

# LUNCH BREAK

**We will restart the webinar at 13.40**



# Webinar on 2021-27 programming VOL 3, **PART II**

**2021-2027 technical seminars**

**Chair: Kadri UUSTAL**, Head of Unit for the Coordination of Programmes,  
Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy

*16 June 2021, Webex*

# Housekeeping rules

## Default settings (unless speaking)

- Cameras switched off
- Microphones muted

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## Web streaming - please follow the link

- <https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/2021-2027-technical-seminars-webinar-on-2021-2027-programming-vol-3>

## The webinar will be recorded

- Presentations and recording will be shared after the webinar and available on Info REGIO.

# Agenda AFTER lunch

II. Outstanding programming and template-related issues (II)  
+ Q&A session

III. Outstanding programming and template-related issues  
(III)  
+ Q&A session

IV. Implementation issues + Q&A session

Summary

Please submit  
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# II. Outstanding programming and template-related issues

## Part II

1. Thematic concentration
2. Technical Assistance
3. Operations of strategic importance

# Thematic concentration for the ERDF

## Legal basis and examples

**Błażej GORGOL**, Unit for Policy Development and Economic Analysis, DG  
REGIO

# Flexibility

## Choice

- requirements either at national level or at category of region - choice to be made in the Partnership Agreement (for all programmes, for the entire period)

## National level

- 'compensation' between categories of region is possible

## 'Regional' level

- compensation between regions within the same category of region is possible

## Basis for calculation

- total ERDF resources available for programmes other than for technical assistance
- ERDF resources after transfers and contributions
- concentration requirements refer to ERDF resources (not EU and national)

# Thematic concentration - requirements

MSs equal or above 100% of GNI per head **or more developed regions**

- At least **85%** of resources other than technical assistance to policy objectives 1 and 2
- AND at least **30%** for PO2
- To note: no separate minimum requirement for PO1

MSs equal or above 75% and below 100% of GNI per head **or transition regions**

- At least **40%** of resources other than technical assistance to policy objective 1
- AND at least **30%** to policy objective 2

MSs below 75% of GNI per capita **or less developed regions**

- At least **25%** of resources other than technical assistance to policy objective 1
- AND at least **30%** to policy objective 2



# Contribution of urban mobility and ICT connectivity

## ICT connectivity

- Resources for specific objective have to be programme under a dedicated priority
- 'Double **40/40** threshold'
  - **40%** of resources for dedicated priority for ICT connectivity
  - but **not more than 40%** of the minimum requirement for PO1
- The lower of the two thresholds applies

## Urban mobility

- Resources for specific objective have to be programme under a dedicated priority
- 'Double **50/50** threshold'
  - **50%** of resources for dedicated priority for urban mobility
  - but **not more than 50%** of the minimum requirement for PO2
- The lower of the two thresholds applies

# Contribution of the Cohesion Fund

## 'Greening' of the Cohesion Fund

- **Option** to include Cohesion Fund environmental expenditure into thematic concentration
- **Condition:** provided that such environmental expenditure exceeds 50% of the fund's allocation
- Expenditure under specific objective for urban mobility does not count towards environmental expenditure
- Resources without technical assistance
- Resources after transfers and contributions, including transfer to CEF
- **Pro-rata split** by category of region according to the population where MSs chooses concentration at 'category of region' level
  - data to be used as in the allocation method for cohesion policy

# Thematic concentration - requirements

## Specific allocations

- Concentration requirements do not apply to specific allocations
  - for outermost regions
  - northern sparsely populated areas

## Island Member States

- 'Island MS receiving CF' (CY, MT) fall within group 3 or less developed regions

## Programmes dedicated to the outermost regions

- Allocation for programmes dedicated to the outermost regions is 'treated separately' as it falls within group 3
- Concentration requirements are not calculated at the level of programme(s) for the outermost regions to ensure flexibility

# Examples

# Practical approach – information needed

Total ERDF allocation as in the Commission decision  
(if necessary by category of region)

If Cohesion Fund is used  
– analogical information  
will be necessary

Transfers and contributions from/to the ERDF

Actual amount in ERDF programmes

ERDF allocation for technical assistance  
(including 'Article 37 TA', which is not capped)

Basis for calculating concentration requirement

Compliance  
check

Allocation for priorities under PO1 and PO2  
Allocation for dedicated priorities for ICT connectivity and urban  
mobility

# Urban mobility (case 1)

## Data

- ERDF allocation after transfers is 1035
- ERDF TA – 35 (flat rate 3.5%)
- ERDF resources for the calculation of concentration requirements: 1000
- The 30% requirement for PO2 is therefore 300

## Assumptions

- 'Country X wants to spend only the required minimum for PO2
- Country X needs in urban mobility are estimated for 400 – this amount needs to be programmed under a dedicated priority

## Results

- 50% of a dedicated priority for urban mobility: **200** (50% of 400)
- 50% of the regulatory concentration requirement for PO2: **150** (50% of the 300).
- The lower of the two thresholds applies: **150**
- Other climate and environment expenditure would need to amount to at least **150**
- Country X can programme 400 for urban mobility, but can count only 200 of it to the thematic concentration
- The allocation for PO2 would need to amount to 550 (400 urban mobility + 150 other measures)

# Urban mobility (case 2)

## Data

- ERDF allocation after transfers is 1035
- ERDF TA – 35 (flat rate 3.5%)
- ERDF resources for the calculation of concentration requirements: 1000
- The 30% requirement for PO2 is therefore 300

## Assumptions

- 'Country Y wants to spend only the required minimum for PO2
- Country Y needs in urban mobility are estimated for 200 – this amount needs to be programmed under a dedicated priority
- Country Y needs in other climate and environment are estimated for 200

## Results

- 50% of a dedicated priority for urban mobility: **100** (50% of 200)
- 50% of the regulatory concentration requirement for PO2: **150** (50% of the 300).
- The lower of the two thresholds applies: **100**
- Other climate and environment expenditure would need to amount to at least **200**
- country Y can programme 200 for urban mobility priority, but only count 100 to the thematic concentration
- The allocation for PO2 would need to amount to 400 (200 for urban mobility + 200 other measures).

