How to prepare a quality application form

Salzburg│Austria│ 2.12.2025

Aleš Kegl and Matteo Decostanzi

21│27

What's the logic in the intervention logic?

Objectives - why?

Target groups - for whom?

Results & outputs - what change?

Work plan - how?

Time plan - when?

Budget - how much?

Roles - who?

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What's the logic in the intervention logic?

The intervention logic

Must be linked to the programme's intervention logic.

Objectives
- why?
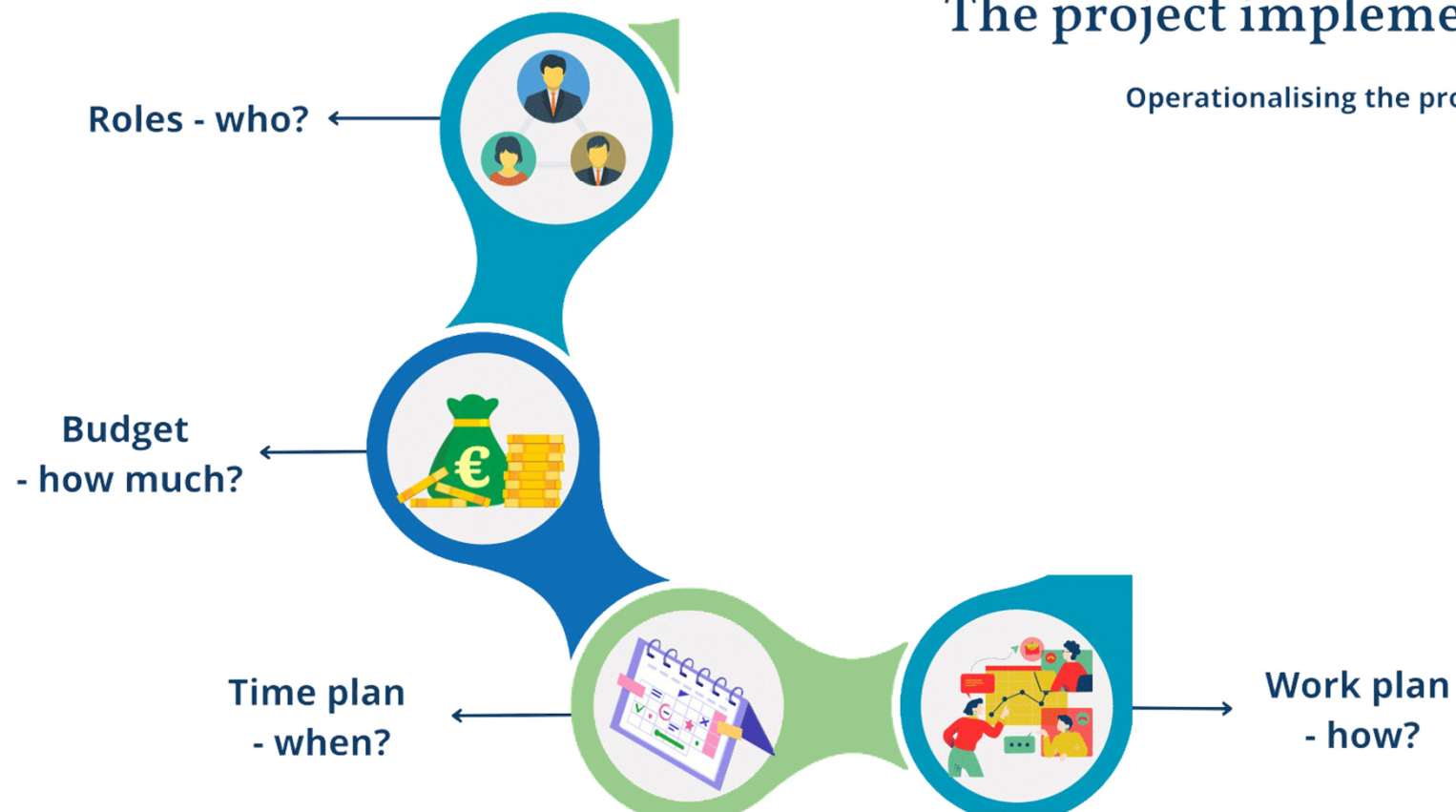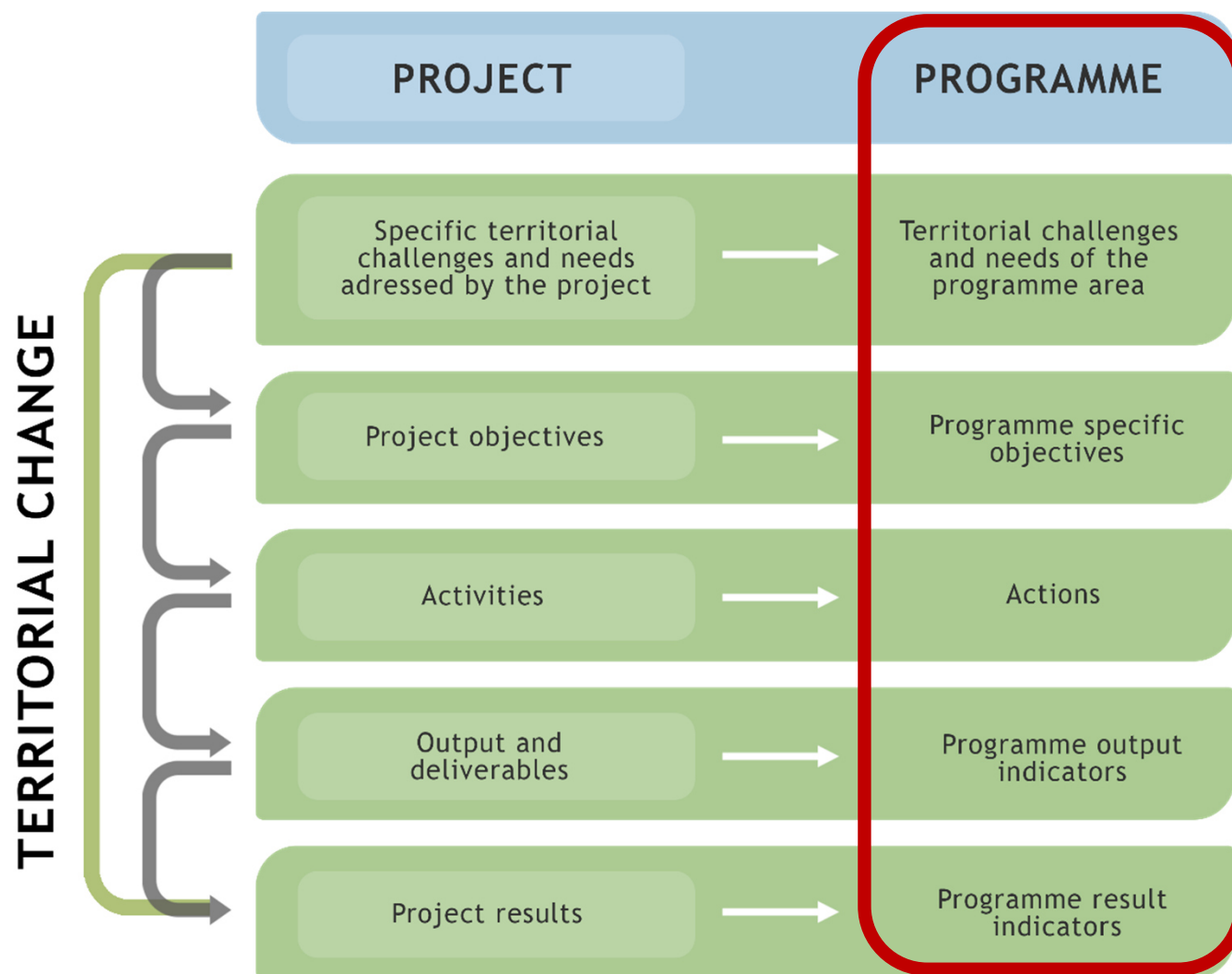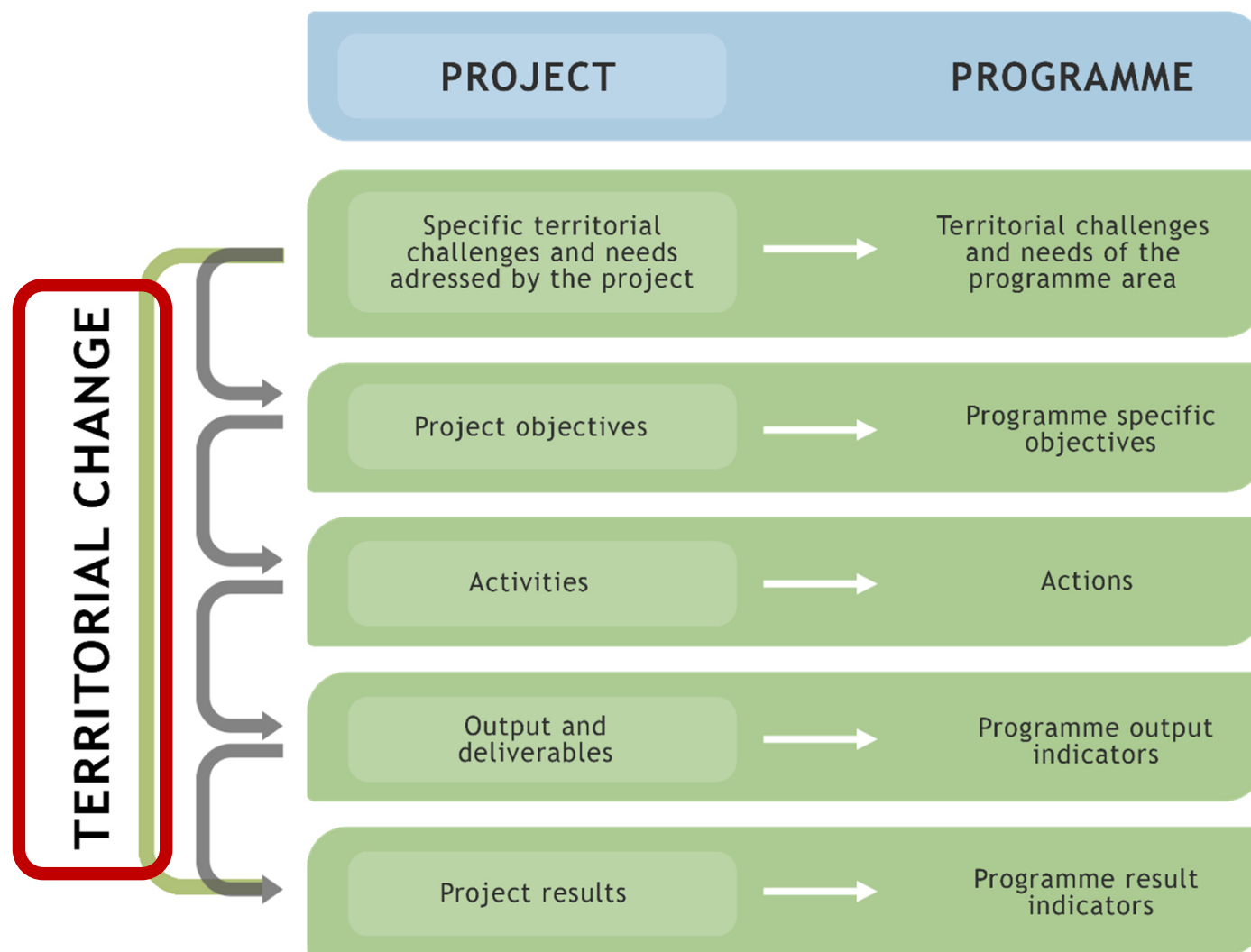
Target groups
- for whom?

