European Commission

Atlantic Strategy in Action

Committee of Regions

Vicente RODRIGUEZ-SAEZ, Deputy Head of Competence Centre, ETC and Macro-regional Strategies
DG REGIO, European Commission

Regional Policy

Atlantic Area

5 Member States: France, Ireland, Portugal, Spain and United Kingdom

38 eligible regions

59 million inhabitants

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Atlantic Strategy and its Action Plan

The Atlantic Strategy adopted in 2011 and the Atlantic Action Plan in May 2013 – objective: to revitalise the marine and maritime economy

Geographical area covered by the Strategy and by the Programme is the same

Strong alignment of the Programme with the Strategy objectives and the priorities of the Action Plan

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Concept of macro-regional / sea basin cooperation

Integration – objectives should be embedded in existing policy frameworks (EU, national, regional, local),programmes and financial instruments

Coordination – avoid compartmentalisation between policies, strategies and funding

Cooperation – across the region, outward looking mind set

Multi-level governance- different levels of policy makers and stakeholders; no new decision making tiers

Partnership – work together on the basis of mutual interest and respect

Understandings

CPR stipulates that as part of an 'integrated approach to territorial development', partnership agreements shall set out their priorities under ESI funds 'taking into account macro-regional strategies (art 15 (2)

It also states that 'MS shall ensure to seek mobilisation of Union funding for macro regional strategies and sea basin strategies in line with the needs of the programme area (…) and the individual relevant operational programmes (OPs)

shall specify 'the contribution to the planned interventions to [macro-regional] strategies" (art. 27 (3) and 96 (3)

Definition and Mandate

EMBEDDING

"The success of the Macro-regional (EUSDR) implementation requires the alignment of relevant programmes and use of these EU Funds in line with the Priority Areas and targets"
From Ulm, Statement from Danube Funding Ministers / In Dubrovnik, for EUSAIR Ministers.

400 ESIF programmes throughout Europe.

From those, aprox 100 cover Atlantic regions and can contribute to, or support very efficiently, the priorities of the Atlantic Strategy.

Programmes and strategies are designed in such a way to allow working in the same direction. All together, we need to establish during the implementation phase the Strategy's links with the programmes, to make sure our EU budget and programmes can make it a success.

All funds are eligible for Embedding

EU Funds

ESIF (Structural & Investment Funds: ERDF, ESF, EAFRD, EMFF): Operational Programmes (sectorial, regional), Interreg Cooperation Programmes

IPA, (Instrument for Preaccession Assistance) ENI (Neighbourhood Instrument)

CEF (Connecting Europe Facility)

Horizon, COSME, LIFE ("direct" EC management)

…..

EFSI (Juncker Investment Plan)

IFI: EIB, EIF, EBRD, World Bank……

National and Regional Funds

Donors, private investors,…..etc

Role of Programme/Managing Authority

Step 1: Determine relevance of Programme with MRS through a dedicated text

Step 2: Choose (combined) options from menu:

- **Define ex-ante projects of macro-regional importance**
- **Design specific calls to fund projects "labelled" as of macro-regional importance**
- **Ring-fence budget for projects of macro-regional importance/relevance**
- **Define specific selection criteria for projets of macro-regional importance or linked to such projects**
- **Give bonus points awarded to projects of macro-regional importance or linked to such projects**

Step 3: Monitoring and reporting

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Thank you for your attention!

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