# Urban mobility (Cohesion Fund)

## Data

- CF allocation for country X after transfers is 1025 (! CF allocation after transfer to CEF)
- CF TA – 25 (flat rate 2.5%)
- Total CF resources less TA: 1000
- 50% 'threshold' for CF resources: 500

## Assumptions

- 'CF allocation for PO2: 700
- 'CF allocation for PO3: 300
- CF allocation to a dedicated priority for urban mobility: 100

## Results

- Contribution: 'CF allocation for PO2' minus 'CF allocation for a dedicated priority': **600** (> 500)
- Contribution:  $700 - 100 - 500 = 100$  (for the MS)
- For regional option: pro-rata: 20% of population in MD, 20% in TR and 60% in less developed – on the basis of data used for the allocation method



# Technical assistance

**Błażej GORGOL**, Unit for Policy Development and Economic Analysis, DG  
REGIO

# Technical assistance in programmes

## 'real cost' TA Article 36(4)

- **Mono-fund priorities** for 'real cost' TA (relevant provision: Article 22(2))
- **Full description** of a priority with types of interventions and output indicators
- Several mono-fund TA priorities in one programme are possible
  - legal possibility versus complication of programme structure

## TA not linked to cost Article 37

- **Mono-fund priorities** for financing not linked to cost' TA (relevant provision: Article 22(2))
- **Limited description** of a priority with details in the appendix 2
- Several mono-fund TA priorities in one programme are possible
  - legal possibility versus complication of programme structure

## Flat rate Article 36(5)

- Flat rate TA is built into an 'investment' priority
  - Flat rate amount will not be reflected in priority a breakdown by type of intervention
- Flat rate TA allocations follow the allocation by the Funds by priority and category of region
  - Flexibility amount for flat rate TA included in the financial table 11 of a programme template

# Technical assistance in programmes - summary

Description under priority	Real cost TA	Financing not linked to cost TA	Flat rate TA
Planned use of TA	No	Yes (concise)	No
Types of actions	Yes	No	No
Target groups	Yes	No	No
Output indicators	Yes	No	No (flat rate amount not included)
Breakdown by type of intervention	Yes	Yes	No (flat rate amount not covered by indicators)
Appendix 2	No	Yes (types of action, conditions or results, intermediate, deliverables etc.)	No

# Capping and calculation

'real cost' TA

Article 36(4)

- Real cost on the basis of allocation of a given fund in programmes
- 'real cost' TA is 'up to' a limit – modulation, final rate negotiated with the Commission
- Resources in programmes: after transfers and contributions
- Flat rate on the basis of declared costs in payment applications

Flat rate TA

Article 36(5)

- In financial tables: 'EU contribution without flat rate TA'
- Flat rate TA is paid and 'at' a given rate
- Resources in programmes: after transfers and contributions

TA not linked to cost

Article 37

- Not capped
- Flat rate TA is to be calculated and paid on the Article 37 TA

# Calculation method – flat rate

**Example:** Let's imagine a country with one programme with one investment-related priority with EU contribution of 1.040.000 and TA rate is 4% (ESF+). TA will be reimbursed in one payment application.

## Programme table

Priority	Union contribution	Breakdown of EU contribution		National contribution
		without flat rate TA	flat rate TA	
Priority 1	1.040.000	1.000.000	40.000	1.040.000

Flat rate IA needs to account for 4% of the allocation without TA ( $40.000/1.000.000=4\%$ )

National contribution includes flat rate TA even if it is not shown separately

## Payment application

Declared expenditure	Application of a flat rate	Application of a co-financing rate
EU + national	Multiplied by 1+4%	Multiplied by 50%
2.000.000	2.080.000	1.040.000

but national contribution corresponding to flat rate TA cannot be declared ('notional amount' of 40.000 to

# Calculation method – ‘real cost’ TA

**Example:** Let's imagine a country with one programme with one investment-related priority with EU contribution of 1.040.000 and TA rate is 4% (ESF+)

Priority	EU contribution
Investment-related priority	998.400
TA priority	41.600
<b>Total ESF+ (EU contribution)</b>	<b>1.040.000</b>

Real cost TA can account for up to 4% of total EU contribution  
(41.600/1.040.000=4%)

## Comparison

- Flat rate offers slightly higher amount for investment and slightly lower amount for the TA, but it comes with significantly less administrative burden (no ‘metro tickets’, no invoices, no audits)
- ‘real cost TA’ rate is negotiated with the Commission, flat rate TA percentages are automatically included in programmes

# Financing of TA of other funds – flexibility within TA ceilings

## Eligibility rule

- Article 36(2) sets out an eligibility rule that each fund may support technical assistance actions eligible under any other Fund
- TA limits for ‘real cost’ and ‘flat rate’ need to be respected (change compared to 2014-20)

## Example

- The ERDF is to finance TA related to the Cohesion Fund or the ESF+
- ERDF allocation after transfers: 1000
- Real cost TA limit for the ERDF: **35** (3.5% of 1000 = 35)

## Results

- **Possible ERDF allocation for TA:**
  - **20** for ERDF related TA (2% of ERDF allocation in programmes)
  - **10** for ESF+ related TA (1% of ERDF allocation in programmes)
  - **5** for CF related TA (0.5% of ERDF allocation in programmes)
- **Practical use** when MS does not intend to use the maximum allowed, otherwise it needs to ‘compensate’ between the funds

# Pro-rata split of TA by category of region

## Eligibility rules Article 63(3)

Rules for operations covering **more than one category** of region  
ERDF – according to an objective method  
ESF+ – TA may be assigned to any category of region  
Not relevant for the Cohesion Fund or the JTF as they are not split by category

## Objective method

Examples:  
according to the population key  
Split of allocation among the categories (application of flat rates)

## Practical approach

- In a multi-category programme all TA activities may be '**en block**' considered as relevant for more than one category of region



# Exceptions - higher percentages for TA financing

## 'Content-related exception'

- ESF+ programmes related to material deprivation: 5%

## 'Geographical' exception

- Member States with IJG allocation below EUR 1 billion: **MT, CY, LU, DK, IE, AT** percentages for the ERDF, the CF and the ESF+ (but not the JTF): 6%
- Programmes under IJG covering only the **outermost regions**: +1 p.p. (on top of the ceiling applicable to a fund/funds used in such a programme)

## 'Combination of the two cases'

- For material deprivation programmes covering only the outermost regions or in countries with IJG allocation below EUR 1 billion – **the higher allowed TA rate applies**

# Form of reimbursement of 'real cost' TA

## Level 1

Reimbursement between the  
Commission and a Member State  
**Article 51, CPR**

Article 36(4) TA may only be reimbursed on the basis of **Article 51(b), CPR – reimbursement of support provided to beneficiaries**

Reimbursement of expenditure declared in a payment applications to the Commission regardless of the form of support between managing authority and beneficiaries

## Level 2

Reimbursement between managing  
authorities and beneficiaries  
**Article 53, CPR**

- All forms of support under Art. 53 are possible between MA and beneficiaries except financing not linked to costs
- FNLC could only be applied if it was covered by a decision under Art 89 CPR, however, this possibility does not exist for 'real cost' TA

# Technical Assistance

Ieva CERNIUTE, Unit for Administrative Capacity Building, Solidarity Fund,  
DG REGIO

# Art. 37 - Financing not linked to costs for technical assistance of Member States

Additional technical assistance actions to reinforce the capacity and efficiency of *public authorities and bodies, beneficiaries and relevant partners* necessary for the effective administration and use of the Funds

## Conditions

- Support for such actions shall be based on **conditions** to be fulfilled or **results** to be achieved and implemented in accordance with Article 95.