Results & outputs
- what change?

What's the logic in the intervention logic?

The project implementation

Operationalising the project

Roles - who?

Budget - how much?

Time plan - when?

Work plan - how?

What's the logic in the intervention logic?

What's the logic in the intervention logic?

PROJECT → **PROGRAMME**

TERRITORIAL CHANGE

PROJECT	PROGRAMME
Specific territorial challenges and needs adressed by the project	Territorial challenges and needs of the programme area
Project objectives	Programme specific objectives
Activities	Actions
Output and deliverables	Programme output indicators
Project results	Programme result indicators

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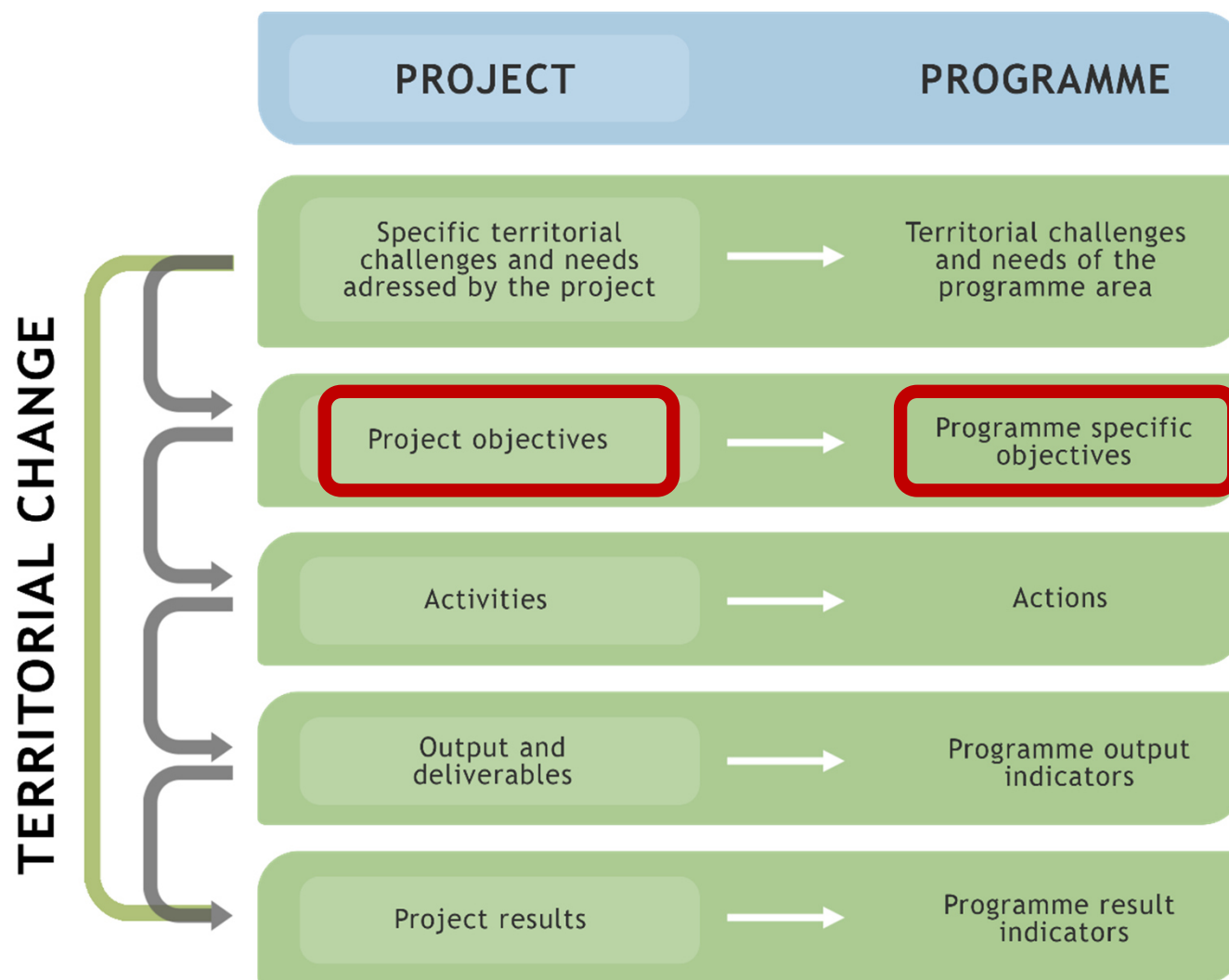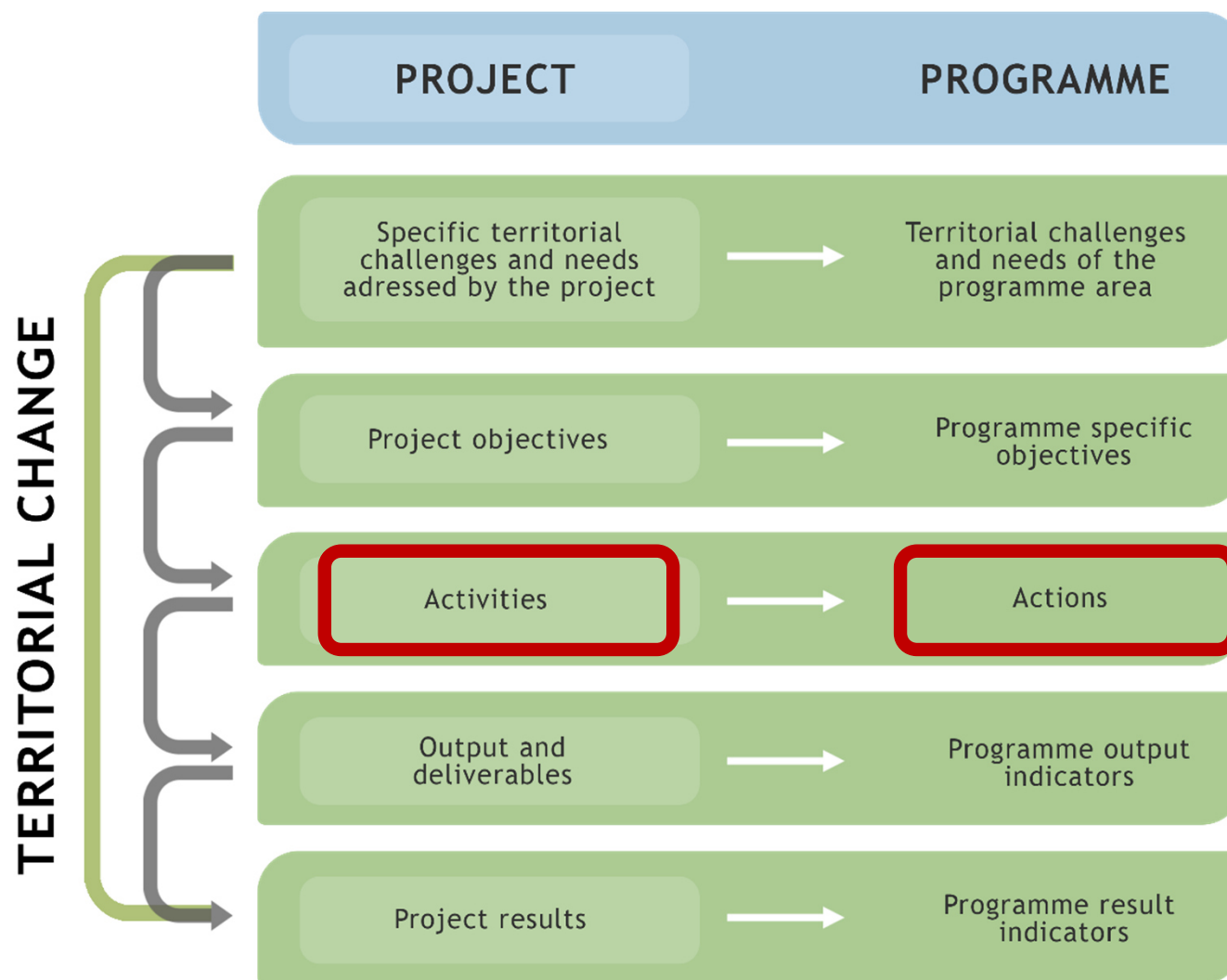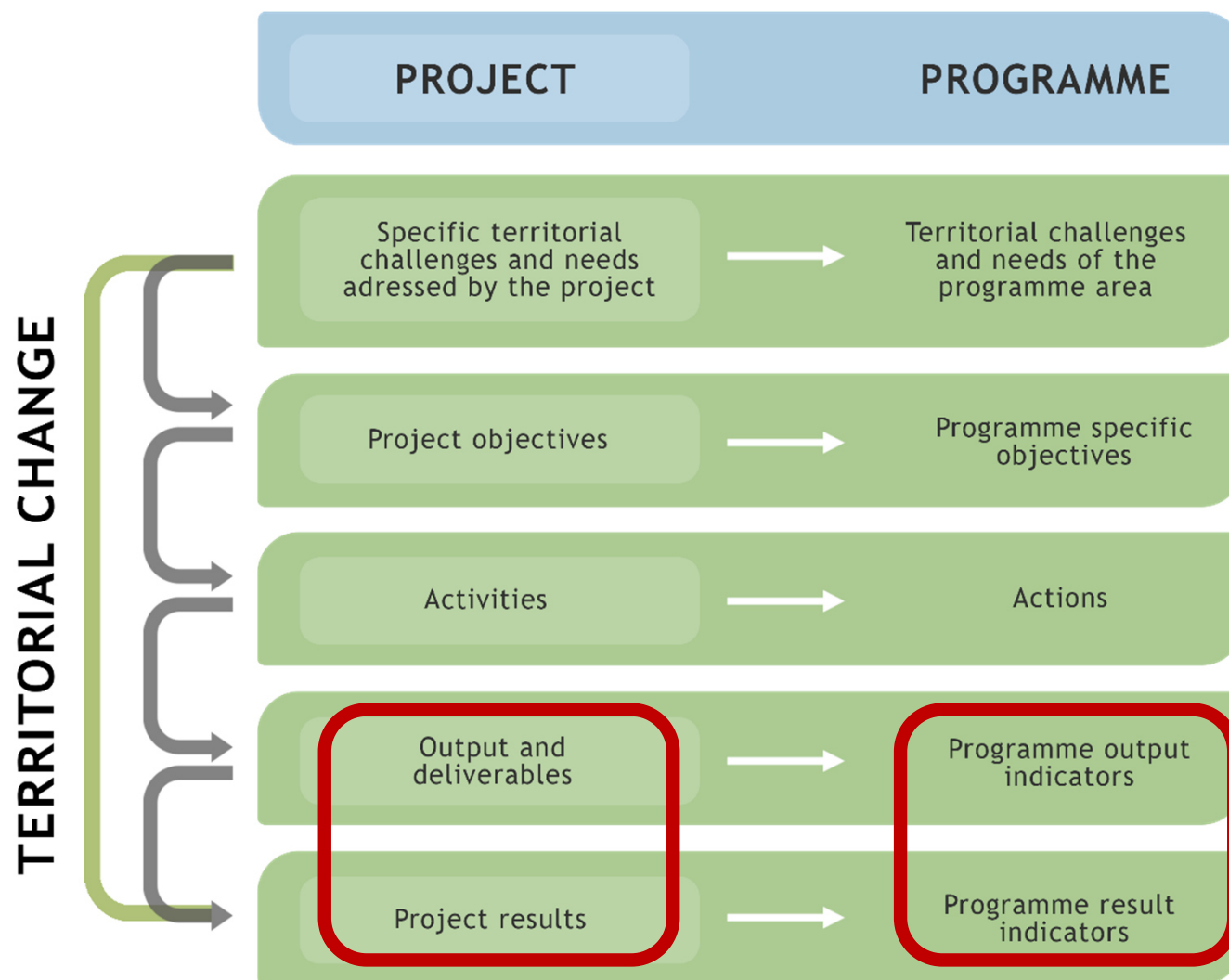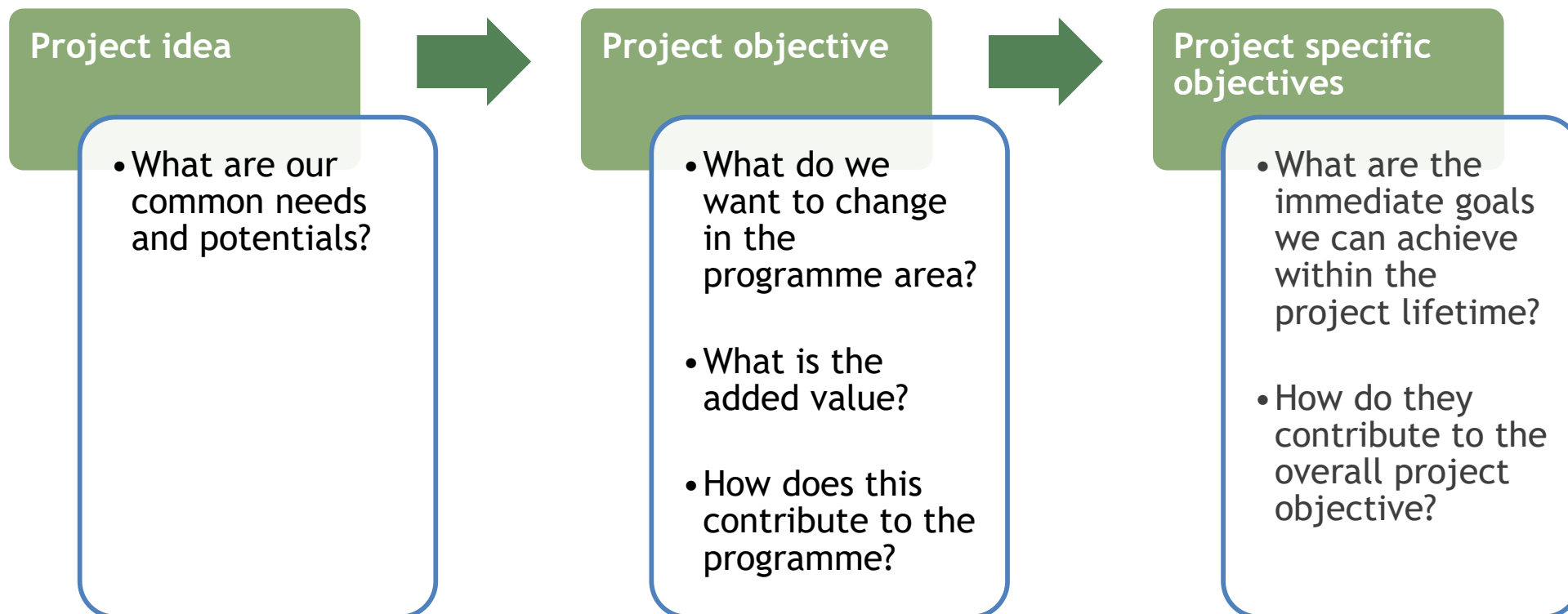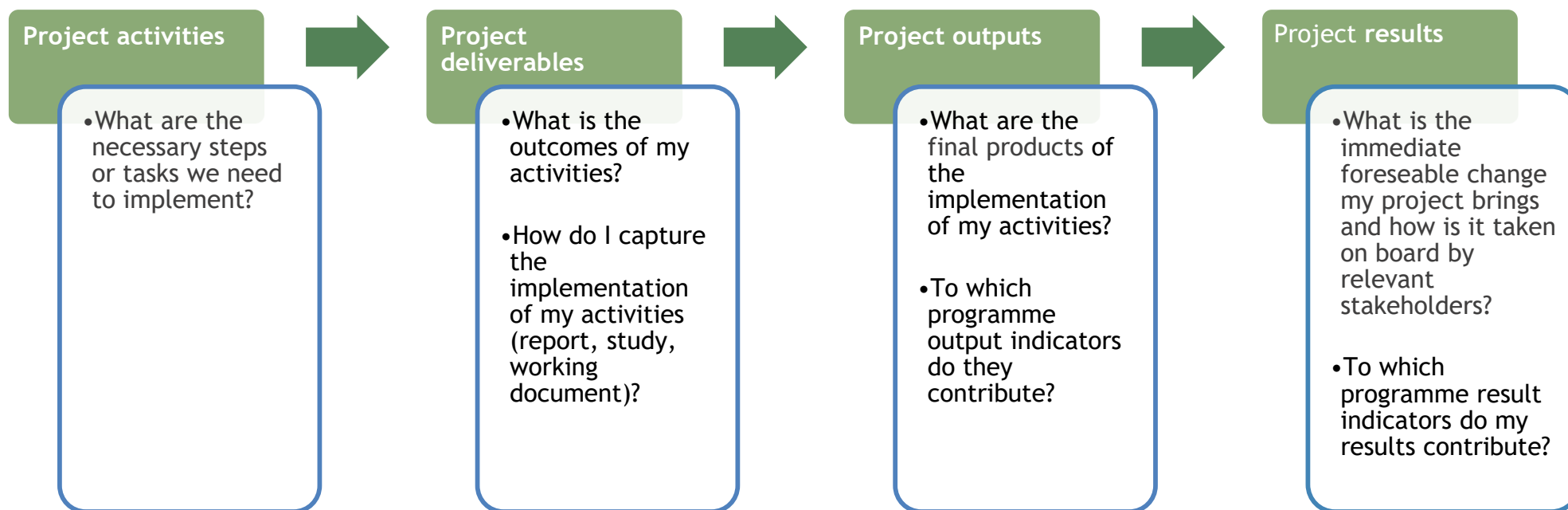Co-funded by the European Union
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What's the logic in the intervention logic?

