Indicators: now & for the future

Daniela Minichberger, Besiana Ninka, Phil Heaton |Interact, Munich, 10-11.2.2026

Interact

Objectives of event

Objective 1	Enable programmes refine their output/result verification processes to become as **proportionate, efficient and effective** as possible.
Objective 2	Continue reflection on the **building blocks of the post-2027 intervention logic**, and how they can be adapted to an **Interreg context**
Overall goal	Support programmes with preparations for post-2027

Agenda/
10-11/2/2026

Day 1	Day 1	Day 1	Day 1	Day 1	Day 1
09:00 - 09:30	09:30 - 12:30	12:30 - 13:30	13:30 - 14:30	14:30- 15:30	15:30 - 17:00
Welcome and introduction	Verification of outputs & result - programme exchange	Lunch	Indicator speed-dating	Verification of outputs & result – looking towards post-2027	Post 2027: Intervention Logic & P-BA – a road map

Agenda/
10-11/2/2026

Day 2	Day 2	Day 2
09:00 - 09:15	09:15 - 12:30	12:30 - 13:30
Introduction	Post-2027 intervention logic – building blocks	Lunch

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Working
Agreement

Share responsibility for the meeting's effectiveness	All ideas are valid (also outside of the box)	Participate fully and be constructive	Differences of opinion are natural and useful
Listen to each other	Respect confidentiality where appropriate	Telephones, laptops etc.	Other?

Expectations summary – from the registration

What we'll try to cover

Current programmes
- Concrete examples of current output & result verification approaches

Post-2027
- Examples of potential measures
- How measures connect to indicators
- Challenges (specific to Interreg) of selecting milestones and payment values
- Pros & cons of more than one intervention fields per measure
- Link between programme and project intervention logic

What we won't cover

Post-2027
- How P-BA will be audited
- Calulating pay-out values (including programme cash-flow and N+1)
- P-BA at upper level only vs P-BA at upper and lower (we'll look at this only from an indicators perspective, not financial)

But these questions have been passed onto Interact colleagues working on P-BA to take into account in their future events.
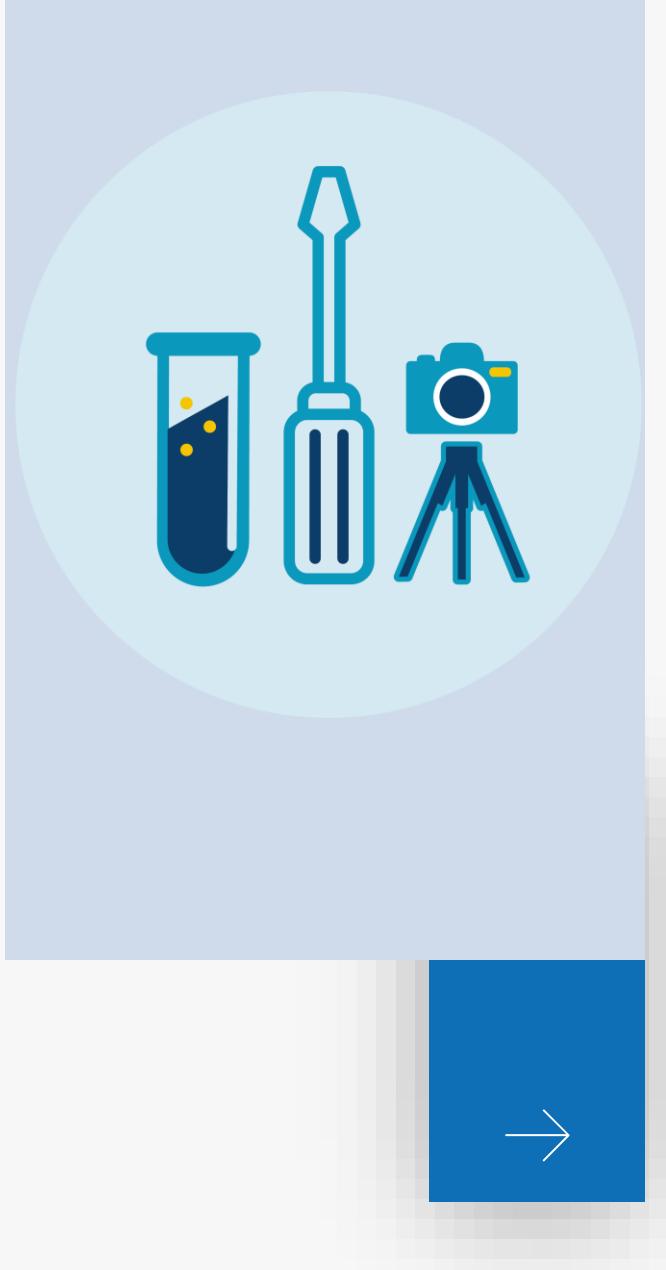
Verification of outputs and results
Why?