## Ceiling

- There is **no ceiling** for how much funding can be allocated to this type of capacity building actions

## Audits

- COM and MS **audits** will only verify if **conditions** are fulfilled or **results** achieved

## Programming

- May take the form of a **priority** or a **specific programme**

# How to programme financing not linked to costs

## Following Programme template

### If financing not linked to costs is programmed *as priority:*

- 2.2.2.1. Description of technical assistance under financing not linked to costs – Article 37 CPR - Text field [3 000]
- Annex V, appendix 2 (tables A and B)

### If financing not linked to costs is programmed as specific *programme:*

- All relevant parts of programme template (including appendix 2)

## Information needed (appendix 2)

the **conditions** to be fulfilled and/or the results to be achieved

the **timeline**

any intermediate **deliverables** for reimbursements

**indicators** and measurement units

overall **amount** and amounts linked to deliverables

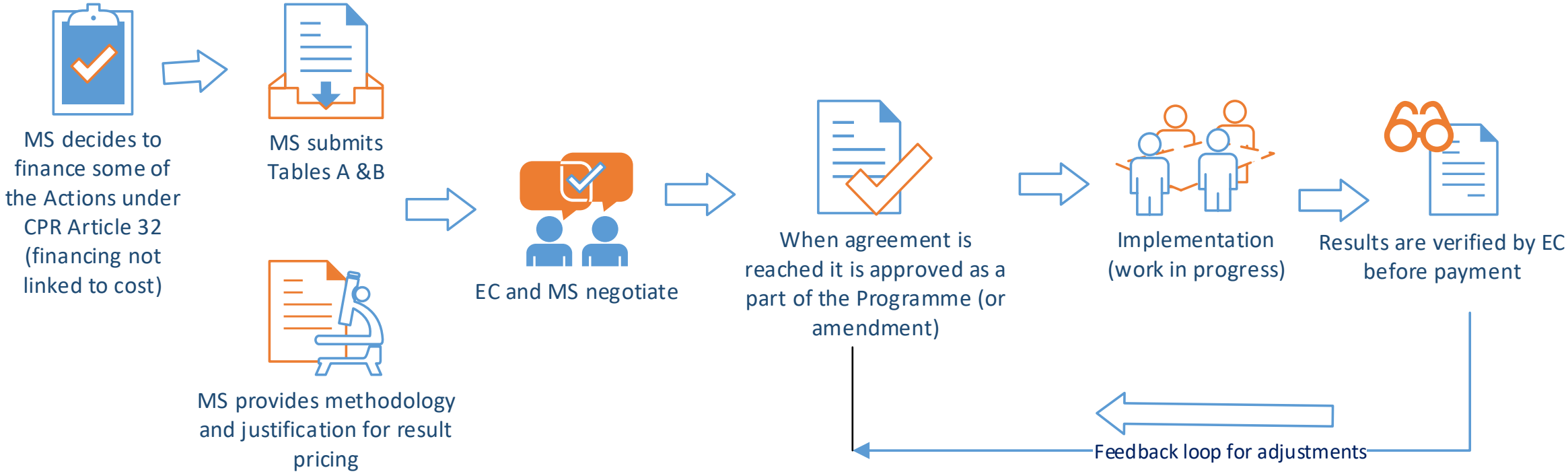
the **schedule** for reimbursement

**arrangements** to verify deliverables, conditions or results

the methods for **adjustment** of the amounts where applicable

the arrangements to ensure the **audit trail**

# Process: main steps



# Summarising the rationale

## Characteristics of Art. 37 schemes:

- **additional** actions (meaning doing something more than “standard” TA actions)
- dedicated to **capacity building** and **efficiency gains**
- “**suitable**” for payments based on results/conditions achieved (it should be possible to define clear indicators, their values, set a price tag, etc.)

The assessment of proposed schemes will be case by case based on the above logic.

Intended as a ‘simplification measure’ – testing a new approach for financing



# Operations of strategic importance

**Monika TCHAVDAROVA**, Coordination of programmes Unit, DG REGIO

**Slaven KLICEK**, Communication Unit, DG REGIO

## Definition of an operation of strategic importance (Article 2(5))

- Up to the MS to decide which is the key significant contribution; doesn't need to be the largest project/most expensive one
- Can be an individual project, group of projects or an action/scheme/measure, whereby projects will be selected at later stage
- Aims at providing higher visibility of the EU support to emblematic projects

# Programming

Place and information  
in the programme

- At programme level not per SO!
- Appendix 3: List of planned operations of strategic importance with a timetable

No prescribed format

- Could be expected year of delivery or more detailed plan, depending also on the maturity of thinking of the MA

No appraisal by COM

The CPR says  
'planned operations'

- i.e. not prejudging the compliance with Article 73 requirements!

Find a balance in terms of  
the number of such projects

- In order to avoid a disproportionate administrative burden

# Programming

## Examples/what defines if an operation is strategic - up to the MS

### Systemic nature of an operation

- Without this operation, the specific objective(s) might not be achieved and/or seriously affected e.g. e-health system, common ticketing system for public transport

### Innovative character

- An operation brings a new policy or project framework

### Importance for national, regional and local economy

- An operation is perceived by the society as important e.g. regional R&D centre, capital city ring-road

### Special character of an operation

- Due to specificities and local conditions, there cannot be too many projects of that type: regional transport hub

### Financial size of an operation

- Relatively significant resources from the priority

# Implementation

## Article 40(1)(g) Functions of the MC

- Topic will be inserted as a recurrent point for the MC discussions
- Suggestion: project visit (if possible)

## Article 41 Annual Performance Review

- Same info as for the MC

## Article 46(a) Visibility

- Visibility measures may go beyond the routine visibility mechanisms; the project could notably be flagged as falling under this category

# Implementation

## Article 50 Responsibilities of beneficiaries

- E.g. inviting the COM and the MA to the beginning of works/completion of project
- E.g. suggestion to use the OSI for communication purposes at different occasions: programme adoption, project selection and completion.

## Article 73(5) Selection of operations

- MA to inform EC within 1 month after selecting
- What is 'all relevant information'? – no prescription, depends from the case, e.g.
- Elements on the project's features and objectives and justification of its strategic / emblematic nature, the beneficiary and provided funding, information from the call and the document setting out the conditions for support



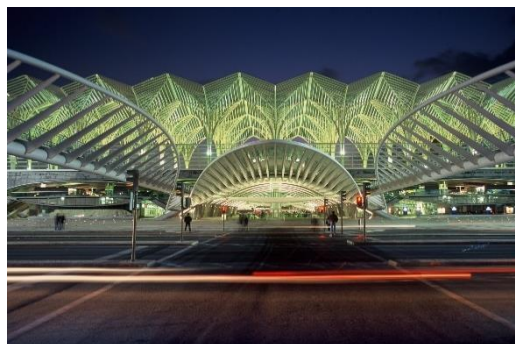
*Operations to tell the **story of the programme** by ensuring higher visibility and implementing dedicated communications actions.*

# Achieving prominent visibility

Suggested approaches:

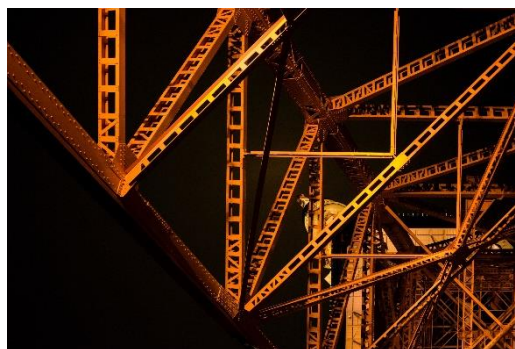
## Representativeness and diversity

Key projects with emblematic achievements to showcase the programme.