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Project idea

- What are our common needs and potentials?

Project objective

- What do we want to change in the programme area?
- What is the added value?
- How does this contribute to the programme?

Project specific objectives

- What are the immediate goals we can achieve within the project lifetime?
- How do they contribute to the overall project objective?

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What's the logic in the intervention logic?

Project activities

- What are the necessary steps or tasks we need to implement?

Project deliverables

- What is the outcomes of my activities?

- How do I capture the implementation of my activities (report, study, working document)?

Project outputs

- What are the final products of the implementation of my activities?

- To which programme output indicators do they contribute?

Project results

- What is the immediate foreseeable change my project brings and how is it taken on board by relevant stakeholders?

- To which programme result indicators do my results contribute?

What's the logic in the intervention logic?

	INDICATOR	PRIORITY 1		PRIORITY 2		PRIORITY 3		PRIORITY 4
		Climate Change SO iv	Biodiversity SO vii	Energy SO vi	Circular economy SO vi	R&I SO i	Digitization SOii	ISO 1
OUTPUT	RCO84 Pilots	●	●	●	●	●	●	
OUTPUT	RCO116 Solutions	●	●	●	●	●	●	
OUTPUT	RCO118 Organisations							
RESULT	RCR104 Solutions	●	●	●	●	●	●	
RESULT	PSR1 Organisations							●

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What's the logic in the intervention logic?

- **Pilot actions** are meant to test procedures, methodologies, tools, or the transfer of practices
- Target value is the number of methodologies or tools subject to piloting

What's the logic in the intervention logic?

- **Jointly developed solutions** are the outcome of pilot actions implemented by projects
- Toolbox, models, roadmaps, instruments
- Implementation-oriented character

What's the logic in the intervention logic?

- **Other** outputs whose purpose does not fall within the scope of pilot actions or solutions
- Strategies, recommendations, policy briefs

What's the logic in the intervention logic?

- **Solutions** developed by the project and taken up or up-scaled by organisations
- Target value is the solution taken up by organisations
- Organisations adopting the solution may or may not be a participant in the project

What's the logic in the intervention logic?

- Pick „**Other**" in case the programme result indicator does not make sense to explain the project achievement or the change the project is aiming for

What's the logic in the intervention logic?

Work Package 2

Specific Objective 2

Activity 2.1	Activity 2.2	Activity 2.3
Deliverable 2.1.1	Deliverable 2.2.1	Deliverable 2.3.1
		Deliverable 2.3.2

