

ROADMAP			
TITLE OF THE INITIATIVE	Commission Implementing Decision amending the 2014-2020 Multi-Annual Work Programme for Financial assistance in the field of Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) – Transport (total amount yet to be determined).		
LEAD DG – RESPONSIBLE UNIT	DG MOVE /B4	DATE OF ROADMAP	06 / 2015
This indicative roadmap is provided for information purposes only and is subject to change. It does not prejudice the final decision of the Commission on whether this initiative will be pursued or on its final content and structure.			

A. Context and problem definition

- (1) What is the political context of the initiative?
- (2) How does it relate to past and possible future initiatives, and to other EU policies?
- (3) What ex-post analysis of existing policy has been carried out? What results are relevant for this initiative?

The aim of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF, Regulation (EU) No 1316/2013) is to accelerate investment in the field of trans-European networks and to leverage funding from both the public and the private sectors, while increasing legal certainty and respecting the principle of technological neutrality.

The implementation of CEF-transport funding is based on the experience of the 2007-2013 TEN-T programme. CEF funding moved from a logic of concentration on 30 Priority Projects to an approach which focuses essentially on the core network corridors as established in the TEN-T guidelines. CEF contributes to supporting projects with a European added value and with significant societal benefits which do not receive adequate financing from the market. By giving priority to cross-border, bottleneck and missing link projects, the CEF-transport will contribute to the completion of the TEN-T.

The transport budget of the CEF is mainly dedicated to grants which are distributed through calls for proposals. The calls for proposals are based on Commission implementing acts which set the budget and priorities for the respective calls.

The implementing act in question will complement the MAP adopted by the Commission in March 2014. It will constitute the funding decision for projects of common interest in: Cohesion Fund Member States (indicative amount: 7.300 € million under the Cohesion Fund allocation, mainly for pre-identified projects in the CEF Regulation), SESAR (general envelope) and Programme Support Actions (amounts not yet decided). The work programme decision is scheduled for adoption in October 2015, and the calls for proposals based on this decision should be launched in November 2015.

What are the main problems which this initiative will address?

This Implementing decision and work programme will allow the use of the remaining CEF envelope for Cohesion Member States as well as provide additional support for SESAR and PSAs in line with the CEF Delegated Act of January 2014. The initiative aims to address the problem of limited progress of projects of common interest in Cohesion Member States which is hindering the completion of the TEN-T network (EU added-value) and which is partially linked to the traditionally national logic of the Cohesion Fund.

Who will be affected by it?

The Cohesion envelope priority will affect Cohesion Member States and project promoters therein intending to carry out projects of common interest on the respective part of the TEN-T network. Regarding SESAR and PSAs this will concern all Member States and project promoters.

The economy at large will benefit from the investments (works, better connectivity).

Citizens and undertakings will benefit from better transport network.

Environmental impact from transport will be reduced through the focus on environmentally friendly modes and innovation.
Is EU action justified on grounds of subsidiarity? Why can Member States not achieve the objectives of the proposed action sufficiently by themselves? Can the EU achieve the objectives better?
This question was addressed in the impact assessment carried out by the Commission in preparation of draft Regulation (EU)No 1316/2013 establishing the Connecting Europe Facility, which is the legal basis of this Commission Implementing Decision. The Commission analysis has shown that while the market and national budgets are expected to play a major role in delivering the infrastructures required to complete the TEN-T through appropriate investment and pricing mechanisms, a number of investments in infrastructure will not take place or will be delayed beyond 2020 if the EU does not take action.

B. Objectives of the initiative
What are the main policy objectives?
The CEF enables projects of common interest to be prepared and implemented within the framework of the trans-European networks policy in the sector of transport. In particular, the CEF supports the implementation of those projects of common interest which aim at the development and construction of new infrastructures and services, or at the upgrading of existing infrastructures and services, in the transport sector. The objective of the Implementing decision is to implement the CEF transport programme through the funding of projects of common interest in line with the CEF Delegated Act of January 2014. The rationale for CEF support to projects of common interest in Cohesion Member States is to contribute to the completion of the TEN-T network (EU added-value), thus overcoming the traditional logic of the Cohesion Fund focussing mainly on national projects.
Do the objectives imply developing EU policy in new areas?
No

C. Options
(1) What are the policy options (including exemptions/adapted regimes e.g. for SMEs) being considered? (2) What legislative or 'soft law' instruments could be considered? (3) How do the options respect the proportionality principle?
In the impact assessment in preparation of the CEF draft Regulation (SEC(2011)1262), the Commission assessed several policy options to increase the leverage of EU funds for TEN-T and to facilitate the timely delivery of EU-funded projects. Since Regulation (EU)No 1316/2013 establishing the Connecting Europe Facility, which is the legal basis of this Commission Implementing Decision, provides for the adoption of work programmes for the implementation of the programme, no other options have been considered.

D. Initial assessment of impacts
What are the benefits and costs of each of the policy options?
Reference is made to the impact assessment in preparation of draft Regulation (EU)No 1316/2013 establishing the Connecting Europe Facility, which is the legal basis of this Commission Implementing Decision.
Could any or all of the options have significant impacts on (i) simplification, (ii) administrative burden and (iii) on relations with other countries, (iv) implementation arrangements? And (v) could any be difficult to transpose for certain Member States?
Not applicable (CEF Commission Implementing decision)
(1) Will an IA be carried out for this initiative and/or possible follow-up initiatives? (2) When will the IA work start?

(3) When will you set up the IA Steering Group and how often will it meet? (4) What DGs will be invited?
No. The Commission is implementing previous policy decisions that have already been subject to an IA.
(1) Is any option likely to have impacts on the EU budget above € 5m? (2) If so, will this IA serve also as an ex-ante evaluation, as required by the Financial Regulation? If not, provide information about the timing of the ex-ante evaluation.
Reference is made to the impact assessment in preparation of draft Regulation (EU)No 1316/2013 establishing the Connecting Europe Facility, which is the legal basis of this Commission Implementing Decision.

E. Evidence base, planning of further work and consultation
(1) What information and data are already available? Will existing IA and evaluation work be used? (2) What further information needs to be gathered, how will this be done (e.g. internally or by an external contractor), and by when? (3) What is the timing for the procurement process & the contract for any external contracts that you are planning (e.g. for analytical studies, information gathering, etc.)? (4) Is any particular communication or information activity foreseen? If so, what, and by when?
Reference is made to the impact assessment in preparation of draft Regulation (EU)No 1316/2013 establishing the Connecting Europe Facility, which is the legal basis of this Commission Implementing Decision.
Which stakeholders & experts have been or will be consulted, how, and at what stage?
In preparation of draft Regulation (EU)No 1316/2013 establishing the Connecting Europe Facility, which is the legal basis of this Commission Implementing Decision, the Commission carried out an extensive consultation of stakeholders, EU institutions and bodies, Member States, regional and local authorities, social and economic partners, academic experts and international institutions. It also used as input the results of mid-term evaluations of the 2007-2013 programme as well as of studies and expert advice.