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Ongoing evaluation of implementation of the Operational Programme Research, Development and Education

Ministry of Education, Youth and
Sports

Progress Report 05 - Executive summary

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EUROPEAN UNION
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Executive summary



Factual progress regarding the phase of implementation of the programme on the reference date partially corresponds to the expected OP RDE implementation.

The fulfilment of the real values of the result indicators and output indicators given by the programming document was as of 16 July 2018 zero for more than half. Only 69 of 156 result and output indicators across priority axes to which projects are directly committed have a non-zero value. Furthermore there are 6 indicators which have not been covered by the calls yet.



The risk of not-fulfilling target values and the risk of over-fulfilling target values has been identified.

A risk of non-fulfilment is identified by 41 out of 156 programme indicators. The list of given indicators is given in the following table:

Table 1 Executive summary – risk of non-fulfilment of the target values of indicators

PA/IP	Output indicator/Result indicator	Indicator
PA1	Output	Number of newly created products of RDI strategic management (LDR)
PA1	Output	Number of companies cooperating with research institutions (LDR and MDR)
PA1	Output	Number of expanded or modernised research centres (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Total number of participants (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of supported research and academic workers (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of students of study programmes focused on research and Ph.D. students who have taken part in the internship programme (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of supported products (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of newly established accredited study programmes in Czech (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of newly established study programmes organised in cooperation with another high education institute (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of new study programmes focused on practice (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of study programmes with at least one subject taught in a foreign language (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of supported products of LL (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of new project plans supported by Smart Accelerator (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of new Bachelor study programmes focused on practice (MDR)
PA2 IP2	Output	built, expanded or modernised infrastructure apart from infrastructure used for education connected to research (MDR)
PA2 IP2	Output	Number of newly built, expanded or modernised infrastructures for study programmes focused on research (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP2	Output	Number of students using newly built, expanded or modernised infrastructures for study programmes focused on research (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of graduates of first years of new study programmes focused on practice (MDR)





PA/IP	Output indicator/Result indicator	Indicator
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of graduates of first years of new bachelor study programmes focused on practice (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of students with SEN using products of advisory and assistance support (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number or newly created courses of LL (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of universities with established transparent systems of quality assessment (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of graduates of first years in new or modernised study programmes focused on research accredited also for education in a foreign language (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of research organisations with a modernised strategic management system (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of organisations influenced by a systemic intervention (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of Roma children, pupils and students in supported organisations (MDR)
PA3 IP2	Output	Number of supported products (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP1	Result	Number of children and pupils with the need for supportive measures in supported organisations (MDR)
PA3 IP2	Result	Number of organisations where the quality of education and pro-inclusiveness increased (LDR and MDR)
PA4	Output	Number of carried-out trainings, seminars, workshops, conferences
PA4	Output	Number of created communication tools

A risk of over-fulfilment is identified in 89 out of 156 programme indicators. A list of given indicators is shown in the following table:

Table 2 Executive summary – risk of over-fulfilment of the target values of indicators

PA/IP	Output indicator/Result indicator	Indicator
PA1	Output	Number of new research workers in supported subjects (LDR and MDR)
PA1	Output	Number of research workers working in modernised research infrastructures (LDR and MDR)
PA1	Output	Number of newly built, expanded or modernised research infrastructures and centres of excellence (LDR and MDR)
PA1	Output	Number of newly built, expanded or modernised infrastructures in scientifically oriented study programmes (LDR and MDR)
PA1	Output	Number of newly created products of RDI strategic management (MDR)
PA1	Output	Number of expanded or modernized research centres (LDR)
PA1	Output	Number of students using newly built, expanded or modernised infrastructure in scientifically oriented study programmes (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Total number of participants (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of supported research and academic workers (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of supported administrative and technical workers in R&D (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of supported persons involved in the RDI policy management and implementation (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of newly established accredited study programmes in Czech (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of newly established study programmes organised in cooperation with another high education institute (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of new study programmes focused on practice (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of study programmes with at least one subject taught in a foreign language
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of products of advisory and assistance support (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of products created for a higher quality of strategic management and evaluation system of high education institutes (LDR and MDR)