Output 2

Result 2

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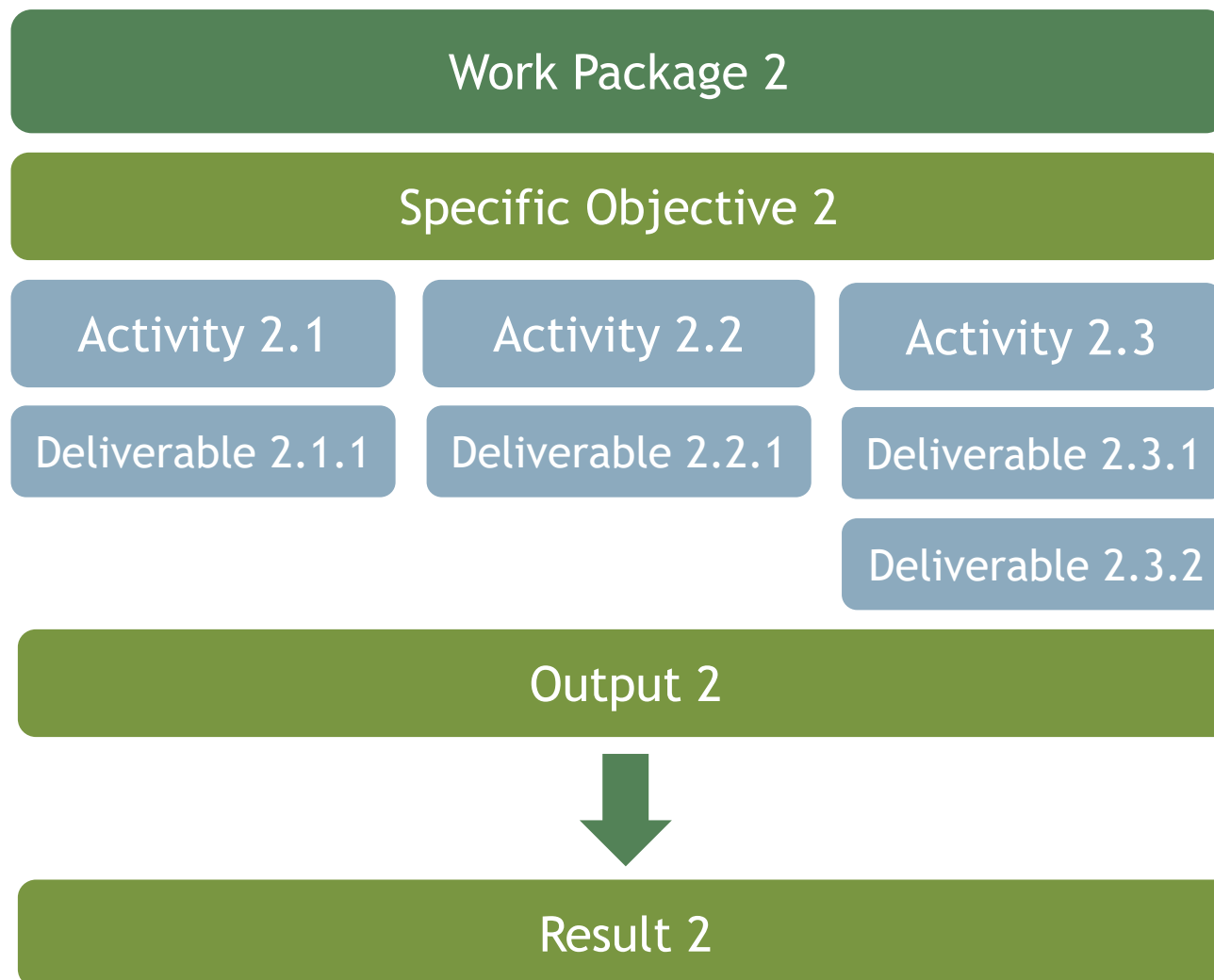
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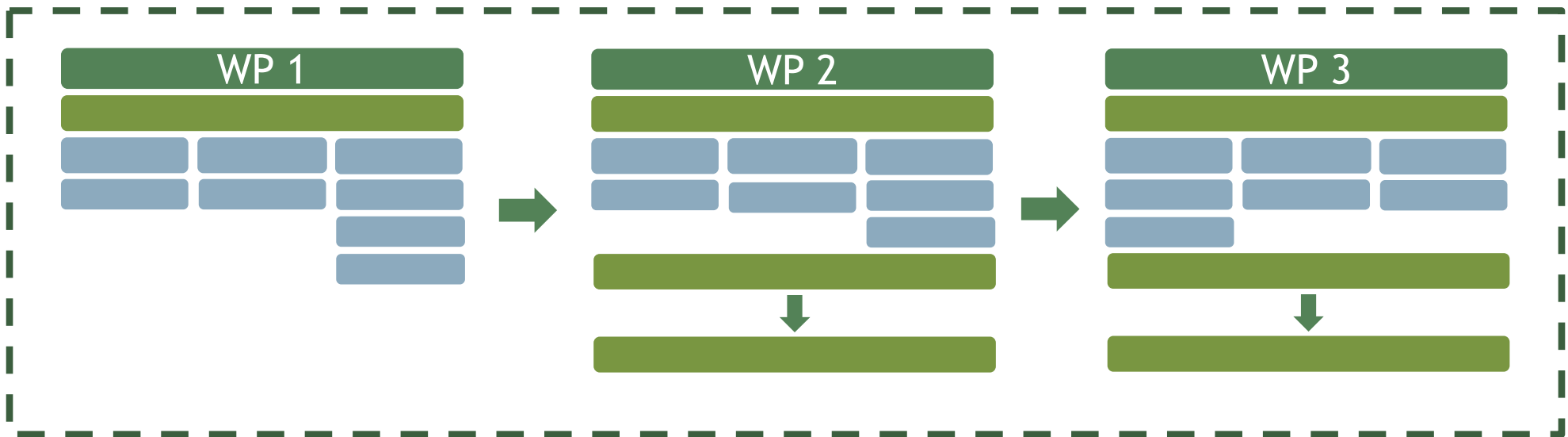
What's the logic in the intervention logic?

In a nutshell...

overall objective

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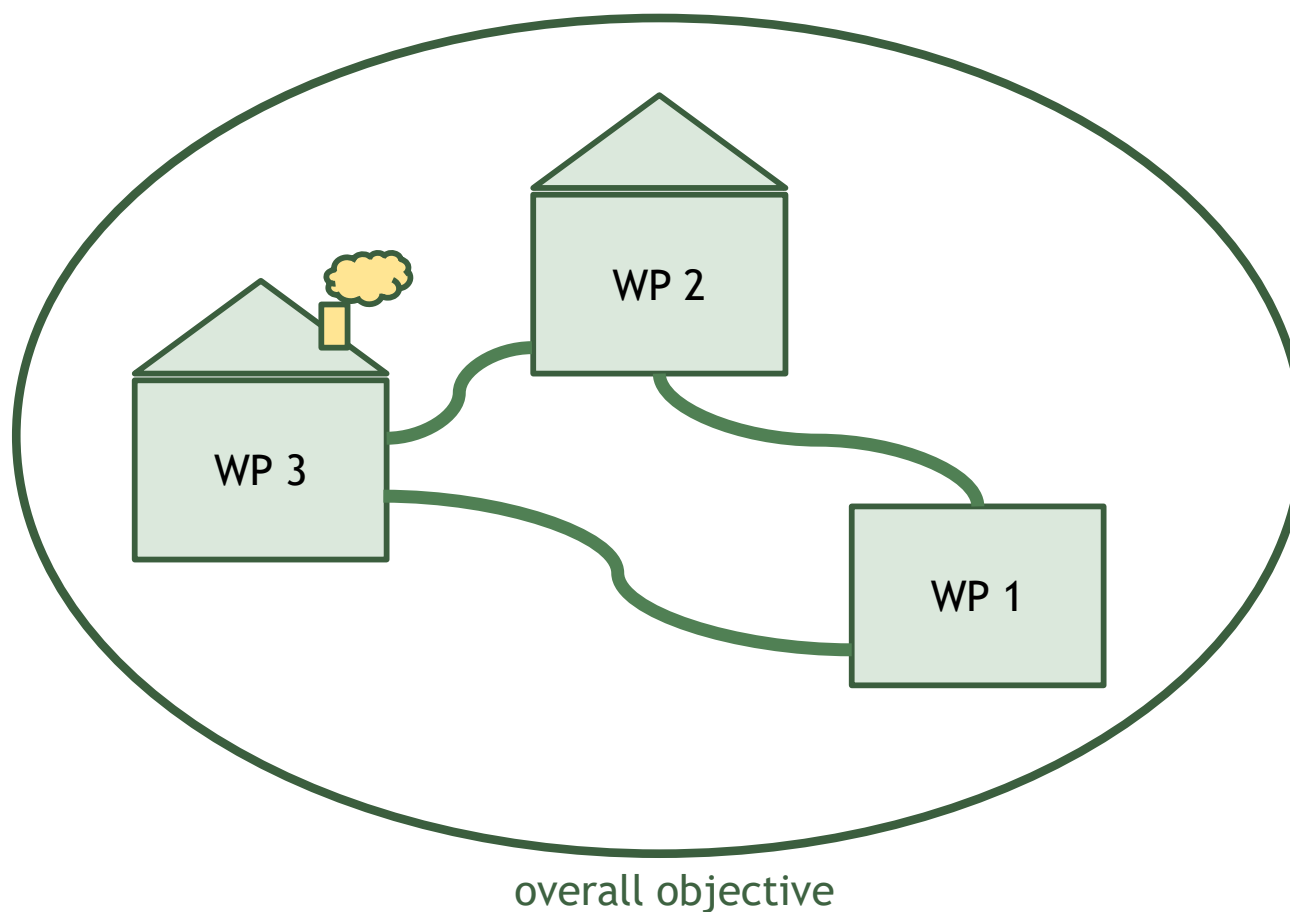
What's the logic in the intervention logic?