Regulatory basis:

- CPR Article 69, 4

  o Members states shall ensure the **quality, accuracy and reliability** of the monitoring system and of data on indicators

- Interreg Article 32, 4

  o Data.. shall be **reliable** and reflect the data stored electronically... as at the end of the month preceding the month of submission

- CPR Article 74, 1a

  o The MA shall carry out management verifications to ensure that the **cofinanced products and services have been delivered**

- CPR Annex XIII, 10

  o Obligatory elements of audit trail [includes] data in relation to output and result indicators **enabling reconciliation** with the **corresponding targets** and **reporting milestones**
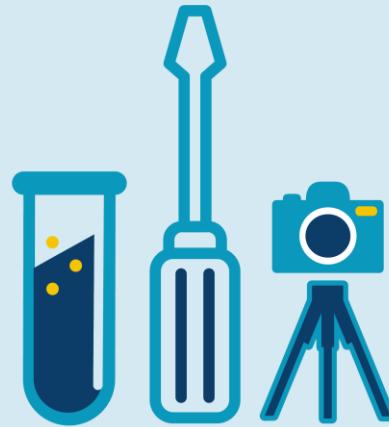
Verification of outputs and results
Presentation of current practices

Nicolas Singer – **Interreg Europe**

Monika Schönerklee-Grasser – **Central Europe**

Jenny Thomsen – **North Sea**

Flore Gable Scetbon – **Rhin Supérieur/Oberrhein**

→

Break

Plenary discussion

➢ What are still open issues related to the verification of outputs in 2021-2027? – open discussion
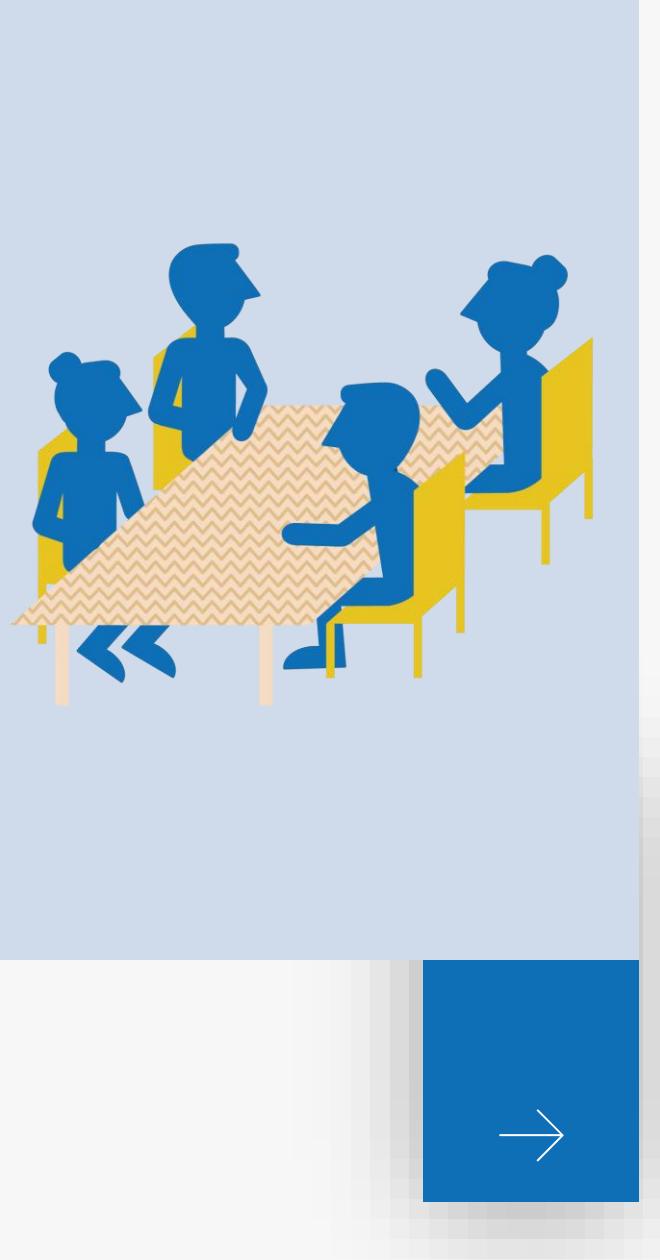
Preparing for the indicator speed-dating