PA/IP	Output indicator/Result indicator	Indicator
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of new or modernised study programmes focused on research accredited also for education in a foreign language (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of new products modernising strategic management systems in research organisations (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of new project plans supported by Smart Accelerator (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of new tools for RDI support at the regional level (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Output	Number of new bachelor study programmes focused on practice (LDR)
PA2 IP2	Output	Acquired information sources (LDR)
Pa2 IP2	Output	Number of acquired information sources (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP2	Output	Number of students using newly built, expanded or modernised infrastructure apart from infrastructure used for education connected to research (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of study programmes taught in a foreign language (MDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of graduates of first years of new bachelor study programmes focused on practice (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of graduates of first years of new bachelor study programmes focused on practice (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of students with SEN using products of advisory and assistance support (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of universities with established transparent systems of quality assessment (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of organisations whose workers increased their qualification in R&D, R&D management and related areas (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of research organisations with newly arrived foreign workers from abroad or a private sector (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of research organisations with a modernised strategic management systems (LDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of supported cooperations (LDR and MDR)
PA2 IP1	Result	Number of Roma children, pupils and students in supported organisations (LDR)
PA3 IP1	Output	Total number of participants (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP1	Output	Number of supported products (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP1	Output	Number of products in systemic projects (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP2	Output	Total number of participants (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP2	Output	Number of products in systemic projects(LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP3	Output	Total number of participants (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP3	Output	Number of supported products (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP3	Output	Number of products in systemic projects(LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP1	Result	Number of organisations with increased quality of education and pro-inclusiveness (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP1	Result	Number of workers in the education system who apply newly acquired knowledge and skills in practice (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP1	Result	Number of organisations influenced by a systemic intervention (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP1	Result	Number of children and pupils with the need for supportive measures in supported organisations (LDR)
PA3 IP1	Result	Number of Roma children, pupils and students in supported organisations (LDR)
PA3 IP1	Result	Number of supported cooperations (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP2	Result	Number of workers in the education system who apply newly acquired knowledge and skills in practice (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP2	Result	Number of organisations influenced by a systemic intervention (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP3	Result	Number of organisations influenced by a systemic intervention (LDR and MDR)
PA3 IP3	Result	Number of workers in the education system who apply newly acquired knowledge and skills in practice (LDR and MDR)



PA/IP	Output indicator/Result indicator	Indicator
PA3 IP3	Result	Number of Romani children and pupils included in the education (LDR and MDR)
PA4	Output	Number of meetings of authorities, working or advisory groups
PA4	Output	Number of organized information and promotion activities



The risk of failure to meet milestone values in 2018 of factual indicators has been identified.

Fulfilling the factual indicators of the 2018 milestone based on data obtained from the system MS2014 + as of 16 July 2018 is considered to be at risk for these indicators:

Table 3 Executive summary – risk of nonfulfilment of the 2018 milestone

PA	Indicator
PA1	Number of organisations where the quality of education and pro-inclusiveness increased (LDR and MDR)
PA2	Total number of participants (LDR and MDR) Acquired information sources (MDR) Number of students using newly built, expanded or modernised infrastructure apart from infrastructure used for education connected to research (LDR and MDR)
PA3	Total number of participants (MDR)

PA1: The factual indicators in PA1 have a zero value as of 16 July, 2018. From the point of view of meeting the values for the indicators for the 31 December 2018 milestone, there is a risk of their non-fulfillment, not only the required 85% of the threshold but also the 65% of the threshold of the 2018 milestone, which would mean a serious failure of the OP RDE. The total value of commitments at the end of the programme period, together with the target values of the calls, indicates the risk of over-fulfillment of the indicator. However, based on the MEYS's own research and addressing the beneficiaries, it is estimated that all PA1 indicators will be met to more than 100% of the milestones as of 31 December 2018. In PA1, 2 milestone indicators (1 factual and 1 financial) are defined for LDR and MDR. Each indicator has to reach at least 85% of its milestone.