Common mistakes:

- The tool or methodology tested in the pilot is not reflected in the jointly developed solution
- Several outputs are labelled as jointly developed solution, while the pilot action only focus on testing a specific product
- The pilot is not the test and validation of a specific product, but rather an activity
- Two pilots lead to the same jointly developed solution
- Result and outputs are not differentiated sufficiently
- Expected results do not match the overall objective

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What's the logic in the intervention logic?

A quality project should:

- Show clear and direct **contribution** to one of the **thematic focuses** listed in the ToR
- **Implementation oriented** -> developing and testing concrete solutions
- **Durability** and **transferability** -> uptake and long term use of outputs
- Strong **transnational** character of the project
- Coherent partnership with necessary **competences**
- Clear **intervention logic**

What's the logic in the intervention logic?

A quality project should:

- **Adequately demonstrate synergy** when mentioning a strategy or a previous project

- Not have a partnership that is **too homogeneous or cover only a small part of the territory**

- **Actively involve key actors** in a theme or sector

- Plan **strategy for result transfer** to permanent structures (EUSALP, Alpine Convention...)

EXERCISE

EXERCISE – the setup

Project Scenario: Reducing Pollution in Nature Parks

🌍 There is a Alpine nature park that is an important natural and tourism area.

🌱 The park suffers from pollution and biodiversity degradation, due to over-tourism.

🔄 The same problem also affects other nature parks in different Alpine countries, requiring a joint solution.

🏛 Your organisation is collaborating with others from the Alpine Space to secure Interreg funding.

EXERCISE – WASTELESS

Project WASTELESS - Waste Awareness & Sustainable Technologies for Environmental Landscape Enhancement in Sensitive Sites

Project Overall Objective
To reduce environmental pollution in four nature parks, by improving the waste management systems, raising public awareness, and improving cooperation between public authorities.

💡 QUESTION 1 : Which Priority/SO of the programme would it be relevant to address this common Alpine challenge?

EXERCISE – WASTELESS

1 Climate resilient and green Alpine region

Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, and resilience, taking into account eco-system based approaches

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

2 Carbon neutral and resource sensitive Alpine region

Promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy

3 Innovation and digitalisation supporting a green Alpine region

Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies

Reaping the benefits of digitalisation for citizens, companies, research organisations and public authorities

4 Cooperatively managed and developed Alpine region

Enhance institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders to implement macro-regional strategies and sea-basin strategies, as well as other territorial strategies

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EXERCISE – WASTELESS

💡 QUESTION 1 : Which Priority/SO of the programme would it be relevant to address this common Alpine challenge?

- 1.2 Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution

- 2.2 Promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy

- 3.2 Reaping the benefits of digitalisation for citizens, companies, research organisations and public authorities

EXERCISE – the specific objectives

💡 QUESTION 2: Which formulation is the right for the SO of WP2

Objectives	Work packages title	Enhance public awareness and engagement	
	Work package number	2	
	Project specific objective	✅ To increase awareness and active participation of visitors and local communities in sustainable waste management.	❌ To organise clean-up campaigns implemented jointly in all partner regions and provide an educational toolkit on sustainable waste practices

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EXERCISE – the output indicators and target values

💡 QUESTION 3: Identify the correct output indicators and target values for the following WPs

5 minutes per example (3 examples)

Output indicators	
RCO 84	Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects
RCO 116	Jointly developed solutions
Other	An output which is neither a pilot action nor a jointly developed solution

RCO 84	**Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects**
RCO 116	Jointly developed solutions
Other	An output which is neither a pilot action nor a jointly developed solution

	Output	Programme output indicator	Measure-ment unit	Output title	Output description	Result indicator target value
Outputs	O 1.1			Testing the digital management system in protected areas	The tool is tested in 4 protected areas	
	O 1.2			Sustainable waste management system	An innovative digital management tool to track waste types and volumes in real time	

EXERCISE – the output indicators and target values

	Output	Programme output indicator	Measure-ment unit	Output title	Output description	Result indicator target value
Outputs	O 1.1	RCO84 Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects	Pilot action	Testing the digital management system in protected areas	The tool is tested in 4 protected areas	1
	O 1.2	RCO116 Jointly developed solutions	Solution	Sustainable waste management system	An innovative digital management tool to track waste types and volumes in real time	1

RCO 84	**Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects**
RCO 116	Jointly developed solutions
Other	An output which is neither a pilot action nor a jointly developed solution

	Output	Programme output indicator	Measure-ment unit	Output title	Output description	Result indicator target value
Outputs	O 2.1			Public awareness campaigns conducted	Clean-up campaigns implemented jointly in all partner regions, involving at least 500 participants in total.	
	O 2.2			Educational toolkit	Educational toolkit on sustainable waste practices for schools and youth groups (available in multiple languages)	

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EXERCISE – the output indicators and target values

	Output	Programme output indicator	Measure-ment unit	Output title	Output description	Result indicator target value
Outputs	O 2.1	Other	N/A	Public awareness campaigns conducted	Clean-up campaigns implemented jointly in all partner regions, involving at least 500 participants in total.	1
	O 2.2	Other	N/A	Educational toolkit	Educational toolkit on sustainable waste practices for schools and youth groups (available in multiple languages)	1

EXERCISE – the output indicators and target values

Pilot actions (RCO84)	Solutions (RCO116)	Other
→ concept/format of pilot actions	→ implementation-oriented character	→ strategic character
concept jointly developed by the project	practical solutions / products jointly developed by the project	no "pilot action" and no "solution"
used for implementing your pilot activities	e.g. tool-boxes, models, instruments, action plans, concepts/methods, roadmaps, processes…	e.g. strategies, recommendations, policy briefs, toolboxes, training modules etc.
⚠ target value concept ☺ each single pilot activity implemented ☹		

