

# th CONFERENCE on the Evaluation of EU Cohesion Policy

16-17 September 2021 Porto, Portugal

## Shaping Transitions with Evidence



### Evaluation of Technical Assistance Operational Program (OPTA)

Ministry of European Investments and Projects



#### FUND COVERED

- ▶ ERDF

#### PROGRAMMING PERIOD

- ▶ 2014-2020

#### PROGRAMME COVERED

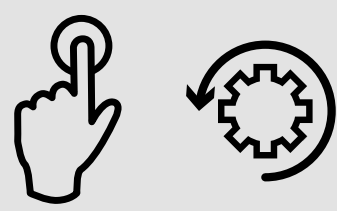
- ▶ Technical Assistance Operational Program (OPTA)

#### THEMATIC OBJECTIVE

- ▶ TO11. Efficient public administration

#### TYPE OF EVALUATION

- ▶ Impact and process/implementation



#### YEAR OF COMPLETION

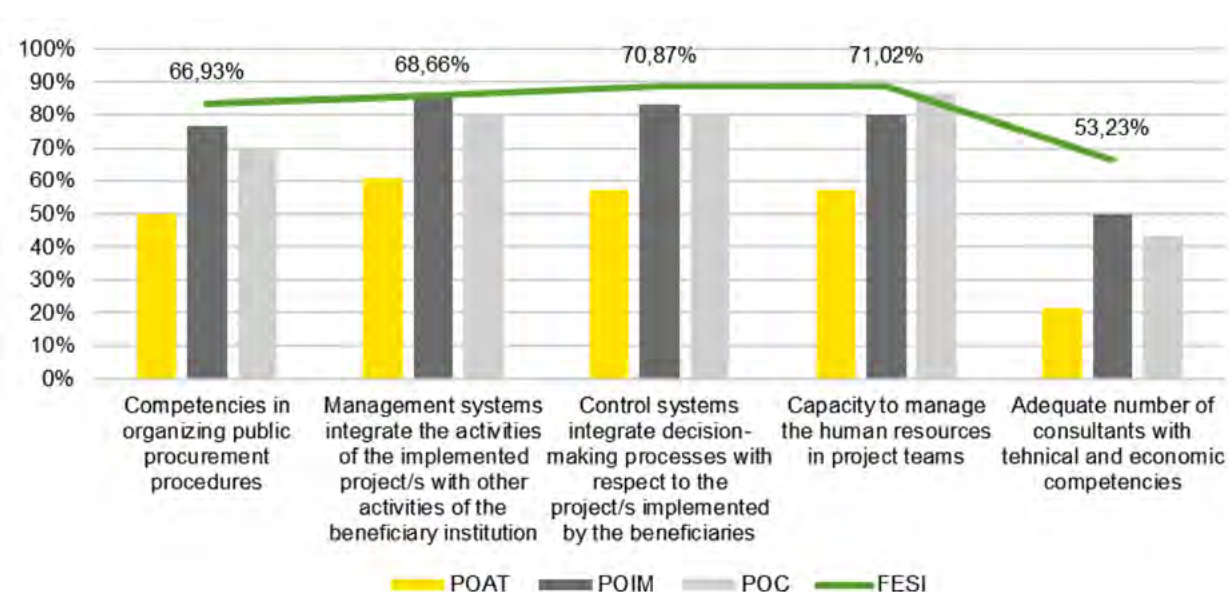
- ▶ 2020

#### MAIN OBJECTIVES

Facilitate an informed management concerning the programme contribution to:

- ▶ strengthen the capacity of beneficiaries
- ▶ dissemination of information
- ▶ coordination and control of the funds
- ▶ management of OPTA, LIOP and COP
- ▶ operating the electronic system
- ▶ human resources efficiency and effectiveness

Answers of FESI / POAT, POIM, POC beneficiaries with respect to the efficient implementation of projects (no. of FESI respondents: 635; no. of POAT respondents: 28; no. of POIM respondents: 30; no. of POC respondents: 30)



Source: EY analysis of the answers to the questionnaire addressed to FESI beneficiaries, March-April 2020