## Synergies with communication requirements

Single website portals  
Programme websites  
Communication coordinators  
National networks



...



## Close coordination

Beneficiaries working closely with Managing authorities.

## Communication activities + media

Press conferences, press releases, working close with journalists and events.





# Stakeholders involved



## Member States

- National coordinators
- Managing authorities
- Other programme bodies
- Beneficiaries



## The Commission

- DGs involved:
  - REGIO
  - MARE
  - EMPL



## Actors and partners

- EP Liaison Offices & EDICs
- Funds-specific Networks
- Educational and research institutions
- Other authorities recognized in art. 8 and 48

# Incoming

- INFORM EU: discussions and trainings will follow
- Campaigns and synergies:
  - Tools supporting **Kohesio** to capitalize operations of strategic importance and highlight their appearance in the platform

# Q & A session

*Please write your questions in the **Q&A window**  
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*[REGIO-COORDINATION-OF-PROGRAMMES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:REGIO-COORDINATION-OF-PROGRAMMES@ec.europa.eu)*

**Moderation:**

**Kadri UUSTAL**, Head of Unit for the Coordination of Programmes,  
Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy

# II. Outstanding programming and template-related issues

## Part III

1. Roadmaps on administrative capacity building
2. Cooperation under mainstreaming programmes
3. Just Transition Fund
4. Other issues raised by MS and technical SFC 2021

# Topics and Speakers

## Roadmaps on ACB

Ann-Kerstin MYLEUS, Unit for Administrative Capacity Building, Solidarity Fund

## Cooperation under mainstreaming programmes

Jean-Pierre HALKIN, Head of Unit for Macro-regions, Transnational/Interregional/External Cooperation, Enlargement

## Just Transition Fund (JTTP)

Justyna PODRALSKA, Unit for Coordination of Programmes

## Other issues

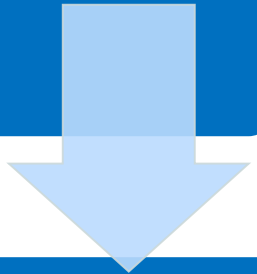
Monika TCHAVDAROVA, Unit for Coordination of Programmes

# Roadmaps on administrative capacity building

**Ann-Kerstin MYLEUS**, Unit for Administrative Capacity Building, Solidarity Fund, DG REGIO

# Why ACB roadmaps - background


Purpose behind introducing the concept of roadmaps for administrative capacity building (ACB) for 2021-2027:




Encourage Member States to adopt a more strategic approach to capacity building and use of technical assistance (TA)

Reference in Recital 33 of the Common Provisions Regulation

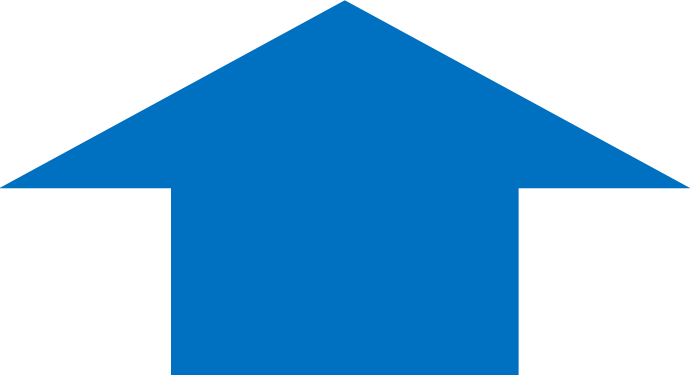
# A more strategic use of technical assistance and capacity building



This means **re-balancing the use of TA** between operational/management expenditure, away from excessive use of TA for salaries,



and support to other types of **more strategic investments**, e.g. **capacity building** of implementing bodies at regional and local level, beneficiaries and partners, promotion of stakeholder engagement, etc.





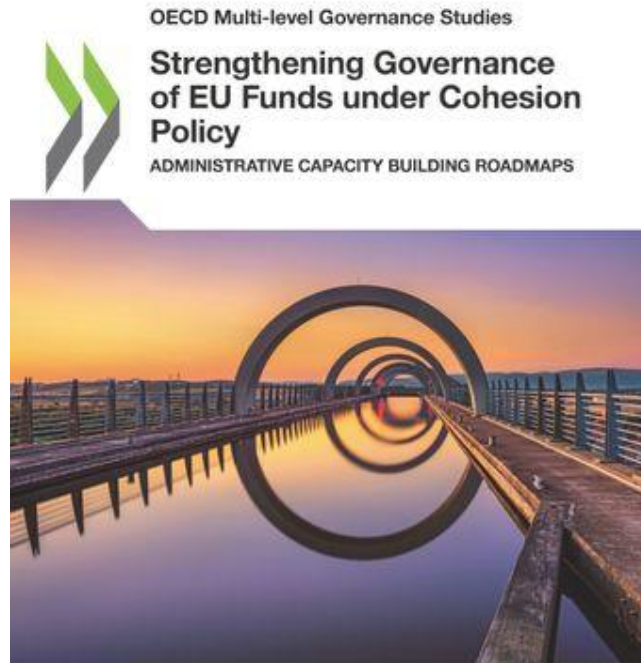
# Pilot action: from roadmap concept to practice

Need to operationalise roadmap concept, develop approach, identify good practice

Pilot action: OECD support to 5 MAs to develop ACB roadmaps

Practical Toolkit, OECD report, factsheets on key findings and recommendations

# OECD Synthesis report



[https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/frontload/](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/frontload/)

# Factsheet on the pilot

**THE BACKGROUND**

Quality institutions and well-functioning administrations matter for the effectiveness and impact of EU funds in the Member States and regions. Focusing on EU Cohesion Policy funding, the VII Cohesion Report and recent research from academia and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) have shown that regions with weak institutions face greater difficulties effectively absorbing regional development and cohesion funds and making the most of the investments that these funds support. The quality of governance at all levels of government influences how cohesion investment translates into greater growth. In addition, quality institutions (and through these institutional practices) can positively affect the returns to Cohesion Policy investment, regional competitiveness and economic growth, whereas poor institutions will have an adverse effect. Thus, it is essential to invest in governance, to build adequate capabilities at all levels of government to manage EU funds, and to design strong investment strategies.

**THE PILOT PROJECT**

The pilot action 'Frontloading administrative capacity building to prepare for the 2021-2027 programming period' was launched in June 2018 to provide hands-on support by experts from the Commission and the OECD to strengthen the administrative capacity of the authorities dealing with EU funds on a daily basis. The goal is to test and develop new solutions to strengthen administrative capacity in the post 2020 budgetary period.

**Phase I**

- Identification of strengths and specific weaknesses to address through a participatory process, involving all relevant actors.
- Preparation of roadmaps to address the weaknesses with milestones, targets and deadlines.

**Phase II**

- Implementation of key relevant actions from the roadmaps.