Which indicators would you like to discuss during our speed dating exercise?

What you need to do:

Which indicators do you still find challenging, and why?

- Identify **2–3 indicators** which you still find challenging.
- For each indicator, briefly note **why** it is challenging (a few words are enough).
- Write **one indicator per sticky note**.
- When finished, come to the front and place your sticky notes on the wall.

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Lunch
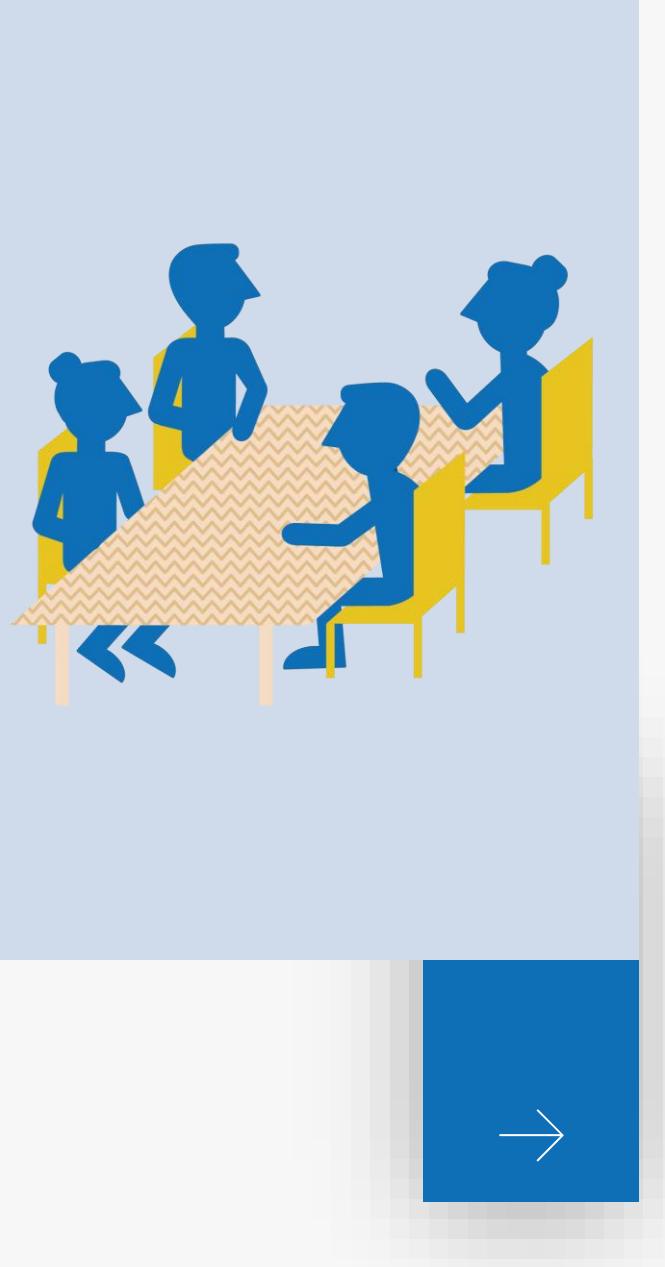
Indicator speed-dating

Which are the indicators that will be discussed during the exercise?

