

3. OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES:

3.1. Priorities related to bridging missing links, removing bottlenecks, enhancing rail interoperability, and, in particular, improving cross-border sections

3.1.2. European Rail Traffic Management Systems (ERTMS)

General objectives:

The general objective is to deploy ERTMS on the trans-European transport core network.

All actions supported by CEF shall contribute to the objectives of bridging missing links, removing bottlenecks, enhancing rail interoperability, and, in particular, improving cross-border sections. They shall be compliant with Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/919 or subsequent versions, and with Directive 2008/57/EC and Directive 2004/49/EC, or Directive (EU) 2016/797 and Directive (EU) 2016/798.

ETCS Baseline 3 (B3) means the set of specifications #2 or #3 in table A2.2 or A2.3 of the Annex A of the Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/919.

Proposed Actions under this priority shall address works and studies.

In addition, proposed Actions shall address the following specific objective.

Specific objective 3: deployment of ERTMS trackside components on the Core Network

Actions shall aim at the deployment or upgrade of ERTMS trackside components and shall be B3.

Deployment means:

- Equipment with ERTMS of a railway line section (already in operation or in construction) and not equipped with this system before.

Upgrade means:

- Equipment with B3 of a line section already in operation and equipped with a version of ERTMS/ETCS not compatible with the sets of specifications laid down in the Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/919;
- Equipment with B3 of a line section already in operation and equipped with B2.

Detailed Topical Specifications and Restrictions:

- Eligible costs for the deployment of the lines shall be limited to a ceiling of EUR 260 000 per kilometre of double-track line equipped with ERTMS;
- Infrastructure works for trackside equipment (falling under the definition in Article 2(5) of the CEF Regulation) which are necessary for the implementation of ETCS level 2 (e.g. upgrade or renewal of interlockings) may also be funded and are not covered by the ceiling. In such cases the applicant(s) shall provide thorough technical and financial information substantiating the costs and respective CEF requested support. For these infrastructure works the respective co-financing rate amounts to 40%. The applicants shall present the infrastructure works in (a) separate activity(ies) to facilitate their technical and financial distinction from ERTMS upgrade and subsequent assessment;

- Eligible costs for an upgrade of lines, providing that they are duly justified, are not subject to a ceiling and shall be evaluated individually. In such cases the applicant(s) shall provide thorough and detailed financial information substantiating total costs and respective CEF requested support.

In order to optimise the impact of Union funding, the scope of the call for proposals may outline certain requirements. In this case, further information on those requirements shall be identified in the call for proposals.