funds and national instruments.

**RE8** - Coordinate sectoral planning with ESI Funds planning.