How it will work:

- Start from the **indicator** that is most challenging for you.

- Discuss why it is challenging and reflect on possible solutions to overcome the encountered issues.

- After the gong, please select another indicator and repeat the exercise.

- Main outcomes will be shared in the plenary

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Verification of outputs and results (2021-2027) - conclusion
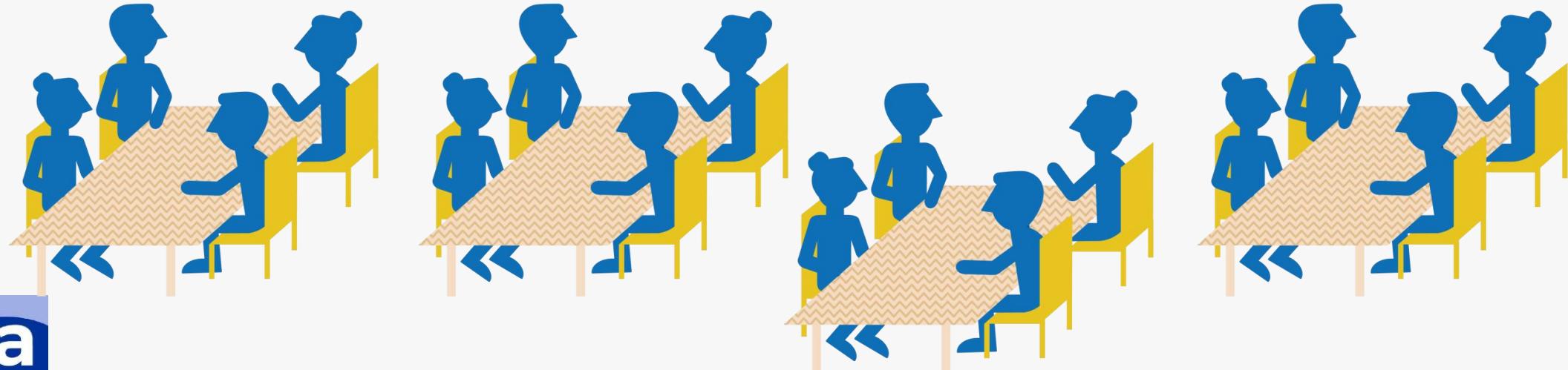
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Why verification of outputs & results will be important in post-2027

- ➤ "Burden of proof"

  - ○ evidence required to justify

    payment

Why verification of outputs & results will be important in post-2027

➢ In 2021-27, "burden of proof" provided by both verification of costs and outputs/results, but with **costs** carrying greater load

➢ In 2028-34, "burden" likely to be carried to much greater extent by verification of **outputs and results**

