Joint Action Plans

MS Authorities Training
05.12.2014
What is a JAP?

- An operation (one or more projects) which can combine resources from one or more OPs to achieve pre-defined objective

- Focus is placed on results:

- Projects should produce the outputs and results necessary to achieve JAP objective – role of intervention logic

- Payments take the form of unit costs and/or lump sums, linked to outputs and results of each project
  => shift in the focus of management
  => entire operation will be implemented via a set of UC/LS related to projects
How can a JAP be set up?

- JAP beneficiary prepares the JAP proposal containing:
  - Intervention logic
  - SCOs defined for each project

- JAP is submitted to Commission for approval

- Commission decision approving a JAP contains the costs for each SCO to be used

- JAP is implemented and reimbursed on the basis of the progress achieved through agreed unit costs and lump sums
How does it fit together?

JAP = 1 Operation = Part of OP(s)

[Diagram showing the flow of payments and outputs/results between EC, OP authorities, beneficiary, and projects (Project 1, Project 2, Project 4).]

- Payments
- Outputs
- Results
- Milestones
Basic requirements

- Financing from ESF, ERDF, and or Cohesion fund
  => multifund JAPs are possible, but no infrastructure
- Beneficiary = public law body, can work with partners
- JAP thresholds
  - 10 MEUR/20% of OP
  - 5 MEUR per programme for a pilot JAP
  - No threshold for a YEI JAP

- Legal basis: Art. 104-109 CPR + [JAP model]
The JAP Intervention Logic

- Related to logic of programmes, but set at the level of operation
- Use of assumptions to justify selection of projects
- Outputs and results of projects should be quantified through the use of indicators (link with SCOs)
- A milestone conditioning payment can be set for a particular output/result
Example of a JAP

Analysis of needs

Youth unemployment rate above 25% in all regions of a MS.

Large share of NEETs in the 15-24 age group.

Lack of qualifications and professional experience.

JAP objectives

**General objective:** Provide 10,000 NEETs under 25 with a Youth Guarantee offer

**Specific objectives:**
1. Increase the skills of young NEETs to meet the labour market demand, with a focus on low-skilled participants
2. Increase the number of young NEETs, aged 20-24, gaining first work experience

Beneficiary: PES

(Type of) Projects

- Professional skills training
- Traineeships/apprenticeships
- Recruitment aid

Individualized pathways (obligatory)
## Example of a JAP (2)

### (Types of) projects

- Individualized pathways
- Professional skills training
- Traineeships/apprenticeships
- Recruitment aid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participants with defined pathways</td>
<td>Participants who gain a qualification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants who take part in a training</td>
<td>Participants who take part in a traineeship/apprenticeship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants receiving recruitment aid</td>
<td>Participants in employment 6 months after leaving</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Making use of SCOs

- Payments take the form of unit costs and/or lump sums (no flat rates), defined for indicators

  => depend on level of achievement!

- Costs for SCOs based on art.67(5) CPR and art. 14 ESF

- No capping for lump sums (can exceed EUR 100,000)

- Regardless of how projects are implemented, beneficiary is reimbursed on the basis of agreed UC/LS

  => also applicable to fully procured projects
**Example of JAP SCOs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Unit cost or Lump sum</th>
<th>Indicative Maximum amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participants who take part in training</td>
<td>9,500</td>
<td>Unit Cost: EUR 8/hour/person</td>
<td>9500<em>8</em>102= EUR 7,752,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(up to 102/120 hours per participant)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants who gain a qualification</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>Unit Cost: EUR 144/participant</td>
<td>9,000*144= EUR 1,296,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- SCOs defined for every (type of) project within a JAP
- Milestones conditioning payment can also be defined
Example of a JAP milestone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Unit cost or Lump sum</th>
<th>Indicative Maximum amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participants with a defined individualized pathway</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>Unit Cost: EUR 25/person</td>
<td>Milestone 4,500<em>25= EUR 112 500 + 7,500</em>25= EUR 187 500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- A milestone can be defined for an indicator (depends on JAP intervention logic)
- Milestones condition payments and have an effect on eligibility
Some flexibility for SCOs

- Up to 10% flexibility within allocation to outputs / allocation to results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Max. amount</th>
<th>Unit cost</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participants with defined pathways</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>2 000 000</td>
<td>(2 000 EUR/person)</td>
<td>1050</td>
<td>2 100 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants in training</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>2 000 000</td>
<td>(2 000 EUR/person)</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1 800 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants in employment 6 months after leaving</td>
<td>Result</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>2 000 000</td>
<td>(2 000 EUR/person)</td>
<td>1050</td>
<td>2 000 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Audit of JAPs

- Financial audit pertains **only to the conditions of payment** defined in the **Commission Decision**: achievement of outputs and results

  => **reliable monitoring systems** to collect/store data and **common interpretation** of indicators

- For costs incurred by the beneficiary, national accounting practices apply - **not subject to audit** by AA or Commission

- Audit of **public procurement issues** in case of a specific risk of irregularity
How is a JAP approved?

- A JAP proposal can be sent together with OPs or later
- Proposal should be based on [JAP model]
- No specific requirement on duration, but shorter than OP
- Approval within 4 months of submission (+ observations)
- COM decision to contain main JAP elements:
  - Beneficiary and objectives
  - Milestones/targets for outputs and results and their costs
  - Financing plan and implementation period

- Informal discussions ahead of submitting a JAP possible
Steering and amending a JAP

- A Steering committee will monitor implementation and review progress
- Distinct from monitoring committee(s)
- Involve relevant stakeholders
- Approves proposals to amend a JAP

- Amendment to be approved within 3 months of request
- Change in elements of Commission decision
- Amendment should be linked to improving JAP performance
Some final remarks

- Suitable when a challenge requires integrated actions/cooperation between partners
- Expected outputs and results can be defined and quantified
- Reliable data exists to justify unit costs and lump sums
- Commission decision will provide legal certainty
- Funds not reimbursed within a JAP can be used for other operations
- Draft JAP guidance/SCO guidance/dialogue with EC can aid preparation
Thank you for your attention!

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