PA2: Due to the relatively low total value of the commitments with the projected end date of the projects as on 31 December 2018, there is a risk of non-fulfillment of the 2018 value for all factual indicators (MDR and LDR) apart from the indicator Acquired information sources (LDR). Based on the results of the questionnaire survey, it can be estimated that the given risk is partly mitigated and it is estimated that in the factual indicators - Acquired information sources (LDR and MDR) and The number of students using newly created, expanded or modernised infrastructure apart from infrastructure connected with research (MDR) will not reach at least 85% of the value of the milestone. However, the Total Number of Participants (MDR and LDR) and Number of students using newly developed, expanded or modernised infrastructure apart from infrastructure connected with research do not reach 75% of the value as of 31 December 2018. Conversely, there is a risk of over-fulfillment for all LDR indicators (Total number of participants, Acquired information sources, The number of students using newly created, expanded or modernised infrastructure apart from infrastructure connected with research) at the end of the programme period. In PA2, milestones are defined for each fund (ESF and ERDF) and each category of regions (MDR and LDR). A total of 5 milestones (3 factual and 2 financial,



in particular for ERDF part of PA2 there are 2 factual and 1 financial indicator and for ESF part of PA2 there is 1 factual and 1 financial indicator). In order to meet the milestone, it is necessary that for 2 milestone indicators (ie ESF part of PA2), 2 indicators of each fund have reached at least 85%, and for each of the 3 milestone indicators (ie ERDF part of PA2), 2 indicators have reached at least 85% and 1 indicator at least 75% of its milestone value. If the two indicators of each fund do not reach at least 65% of their milestone value, it will be taken as serious failure of the OP RDE.¹

PA3: All indicators have achieved values as of 16 July 2018. For the indicator Total number of participants (MDR), the risk of non-fulfilment of the value of the milestone is identified as 85%. However, on the basis of its own investigation, the Ministry of Education estimated it to be fulfilled at the 99% of the milestone as of 31 December 2018.



Financial progress is lower than expectations stated in the OP RDE programme document

On 30 June 2017, a total amount of 58,871 m CZK was committed, representing 65.8% of the allocation. The share of the funds paid to the total allocation is then 27% and is not the same as the time progress of the programme implementation (currently half of the fourth year of implementation). At the same time, the share of funds paid to committed means is relatively low, especially in PA2. The financial volume of the announced calls accounts for almost 83% of the OP allocation (67% of the ESF allocation and 94.3% of the ERDF allocation). A detailed overview is shown in the following table.

Table 4 Financial fulfilment by funds

Priority axis	Fund	Ratio of call allocation to OP RDE allocation	Ratio of volume of committed funds to OP RDE allocation	Ratio of volume of reimbursed funds to OP RDE allocation
PA1	ERDF	96.27 %	79.91 %	29.59 %
PA2	ERDF	91.40 %	86.81 %	30.17 %
	ESF	69.69 %	54.24 %	18.91 %
PA3	ESF	68.62 %	45.15 %	25.35 %
PA4	ERDF	86.93 %	56.34 %	29.15 %
Total	ERDF	94.31 %	80.38%	29.73 %
	ESF	68.93 %	47.78 %	23.49 %
	ERDF+ESF	82.96 %	65.80 %	26.94 %

In PA1, fulfilment of financial indicator of the milestone with sufficient margin can be predicted only in LDR already when RfP predicted in the 3rd Q 2018 are included. In MDR, sufficient margin can be predicted only if payments from 4th quarter 2018 are included.

¹ On 13 August 2018, the EC decision was issued for the amendment to OP RDE (date of entry into force of the amending decision of the Member State on 3 May 2018), which establishes a new factual indicator in PA2 - Number of supported products. This will increase the number of indicators to a total of 6 (2 factual and 1 financial for each fund). Therefore, it will be the case that in order to achieve the milestone for each fund it is necessary that the 2 indicators reach at least 85% and one indicator of at least 75% of their value. If the two indicators did not reach at least 65% of their value, this would be a serious failure to fulfill the OP RDE performance framework.“



In PA2, reaching of at least 85% of value of financial indicators of the milestone can be predicted only in ESF and MDR that is the limit value. In the other two cases (ERDF in LDR and ESF in MDR), 85% of financial indicators of milestones are not achieved even if payments are included in Q4. The essential prerequisite for achieving at least 85% of the ERDF level is an intensive and effective spending of resources over the 3rd Q 2018 for higher education projects under the call 02_16_016 ERDF Call for universities. Another call which should contribute to at least 85% of the value is Call 02_17_044 Support of the development of the study environment at universities. Allocation in Call 02_17_044 has been increased and legal acts have been concluded in the first half of 2018. In addition, the conditions in this call were set to create sufficient assumptions for the expected fulfillment of the limit in 2018.

