



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
REGIONAL AND URBAN POLICY

The Director-General

Brussels
DG REGIO/DG

For the attention of the Permanent Representations to the European Union and the missions of Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway and Switzerland to the European Union

Subject: Invitation to a seminar on programming the Common Provisions Regulation funds in the 2021-2027 period

Your Excellency,

In June 2019, the Commission organised a seminar on the programming of the 2021-2027 Common Provisions Regulation (CPR) funds (ERDF, ESF+, CF, EMFF, AMF, ISF and BMVI) for managing and coordinating authorities. Since then, the majority of Member States have made much progress in their preparations for the new programming period. The Commission hopes to start receiving mature draft programming documents in the first half of 2020 and documents ready for adoption by the end of 2020.

Taking into account the progress of the legislative negotiations on the future CPR programming provisions, the Commission is organising a second seminar on programming. The event will take place in the **Albert Borschette Congress Centre in Rue Froissart 36, Brussels on 5 and 6 March 2020**. On behalf of the Directors-General responsible for managing the Common Provisions Regulation funds, I would like to invite the managing and/or coordinating authorities of your country to participate. I would ask you to transmit this invitation to the relevant national authorities. Please find the agenda attached.

This seminar, like the previous one, is organised by the Commission to address the most pressing issues the national authorities are facing in the course of the preparation of the new programming documents. In order to shape the seminar in the most practical and useful way, we would ask the relevant national authorities to send questions by 31 January 2020 through the following webpage: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/Seminar5March2020> (password "March2020").

The morning and part of the afternoon session on 5 March will include topics of common interest for all the Common Provisions Regulation funds. In the remaining part of the afternoon session and in the morning session on 6 March, we will go into the specifics of the individual funds. Three parallel sessions will take place: one for Cohesion policy (including the Just Transition Fund), one for the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and one for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, Border Management and Visa Instrument and the Internal Security Fund.

In order to cover the widest possible audience, the seminar will be web-streamed (see the relevant links in the agenda). A limited number of seats is available for each Member State (please see annex 2). We would ask the national authorities to attribute the seats in the way they consider most suitable, while ensuring a sufficient coverage of all the funds. The selected participants should fill in the registration form under this link: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/RegistrationSeminarMarch2020> (password “March2020”) by 31 January 2020.

In case there is additional interest, we will provide a “listening room” for the morning session and the first part of the afternoon session on 5 March. We may consider justified applications from the relevant national authorities for additional seats in the listening room, provided that they have been sent to us by email to REGIO-BETTER-IMPLEMENTATION@ec.europa.eu by 31 January. Please indicate the name, position, institution and email contact relevant for the participants to be considered. We will respond to these requests by 17 February.

Please note that the seminar will be held in English. Participants are expected to cover their own travel costs.

We are looking forward to an active participation and a fruitful discussion with the national authorities. We hope that the seminar will contribute to the efficiency and quality of the programming process and to our joint efforts of adopting and starting the implementation of the 2021-2027 programmes as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

Marc Lemaître

Annexes:

1. Agenda for the seminar
2. Seat allocation

Annex 1 – Agenda for the seminar

Seminar for national coordination authorities and managing authorities on 2021-2027 programming	
Draft Agenda	
Place	Albert Borschette Congress Centre, Rue Froissart 36, Brussels
Date	5 and 6 March 2020
5 March, 9:00 – 13:30	
9:00 – 9:30	Registration and coffee
9:30 – 12:30	Morning session on topics of common interest for all CPR funds (Introduction, Negotiations on the Commission’s legislative proposals, Partnership Agreement template, Horizontal enabling conditions, Horizontal principles, etc.)
Web streaming	https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/morning-session-on-topics-of-common-interest-for-all-cpr-funds-session-a
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break
Meeting room	CCAB – 0.A
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch

5 March, 13:30 – 17:30		
13:30 – 15:00	Afternoon session on topics of common interest for all CPR funds (Simplified cost options)	
Web streaming	https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/morning-session-on-topics-of-common-interest-for-all-cpr-funds-session-a	
15:00 – 15:15	Coffee break	
15:15 – 17:30	Fund-specific Sessions	
<p>Session A – programming of the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund Plus and the Just Transition Fund</p> <p>(Programme template, Performance framework and indicators, Territorial transition plans, Financing not linked to costs, Financial instruments, Contributions to InvestEU, Thematic enabling conditions, Partnership and other topics pending regulatory agreement)</p>	<p>Session B – programming of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund</p> <p><i>(Sea basin strategies - Exchanging views on the practical input of the sea basin analyses in the programming process. COM presentation and discussion on Member States' needs)</i></p>	<p>Session C – programming of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, Border Management and Visa Instrument and Internal Security Fund</p> <p>(Discussion on the Fund-specific policy priorities, performance framework and indicators etc.)</p>
Meeting room: CCAB – 0.A	Meeting room: CCAB – 0.B	Meeting room: CCAB – 0.C
https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/morning-session-on-topics-of-common-interest-for-all-cpr-funds-session-a	https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/session-b-programming-of-the-european-maritime-and-fisheries-fund-05-03-20	https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/session-c-programming-of-the-asylum-migration-and-integration-fund-border-management-and-visa-instrument-and-internal-security-fund-05-03-20

6 March, 9:30 – 12:30 Fund-specific Sessions

11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break	
<p>Session A – programming of the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Social Fund Plus</p> <p>(Continuation of the fund specific session discussions from 5 March)</p>	<p>Session B – programming of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund</p> <p><i>(FAME/INFOSYS - Preparing for Infosys and CPR data submission in practice; Assistance)</i></p>	<p>Session C – programming of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, Border Management and Visa Instrument and Internal Security Fund</p> <p>(Policy priorities (cont.) and horizontal principles)</p>
Meeting room: CCAB – 0.A	Meeting room: CCAB – 0.B	Meeting room: CCAB – 0.C
<p>https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/session-a-programming-of-the-european-regional-development-fund-the-cohesion-fund-and-the-european-social-fund-plus-06-03-20</p>	<p>https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/session-b-programming-of-the-european-maritime-and-fisheries-fund-06-03-20</p>	<p>https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/session-c-programming-of-the-asylum-migration-and-integration-fund-border-management-and-visa-instrument-and-internal-security-fund-06-03-20</p>

Annex 2 – Seat allocation

MS	Seat allocation
Poland	15
Italy	15
Spain	15
Romania	15
Portugal	10
Greece	10
Hungary	10
Czech Republic	10
France	10
Germany	10
Slovakia	10
Bulgaria	10
Croatia	10
Lithuania	5
Latvia	5
Slovenia	5
Estonia	5
Belgium	5
Sweden	5
Finland	5
Netherlands	5
Austria	5
Ireland	5
Cyprus	5
Malta	5
Denmark	5
Luxembourg	3
Norway	1
Switzerland	1
Iceland	1
Lichtenstein	1
Total	222