2021-27

Outputs & Results

Costs

2028-34

Costs

Outputs & Results

Greater burden placed on current verification systems, may expose cracks

Discussion point 1) what could be the impact of this on your systems?
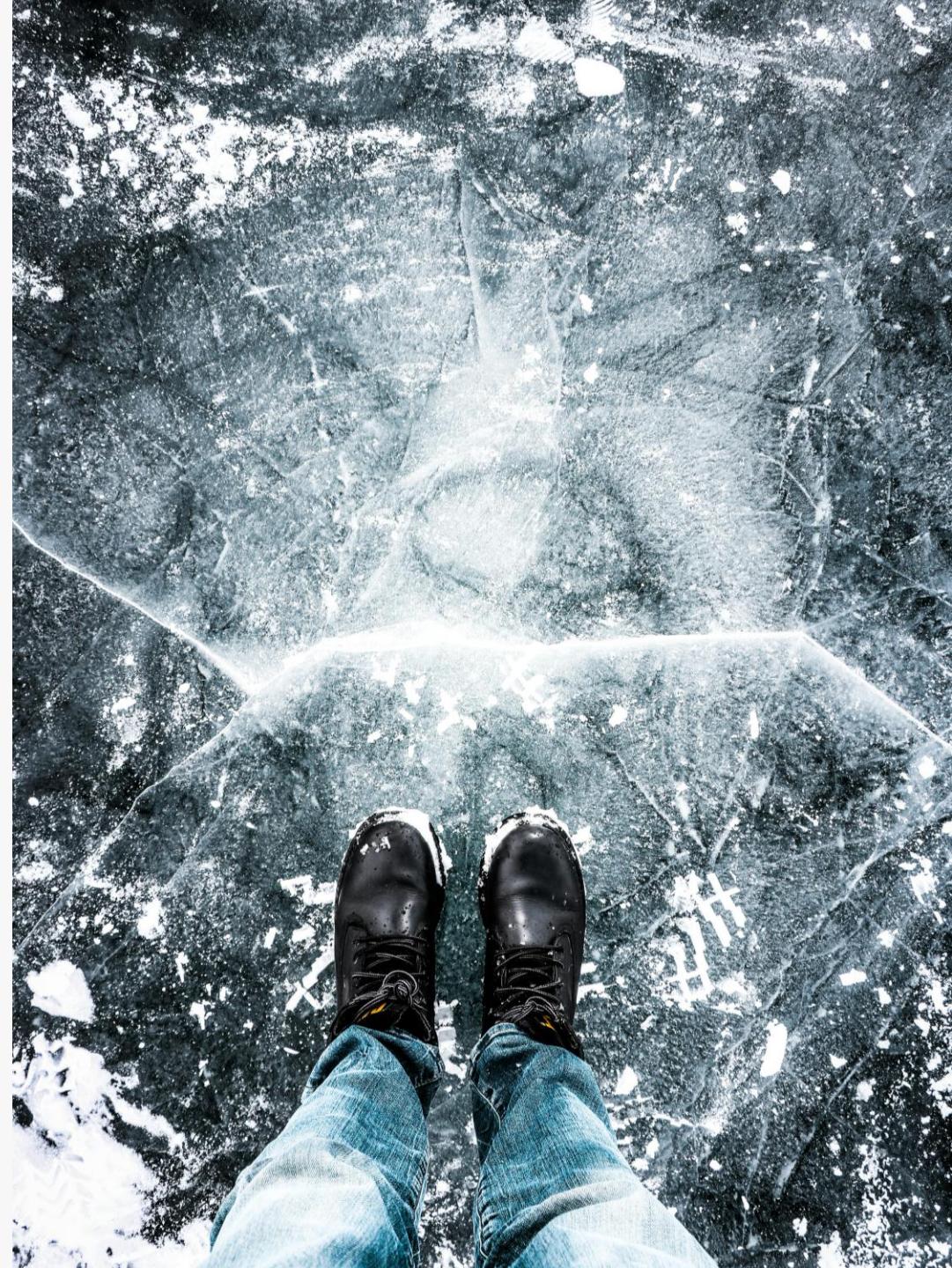
FURKAN GÜNEŞ – pexels.com

Greater burden placed on current verification systems, may expose cracks

Discussion point 2) how can programmes mitigate this?