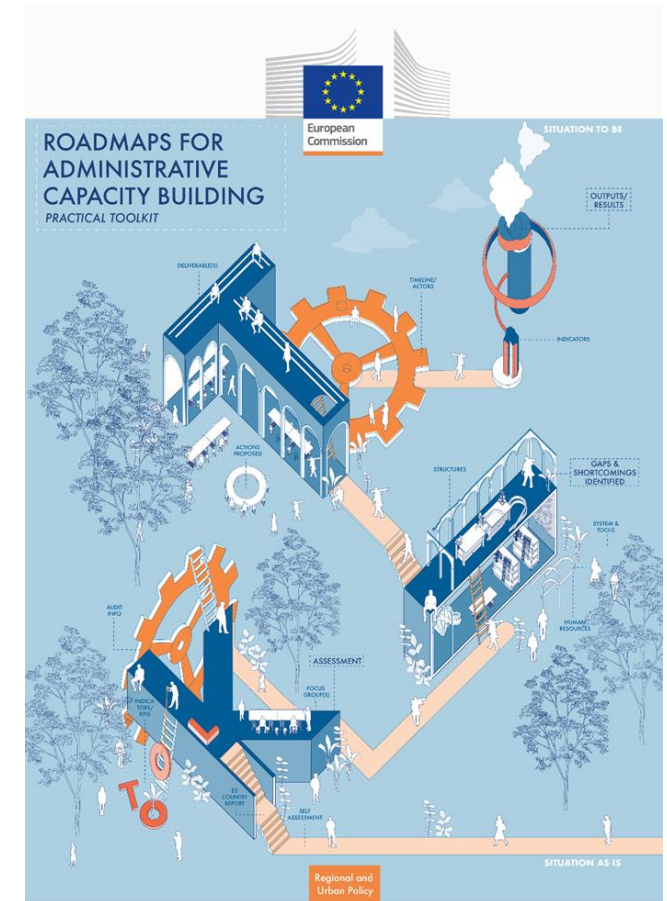
**THE 5 PARTICIPATING PROGRAMMES**

- The „Transport infrastructure, environment and sustainable development“ programme in Greece
- The Lubelskie regional programme in Poland
- The Extremadura regional programme in Spain
- The „Competitiveness and cohesion“ programme in Croatia
- The „Regions in Growth“ programme in Bulgaria.

Regional and Urban Policy

22 languages

# The practical toolkit



[https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/roadmap\\_admin/](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/roadmap_admin/)

14 languages



# New deliverable from the pilot

## An Administrative Capacity Building Self-assessment Instrument for MAs

Developed by the OECD in close cooperation with REGIO and 5 MS participating in the pilot

Designed for use by national and regional authorities that implement or manage EU funds under Cohesion Policy, allowing them to assess their strengths and weakness, as well as to develop targeted solutions to address capacity gaps

It could be a useful tool for those MS that are already working or intend to work on ACB roadmaps, as well as for other MS that would like to strengthen their administrative capacity.

[https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/roadmap\\_admin/](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/roadmap_admin/)

# Examples of measures identified in Annex Ds of 2019 Country Reports that can be addressed through ACB roadmaps

## FACTORS FOR EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF COHESION POLICY

Increased capacity of managing authorities and intermediate bodies;

Strengthened capacity of beneficiaries to prepare and implement high quality projects;

Simplified administrative procedures, eliminating excessive burden for applicants and beneficiaries;

Improved public procurement performance;

Improved and more efficient measures to prevent and address conflict of interest, fraud and corruption;

Increased partnership capacity of social partners and of civil society organisations.

**10 MS recommended to develop ACB roadmaps\***

\*) encouraged as good practice in other MS

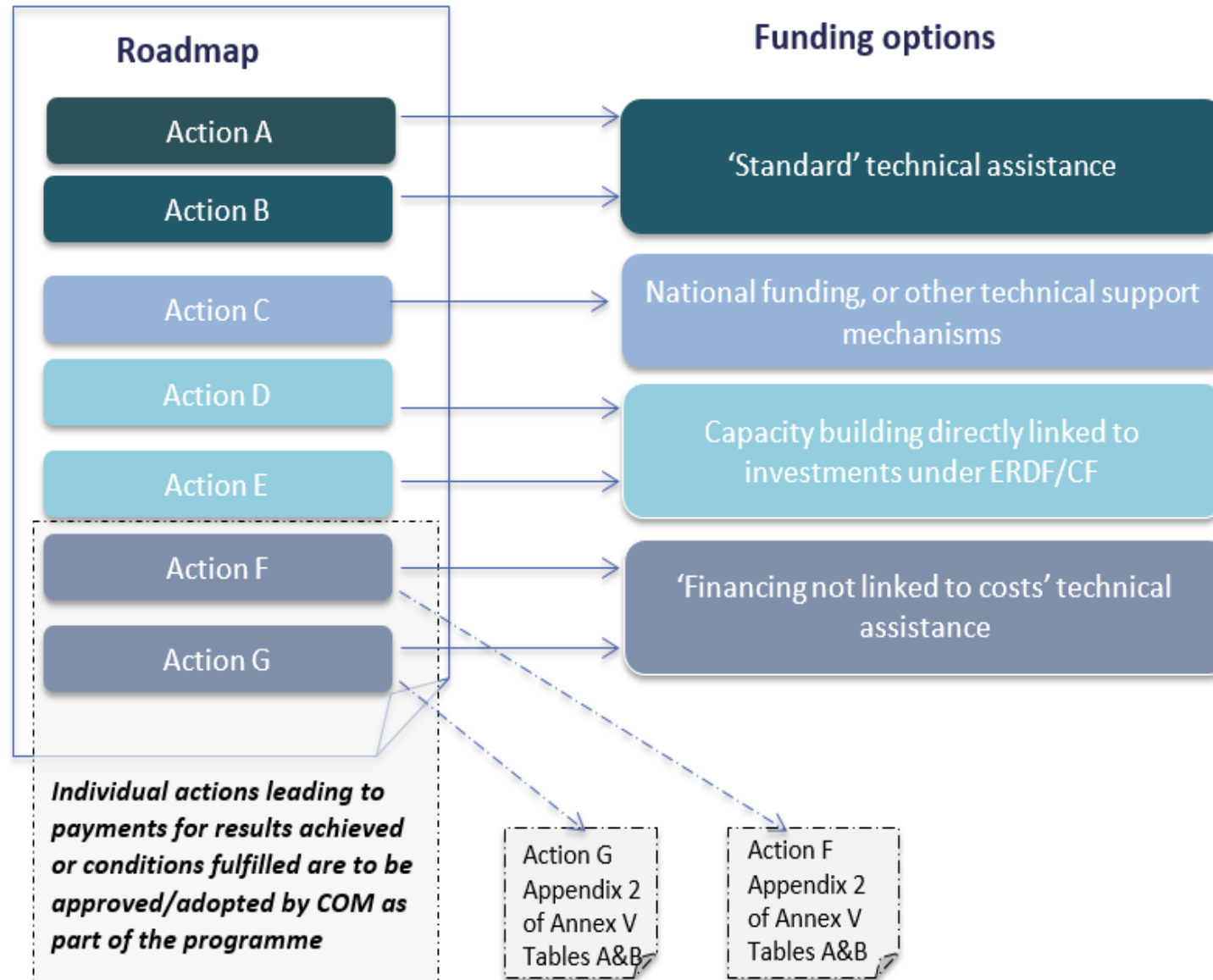
# ACB Roadmaps - programming

ACB Roadmaps are formally not adopted as part of the programmes but are regarded as a basis for policy responses to address capacity building weaknesses.