In PA3, fulfilment of financial indicator of the milestone with sufficient margin can be predicted already when considering only predicted requests for payments for 3rd quarter 2018. In the case of MDR, achievement of 100% is the limit.

Financial indicators (PA1, PA2, and so on) with a defined milestone value represent milestone indicators whose performance rate affects the performance of the milestone of the respective PA.



The operational programme's ability to meet the N+3 rule is currently threatened.

Prediction of absorption of funds based on requests for payments in projects that were being implemented on 30 June 2018 or were supposed to have a legal act issued by the end of 2018 is CZK 13 776 million. This means that the absorption degree of the main allocation for year 2015 is 74.8% of the allocation.



Based on the current status of the financial progress on 30 June 2017, no risk of non-utilization of allocated resources of the OP RDE has been identified.

All specific objectives of OP RDE are covered by at least one announced or closed call or by at least one call in the Schedule of Calls. The absorption capacity of the calls was in the case of all the calls completed in the period from 1 January to 2018 to 30 June 2018 estimated correctly. **The analysis showed that mostly high-quality (based on the number of points) project applications were supported,** only in the call 02_17_044 Support of the development of the study environment at universities medium-quality applications prevailed.



Factors that can seriously prevent the effective implementation of OP RDE from being carried out have been identified.

The identified factors that currently have a negative effect on the progress of implementation of the programme are mentioned in the table below. The factors are divided into serious (red), moderate (orange) and minor (green).



Table 5 Factors influencing the state of implementation of the programme

Factor	Description	Factor severity
A risk of non-fulfilment of the indicator of the 2018 milestone in MDR in PA3	<p>The risk is presented in the Summary Report on Risk Management in OP RDE, No. 10/76 Non-fulfillment of financial indicators of milestones.</p> <p>The expected value of the fulfillment of the financial indicators of the milestone is considered sufficient until the 4th Q 2018 in the case of MDR, the LDR is expected to reach 76.7%.</p>	●
A risk of non-fulfilment of the N+3 rule	<p>The risk is reported in the Summary Report on Risk Management in OP RDE, No. 11/80 Insufficient potential for compliance with the N + 3 rule.</p> <p>The forecast for drawing the funds on the basis of requests for payment for projects that were, as of 30 June 2018, in implementation or with a legal act issued by the end of 2018 in PA1 to PA4 amounts to CZK 13,776 m. This represents the level of drawing the main allocation for 2015 as the level of 74.8% of this allocation and taking into account the performance reserve, the drawing rate drops to 70.3 percent of the main allocation for 2015.</p>	●
A risk of non-fulfilment of the values of the factual indicators of the milestone	<p>The risk is indicated in the Summary Report on Risk Management in OP RDE, No. 10/67 Insufficient potential for meeting factual milestones.</p> <p>Based on the analysis of the indicators, the risk of non-fulfillment of 85% of the value of milestones was identified by factual indicators. The risk is partially mitigated on the basis of estimates by recipients addressed in the questionnaire survey and by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, who are planning to report the indicators so much that the 85% milestone is reached. Thus, the risk indicators remain only the indicators of PA2 Total number of participants (LDR and MDR) and Number of students using newly built, expanded or modernised infrastructure apart from infrastructure connected with research where there's a risk of non-fulfilling 85% of the milestone after additional investigations. The occurrence of the risk depends on the ability of the beneficiaries to report the values of the indicators in the RfPs according to their assumptions stated in the questionnaire.</p>	●
The extent of the fulfilment of the financial indicators of the 2018 milestone in PA2 is insufficient	<p>The risk is presented in the Summary Report on Risk Management in OP RDE, No. 10/76 Non-fulfillment of financial indicators of milestones.</p> <p>The expected value of meeting the financial milestones can be considered overall insufficient, even after the revision of the performance framework. Having taken into account payments up to the 3rd Q 2018, it is not possible to expect to reach 85% for any of the financial indicators of the milestone. Having taken into account the payments in the 4th Q 2018, the 85% threshold should be reached with a sufficient margin only for ESF and LDR, and for other financial indicators, the other financial indicators can be expected to be in the range of 80.8% to 87%. The Call Support of the development of the study environment at universities should significantly contribute to meeting the financial indicator of the milestone.</p>	●