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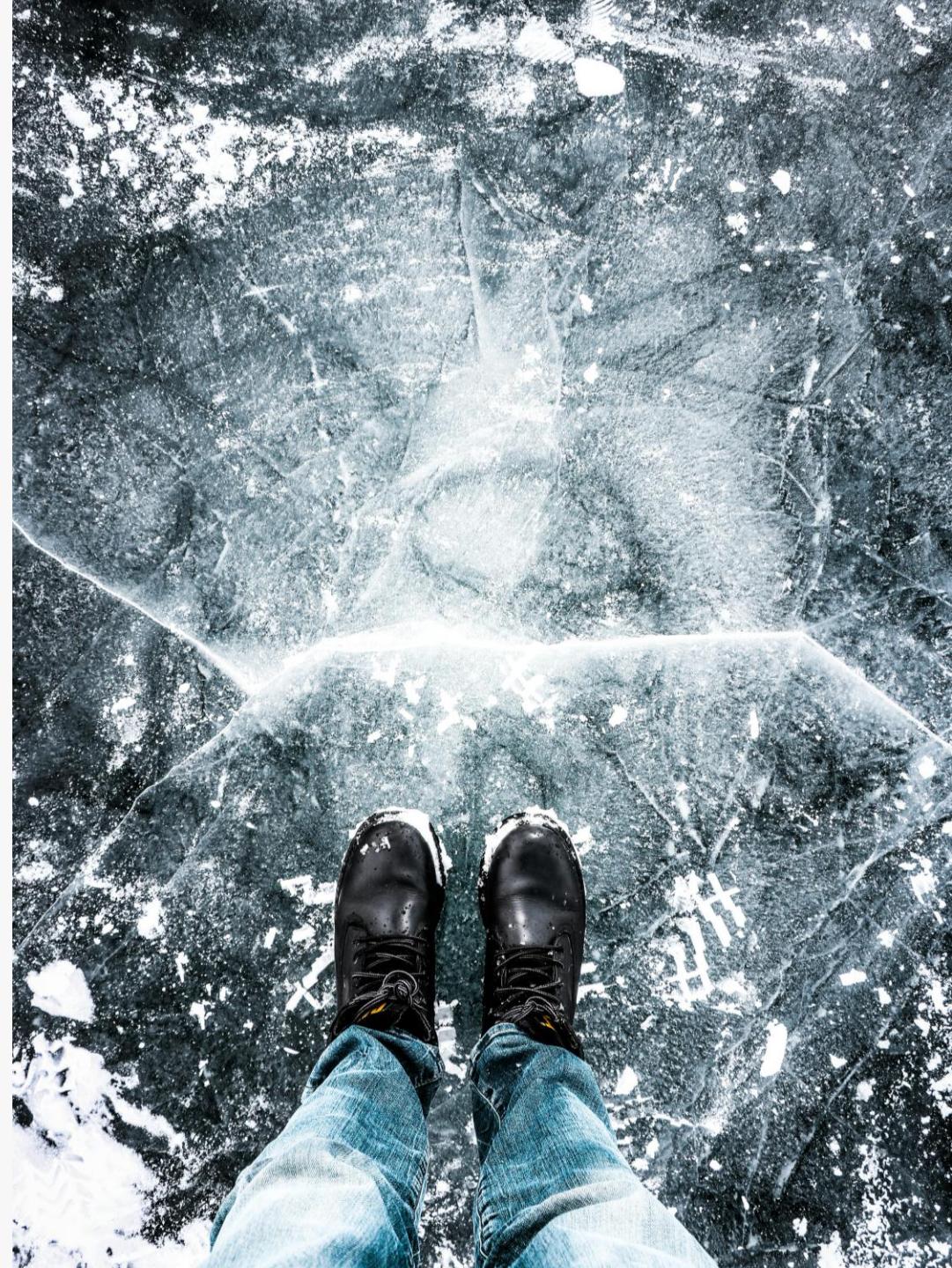
Break

Jean-Christophe André – pexels.com

Post 2027:

Top-down vs bottom-up approaches to programming

And why does it matter...?

Top-down vs Bottom-up programming: main features

Top-down

➤ "Programme knows best" approach

➤ Role of programmes: provide detailed requirements

➤ Role of applicants: to deliver requirements

➤ Calls strictly defined

➤ High degree of similarity between projects within a specific objectives

➤ Easier to estimate cost of projects in advance

Bottom-up

➤ "Applicants knows best" approach

➤ Role of programmes: set broad objectives

➤ Role of applicants: to use their expertise to propose/deliver solutions

➤ Calls broadly defined

➤ High degree of variety between projects within a specific objectives

➤ Hard to estimate cost of projects in advance

"Top-down" programming in P-BA

Measure (Top-down)	Observatories to monitor threatened species
Milestones	1) Call launched 2) Approved projects contracted 3) Procurements launched 4) Construction begins
Interim Target	5 x Joint solutions developed
Final Target	10 x Joint solutions developed (cumulative)

"Bottom-up" programming in P-BA

?????

Open questions: what could be the challenges of bottom-up programming in P-BA?

If you'd like to join Interact in discussing these questions, contact Interact