Places where to refer to ACB roadmaps:

- In the **partnership agreement** under point 9 of PA template ‘Summary of actions planned to reinforce administrative capacity...’ (*Reference: Art. 11(h): a summary of actions planned to reinforce ACB*)
- In the **programmes concerned** under point 1 ‘Programme strategy’ of the programme template (*Reference: Art. 22(3)(a)(v) ‘challenges in administrative capacity and governance and simplification measures’*)
- Member States having opted for ‘real-cost TA’ should also refer to any roadmaps in the description of the TA priorities or TA programme
- Actions in roadmaps that are funded under ‘financing not linked to costs technical assistance’ need to be described in Tables A and B in Appendix 2 of Annex V CPR

# Roadmaps can include actions funded in different ways



# How benefit from the pilot experiences and how to exchange with other MS/MA on Roadmap development & implementation

**Practical Toolkit, OECD Synthesis Report, Factsheet**

**3rd and final training session for MS** on ACB roadmaps on 29-30 June

Training material (incl video recording) is available here: [Training on Cohesion Policy 2014–2020 for EU Member State Experts - Regional Policy - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/taieux-regio-peer-2-peer/)

**TAIEX-REGIO Peer2Peer** webinars, expert visits, study visits or multi-country workshops

[https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/taieux-regio-peer-2-peer/](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/taieux-regio-peer-2-peer/)

**REGIO Communities of practitioners** – a new community for exchange is being set up for MAs/MS developing and/or implementing ACB roadmaps

[https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/regio-communities-practitioners/](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/regio-communities-practitioners/)

# Cooperation in mainstream programmes

## EU Macro-Regional Strategies and Beyond

**Jean-Pierre HALKIN**, Head of Unit for Macro-regions,  
Transnational/Interregional/External Cooperation, Enlargement, DG REGIO



# The regulatory framework

Two different types of cooperation that need to be reflected in each programme:

## A) Embedding Macro-Regional Strategies

- Applicable to those countries/regions covered by a Macro-Regional or Sea-Basin Strategy

## B) Cooperation component

- Applicable to all programmes, non-applicability needs to be duly justified

# Embedding Macro-Regional Strategies

## Main questions to consider:

Does the text and/or summary of the main challenges in section 1 take into account MRS/SBS, where relevant?

Does the Programme, under each priority, and for each specific objective, set out related types of actions and their expected contribution to MRS/SBS, where appropriate?

# Embedding Cooperation

## Main questions to consider:

Does the programme, under each priority, and for each specific objective, describe the interregional, cross-border and transnational actions with beneficiaries located in at least one other Member State (or outside the Union, where relevant)?

Does the programme take up the recommendations in Annex D (2019) for each PO, where relevant?

Does the programme refer to the coordination with other (ERDF/CF/JTF/ESF+/EMFAF and/or ETC/Interreg) programmes operating in its territory?

# Just Transition Fund

1. Submission of Territorial Just Transition Plan in SFC
2. JTF weighted averaged co-financing rate

**Justyna PODRALSKA**, Unit for Coordination of Programmes, DG REGIO

# Territorial just transition plans (TJTP) – submission in SFC

**Article 22(8) [ex-article 17(7)] new CPR: “(...) Member States shall submit to the COM the territorial just transition plans as set out in art. 10.1 [ex-art. 7] CPR of JTF Reg. as part of the programme or of a request for its amendment.”**

**TJTP(s) will be annexed to the corresponding programme in SFC:** it will be assessed together with the programme and covered by the same approval decision as the programme

Programmes can be officially **submitted in SFC after the adoption of the legislative package and once SFC is up and running**

**The programme amendment can be used** if more time needed to finalise TJTP and not to delay the adoption of the other content the programme

**Informal dialogue:** opportunity to resolve outstanding issues and ensure a faster formal adoption

# Territorial just transition plans TJTP vs. programmes

**Article 11(1) [ex-article 7(1)] JTF: One or more just transition plans covering one or more affected territories**

## Flexible TJTP programming (...)

- A single plan for all affected territories
- A dedicated plan for each affected territory
- Several plans for a group of territories

**(...) resulting in flexible relationships between TJTP and programme**

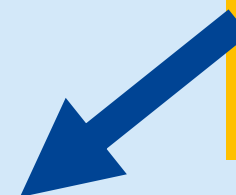
**Option A:** one programme submitted with a single TJTP

**Option B:** one programme submitted with several plans

**Option C (discouraged):** several programmes submitted with one plan: TJTP is assessed once, with the first programme submitted to COM unless further changes are made.

**Administrative burden and risk of cascading programme amendments in case TJTP changes!**

**SFC encoding: link each corresponding programme to the existing plan in SFC, do not create a new version!**





# Territorial just transition plan – SFC template

European Commission | SFC 2021-2027

Welcome w0050101  
Node CZ - Czech Republic

European Commission > SFC > SFC2021-FO > Programming > TJTP

### CREATE TERRITORIAL JUST TRANSITION PLAN


Reference \*

Title \*

Comments

Please make sure that the territorial just transition plan that you are planning to encode in SFC does not duplicate an already existing plan. In case the territorial just transition plan that corresponds to several programmes is already completed in SFC, just link the relevant programme with this plan before sending it to the Commission.

version 1.1.2 - 01/07/2020 07:00:00



# Territorial just transition plan – SFC template

TJTP SFC templates follows Annex II of the JTF regulation in terms of its structure and content

## Section 1 'Outline of the transition process and identification of the most negatively affected territories within the Member State'

- 12000 characters for sub-sections 1.1, 1.2 and, wherever relevant, 1.3

## Section 2 'Assessment of transition challenges, for each of the identified territories'

- Sub-section 2.1: 12000 characters
- Sub-section 2.2: 6000 characters
- Sub-section 2.3: 6000 characters
- Sub-section 2.4: 12000 characters (if productive investments in large enterprises and investments in GHG reduction in ETS activities)

## Section 3 'Governance mechanisms'

- 5000 characters for all sub-sections 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3

## Section 4 'Indicators'

- 255 characters per indicator



# Territorial just transition plan – SFC template

The screenshot displays the user interface of the SFC 2021-2027 web application. At the top left, the European Commission logo and the text "European Commission | SFC 2021-2027" are visible. On the top right, a user profile icon shows "Welcome w0050101" and "Node CZ - Czech Republic". A breadcrumb trail reads "European Commission > SFC > SFC2021-FO > Programming > TJTP". A search bar contains "CZ-01 - 1". The main content area is titled "1. OUTLINE OF THE TRANSITION PROCESS AND IDENTIFICATION OF THE MOST NEGATIVELY AFFECTED TERRITORIES WITHIN THE MEMBER STATE" and includes a reference to "point (a)(b) of Article 11(2), Article 6 JTF Regulation wherever relevant". The text area contains two paragraphs of Lorem Ipsum, with a character count of "<12 000>". Navigation buttons include "Validate", "Previous", "Next", "Compare", and "Print". A "Table of content" sidebar is on the left. At the bottom, there are "Cancel" and "OK" buttons, and a footer indicating "version 1.1.2 - 01/07/2020 07:00:00".