EXERCISE – the project results

| RCR 104 | Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations |
| Other | Programme result indicator does not make sense to explain the project achievement or the change the project is aiming for |

Result Nr.	Programme result indicator	Measurement unit	Result description	Result indicator baseline	Result indicator target value
RI 1			Improved waste management in 4 nature parks leading to a cleaner environment, through the adoption of the sustainable waste management system	0	
RI 2			Increased public awareness and engagement in sustainable waste practices	0	
RI 3			Stronger cooperation ensuring long-term environmental protection	0	

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EXERCISE – the project results

Result Nr.	Programme result indicator	Measurement unit	Result description	Result indicator baseline	Result indicator target value
RI 1	RCR 104 Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations	Solution	Improved waste management in 4 nature parks leading to a cleaner environment, through the adoption of the sustainable waste management system	0	1
RI 2	Other	N/A	Increased public awareness and engagement in sustainable waste practices	0	1
RI 3	Other	N/A	Stronger cooperation ensuring long-term environmental protection	0	1

Summary

A good project…

- Aligns with the **objectives of the programme**

- Has a clear **transnational approach**

- Ensures a **balanced partnership** (thematic & geographical)

- Builds on **existing knowledge**

- Delivers **measurable, realistic, sustainable & transferable results**

- Contributes to **relevant strategies and policy fields**

- Follows a clear **intervention logic**

- Integrates **quality communication** in every step of the project

➢ Completing the Application Form (Programme Manual, Annex I)
➢ Selection criteria (Programme Manual, Annex II)
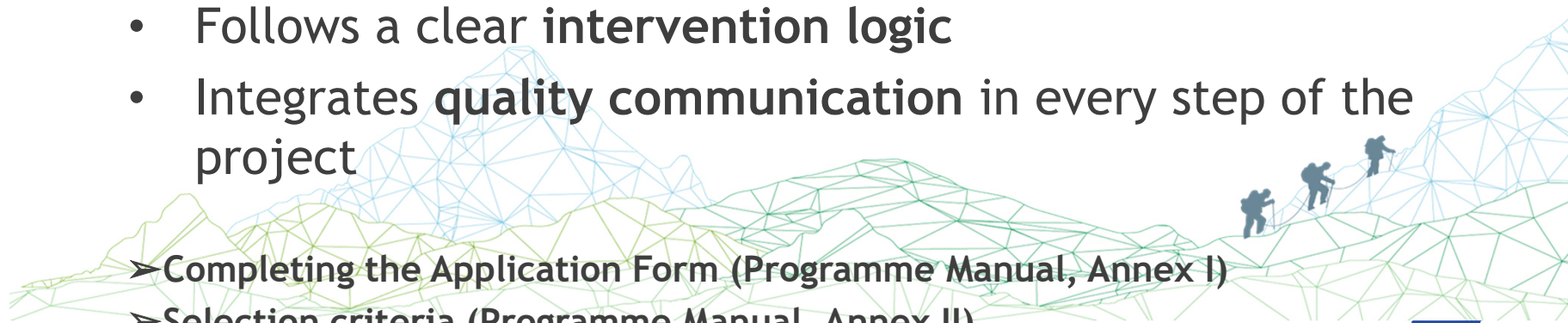
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What's the logic in the intervention logic?

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA STEP 2*

Strategic criteria
(60 points)

Marks given in step 1 will be kept in step 2. Based on the quality of answer(s) and amendments provided in the application form following the Programme Committee recommendations, the evaluation of some criteria already assessed in step 1 may be revised in step 2.

Project relevance (20 points)

Partnership relevance (15 points)

Intervention logic (15 points)

Cooperation character (10 points)

Operational criteria
(40 points)

Work plan (20 points)

To what extent is the work plan realistic, consistent and coherent?

Com (10 points)

To what extent are communication activities appropriate to reach the relevant target groups and stakeholders?

Budget (10 points)

To what extent is the project budget used in accordance with the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness?

*According to the Programme manual, Annex IIa

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Questions?

PROJECT SYNERGIES

Synergies with other projects or initiatives

Section **C.2.6** of the application form

- Which tools, knowledge, or methodologies developed by past or ongoing projects will your proposal use?
- Which synergies and mutual benefits can be expected from collaboration with other ongoing projects or initiatives?

Guidance

◊ Be precise when identifying the project or initiative.

◊ Be concrete in the description (e.g., name the specific project product you plan to use and indicate in which activity or outcome it will be applied).

◊ Less (very focused) is more.

-> added value of the project! (C.2.7)

Contribution to wider strategies and policies

Section C.2.5 of the Application Form

Regional and national levels

- These levels are closest to the consortium and are where your solutions can have a more immediate impact on the policy cycle.

- Often overlooked.

Guidance

◊ Outline which documents (e.g., regional plans) your output will directly contribute to → how is it taken up/incorporated by the final users?

◊ Relevant national-level strategies may exist only in some countries but can be highly relevant to the topic you are addressing.

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Contribution to wider strategies and policies

Section C.2.5 of the Application Form

Alpine and EU levels

- How does your project contribute to the implementation of strategies and policy frameworks, with particular regard to EUSALP and the Alpine Convention?
- Same for the EU level (generally well described in Step 1).

Guidance

◊ Be concrete: Operationalise your contribution by identifying specific priority activity implemented by working groups (*Alpine Convention*) or action groups (*EUSALP*) -> Use your work plans for targeted activities or products.
◊ Consult these actors' work plans and establish direct contact with them.

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Alpine Convention

- International treaty for the long-term protection of the Alpine region and its ecosystems -> relevant governance actor in the Alps

- 8 countries involved

- Opportunities for synergies:
  - <u>Multi-annual work programme</u>
  - 8 thematic <u>working bodies</u>
  - <u>Events</u> overview

- Project implementation and dissemination of results -> mutual benefits
- Support from the Alpine Space JS

EUSALP

- European Union strategy for the Alpine region

- 7 Countries and 48 Regions involved

- Opportunities for synergies:
  - EUSALP Action plan
  - 9 thematic <u>action groups</u> (AGs)

- Project implementation and dissemination of results -> mutual benefits
- Support from the Alpine Space JS and EUSALP Technical Support Structure

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Aleš Kegl
Project Officer
Phone +43 662 8042 3721
Mobile : +43 664 8284 126
E-Mail : ales.kegl@alpine-space.eu
www.alpine-space.eu

Matteo Decostanzi
Project Officer
Phone: +43 662 8042 3708
Mobile: +43 664 8565 671
E-Mail : matteo.decostanzi@alpine-space.eu
www.alpine-space.eu

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