# Territorial just transition plan – SFC template

The screenshot displays the SFC 2021-2027 web application interface. At the top, the European Commission logo and 'SFC 2021-2027' are visible, along with a user profile 'w0050101' and 'Node CZ - Czech Republic'. The breadcrumb navigation shows 'European Commission > SFC > SFC2021-FO > Programming > TJTP'. A search bar contains 'CZ-01 - 1'. The main content area is titled '2. ASSESSMENT OF TRANSITION CHALLENGES, FOR EACH OF THE IDENTIFIED TERRITORIES' and includes a reference to 'point (c) of Article 11(2) JTF Regulation'. A table with columns 'ACTION' and 'TERRITORY COVERED' lists 'Territory 1' and 'Territory 2'. An 'Edit' dialog box is open, showing a text input field with the placeholder '<255>' and a text area containing 'Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat.' The dialog has 'Cancel' and 'OK' buttons. A 'Table of content' sidebar is visible on the left. The footer shows 'version 1.12 - 01/07/2020 07:00:00'.

European Commission | SFC 2021-2027

Welcome w0050101  
Node CZ - Czech Republic

European Commission > SFC > SFC2021-FO > Programming > TJTP

Search CZ-01 - 1

Validate Previous Next Compare Print

## 2. ASSESSMENT OF TRANSITION CHALLENGES, FOR EACH OF THE IDENTIFIED TERRITORIES

Reference: point (c) of Article 11(2) JTF Regulation





ACTION	TERRITORY COVERED
 	Territory 1
 	Territory 2

Table of content

**Edit**

Territory covered \* <255>  
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat.

Cancel OK

version 1.12 - 01/07/2020 07:00:00

# Territorial just transition plan – SFC template

The screenshot displays the user interface of the SFC 2021-2027 system. At the top left, the European Commission logo and the text "SFC 2021-2027" are visible. On the top right, a user profile is shown with the text "Welcome w0050101" and "Node CZ - Czech Republic". A navigation breadcrumb trail reads "European Commission > SFC > SFC2021-FO > Programming > Programme (IJG)". A search bar contains the text "2021CZ16FFPR001 - 1.0". Below the search bar, a "Validate" button is on the left, and "Previous", "Next", "Compare", and "Print" buttons are on the right. The main content area is titled "LINK TO TERRITORIAL JUST TRANSITION PLAN" and includes a reference: "Reference: Articles 10(1) JTF and 22(8) CPR". A dropdown menu for "TJTP Version" is set to "CZ01 - Czech Territorial Just Transition Plan (2.0)". On the left side of the main content area, the text "Table of content" is written vertically. At the bottom right of the main content area, there are "Cancel" and "OK" buttons. The footer of the application shows "version 1.1.2 - 01/07/2020 07:00:00".

# Territorial just transition plan – SFC template

TJTP is created in SFC, filled in, validated and marked as completed at an appropriate level

It can be edited and also deleted at any time until completion

Once the programme template is filled in in SFC, it will be linked to one or more TJTPs in SFC. TJTP will be approved together with the programme

New version of a TJTP can be created to apply modifications (programme amendment)

The module will display the following information:

- TJTP reference,
- title,
- version,
- programmes referring to TJTP and annexes,
- status (validated, completed, adopted),
- the current note
- history of all actions done

# JTF co-financing rates (1)

**The co-financing rate at the level of each priority** should be provided in:

- **Programme template** (Table 11: 'Total financial allocations by fund and national contribution'),
- **COM decision approving the programme** (Article 112(1) [ex-106(1)] new CPR).

**The co-financing rate for the JTF priority** should not be higher than (Article 112(3) [ex-article 106(3) CPR] and article 10(3) [ex-6(2)] JTF)

- 85% for less developed regions
- 70% for transition regions
- 50% for more developed regions

**The maximum co financing rates should be increased by ten percentage points for priorities entirely delivered through CLLD!**

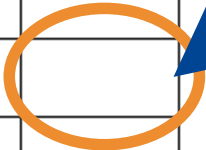
**The co-financing rate for the JTF priority** should be calculated based on both MFF and NGEU resources

# JTF co-financing rates (2)

Table 11: Total financial appropriations by fund and national co-financing

Policy/ JTF specific objective number or technical assistance	Priority	Basis for calculation Union support (total eligible cost or public contribution)	Fund		Category of region*	Union contribution (a) = (g)+(h)	Breakdown of Union contribution		National contribution (b)=(c)+(d)	Indicative breakdown of national contribution		Total (e)=(a)+(b)	Co-financing rate (f)=(a)	
							Union contribution less the flexibility amount (g)	Flexibility amount (h)		public (c)	private (d)			
JTF	Priority 3		JTF**	Article 3 JTF Regulation resources										
				Article 4 JTF Regulation resources										
				Total										
	Priority 4		Cohesion Fund											

The co-financing rate applied to expenditure certified to COM!



## JTF co-financing rates (3)

### JTF programming differs from other Funds:

JTF resources are **programmed at NUTS3 level or lower** based on the TJTPs  
(article 6(1) JTF)

**The JTF priority is flexible and can include one or several territories that belong to the same or multiple categories of regions**  
(applicable to programmes set up at national level or for several regions)

**JTF allocations in the financial tables (PA/P) are not split according to the category of regions (-> the JTF co-financing rates are applicable to the category of region where the territory or territories identified in the TJTP are located)**

# JTF co-financing rates (4)

<b><u>OPTION 1</u></b> <b>JTF priority covering one territory</b>	<b><u>OPTION 2</u></b> <b>JTF priority covering two or more territories that belong to the same category of regions</b>	<b><u>OPTION 3</u></b> <b>JTF priority covering two or more territories that belong to the different categories of regions</b>
Apply the co-financing rate of the category of region where the selected territory is located	Apply the co-financing rate of the category of region where the selected territories are located	Apply co-financing rate as the weighted average reflecting estimated allocation by categories of region in which affected territories are located



# JTF co-financing rates (5)

## OPTION 3

JTF priority covering two or more territories that belong to the different categories of regions

apply co-financing rate as the weighted average reflecting estimated allocation by category of region in which affected territory is located

## Weighted co-financing rate

Union contribution for the JTF priority  
*(the sum of Union contributions by territory)*

---

total contribution for the JTF priority  
*(the sum of total contributions for each territory)*

- **Member States to provide additional information on the allocations per territory** so that COM can confirm the co-financing rate in the decision approving the programme
- **Monitoring and adjustment of the co-financing rate** required in case of a change in the allocation / covered territories

# SFC and other issues raised by Member States

**Monika TCHAVDAROVA**, Coordination of Programmes Unit, DG REGIO

# SFC2021 readiness

Module for PA

- 1 July

Module for programmes

- To be opened gradually depending on the needs/preparedness

Validation rules

Support technical guides

- To be published on the SFC Support Portal once the associated functionality reaches production
- Similar to the ones in SFC2014

What to include under each section

- No guidance

# Questions related to SFC2021

## Character limitations

- PA – legislative limits shown but only indicative, they can be exceeded
- Programmes – exceeding the limits will prevent the MS to submit the file

## MS can send additional information via SFC as supporting documents

- However, only the one in the structured format will be formally approved

MS should not send longer programming documents via SFC than the ones introduced in structured format

## Questions related to SFC2021

PA and programmes can include links to other documents

- However, both need to be self-standing as the COM will not approve these other documents

Numbering of priorities and SO in SFC - automatic

# Q & A session

*Please write your questions in the **Q&A window**  
or send an e-mail to*

*[REGIO-COORDINATION-OF-PROGRAMMES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:REGIO-COORDINATION-OF-PROGRAMMES@ec.europa.eu)*

**Moderation:**

**Kadri UUSTAL**, Head of Unit for the Coordination of Programmes,  
Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy

# IV. Implementation issues

1. Communication
2. Monitoring committee set up

# Communication

**Gianluca COMUNIELLO**, Unit for Communication, DG REGIO



# Communication- what's new, when it is due

- Communication chapter in the programme



- Drafts for informal consultation any time they are ready
  - then at the time of official submission

# Communication- what's new, when it is due

- Simplification of the funding statement



- Operations funded under 2021-2027 programmes should use, next to the EU emblem, the sentence “Co-/funded by the European Union”



The beneficiary does not have to mention ERDF in „a statement highlighting the support from the Funds“? The reference „co-funded by the European Union“ is sufficient?

*Yes, it is sufficient. No reference to specific funds anymore.*

# Communication- what's new, when it is due

- Communication coordinator- a new role at MS level



- Appointment already requested, all MS but one sent it.

It can be officially transmitted via SFC as soon as the module is available

# Communication- what's new, when it is due

- INFORM EU network of communicators: all CPR funds involved+RRF



- Expert group of national coordinators first met on 21 April

First INFORM EU digital meeting on 8-9 June

Second meeting on 1-3 December in Dubrovnik

National network to meet at least twice per year as soon as established

# Communication- Other requirements worth noting

- Single website portal at national level



- Providing access to all programmes involving the specific Member State



Question: When to set up the single website portal?

*Ideally, the single website portal should be set up well before the programmers' websites, in order to include links to them from the first day of their existence*

# Communication- Other requirements worth noting

- Communication officer of the programme



- Managing Authority to indentify one. He/she can be responsible for more than one programme. Name and contact details to be communicated through SFC.



Question: When to nominate the programme's communication officer?

*As soon as possible.*

# Communication- Other requirements worth noting

- Programme website



- Managing Authority has to make sure that within six months of the programme's approval, there is a website where information on programmes under its responsibility is available.

Information about the website to be communicated via SFC.

# Communication- Other requirements worth noting

- Programme website



- Among other requirements, it should contain:

NEW! Timetable of the planned call for proposals, updated at least three times per year.

List of operations, updated at least every four months.



# Monitoring committee set up

**Monika TCHAVDAROVA**, Coordination of Programmes Unit, DG REGIO

# Establishment of the monitoring committee

## “Shadow” MC

All its “decisions” need to be confirmed by the “regular” MC

E.g. might discuss selection criteria, but launching calls by using them – MS risk

## “Regular” MC (Article 38(1) CPR, Article 28(1) ETC Regulation)

To be set up within **3 months** of the date of programme approval

A single MC may cover more than one programme (not for Interreg)

# Establishment of the monitoring committee

## Overlap between 2014-2020 and 2021-2027 periods

- In case of continuity of programme into 2021-2027 period, 2014-2020 MC may delegate its task to the new MC
- To be then properly reflected in the rules of procedures and agendas

## Rules of procedure

- To be discussed and decided preferably at 1st MC meeting
- To be published together with data and info shared with MC on “programme” website
- Prevention of conflict of interest and application of the principle of transparency

# Composition of the monitoring committee

## Balanced representation

- of relevant MS authorities and intermediate bodies
- and of representatives of the partners referred to in Art. 8(1), **at least:**
- **through a transparent process**

## Each member = a vote

- details on voting rights in the rules for procedures
- a list of members to be published on the programme website

## COM role: monitoring and advisory capacity

## Participation of non-members possible

- e.g. EIB
- to be allowed by rules of procedure

regional, local,  
urban and other  
public authorities

economic and  
social partners

relevant bodies  
representing civil  
society

research  
organisations  
and universities,  
where appropriate

such as environmental partners, NGOs,  
and bodies responsible for promoting  
social inclusion, fundamental rights,  
rights of persons with disabilities,  
gender equality and  
non-discrimination

# Functions of the monitoring committee

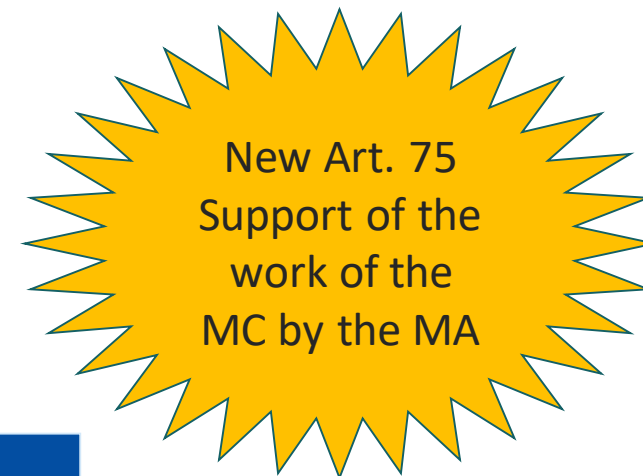
## To examine:

- Programme implementation and performance\*
- Country specific recommendations\*
- Financial instruments
- Evaluation
- Communication and visibility actions
- Operations of strategic importance\*
- Enabling conditions\*
- Administrative capacity building\*
- Contributions and transfers\*

## To approve:

- Any programme amendment
- SCOs and financing not linked to cost\*
- Project selection methodology and criteria\*
- Final performance reports for cohesion policy programmes
- Evaluation plan

# Functions of the monitoring committee



# Q & A session

*Please write your questions in the **Q&A window**  
or send an e-mail to*

*[REGIO-COORDINATION-OF-PROGRAMMES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:REGIO-COORDINATION-OF-PROGRAMMES@ec.europa.eu)*

**Moderation:**

**Kadri UUSTAL**, Head of Unit for the Coordination of Programmes,  
Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy

# Wrap up & conclusions

**Kadri UUSTAL, Head of Unit for Coordination of Programmes, DG REGIO**



# Materials from this and previous webinars

All available here: [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/conferences/2021-2027-technical-seminars/](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/conferences/2021-2027-technical-seminars/)

Previous topics:

- [Just Transition Fund \(JTF\) - Webinar - 25/02/2021](#)
- [Designing & implementing SCOs and FNLC - Webinar - 23/02/2021](#)
- [Programming of the REACT-EU resources - Webinar - 09/02/2021](#)
- [Horizontal enabling conditions - Webinar - 19/10/2020](#)
- [InvestEU programme and financial instruments under shared management - Webinar - 15/09/2020](#)
- [Technical assistance and capacity building - Webinar - 26/06/2020](#)

# Thank you!

Contact: [REGIO-COORDINATION-OF-PROGRAMMES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:REGIO-COORDINATION-OF-PROGRAMMES@ec.europa.eu)



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