#### METHODOLOGY USED

Theory based evaluation, case studies

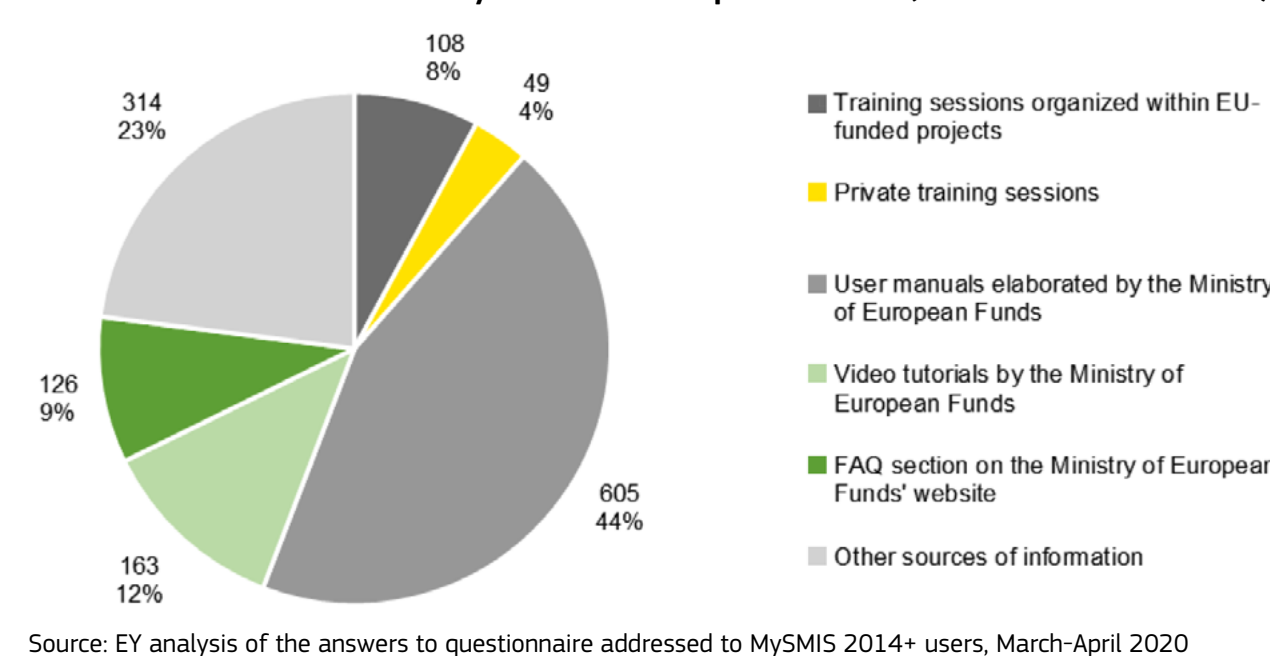
#### DATA SOURCES

- ▶ Administrative data and data collected through a mix of methods and tools, both qualitative and quantitative.

#### MAIN FINDINGS

- ▶ Interventions for improving beneficiaries' capacity – Capacity increased (more strategic projects, improved competencies) and OPTA had a significant contribution
- ▶ Interventions for communication and publicity – Population awareness is very good and OPTA contributed to some extent; certain delays, Information centre – conceptualization problems
- ▶ Interventions for regulatory, strategic and procedural framework – Stability of regulatory and strategic framework, but not the institutional one. Delays in implementation of LIOP, COP and OPTA, but OPTA support proved to be essential. Over 75% of beneficiaries believe that the procedures are suitable
- ▶ Interventions for SMIS – Important progress of SMIS. OPTA projects had an important contribution. However, SMIS information and data limitedly used for OP management and/or reporting.

Answers to the question "Please select the sources of information used to learn how to use the MySMIS 2014+ platform?" (no. of answers: 846)



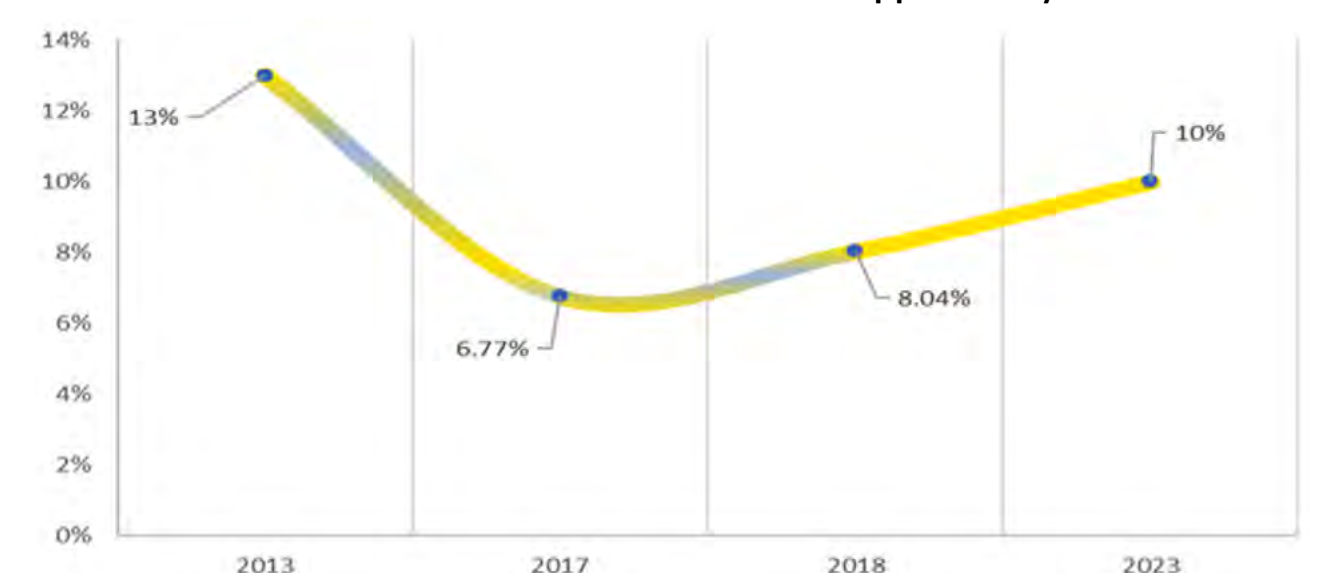
Source: EY analysis of the answers to questionnaire addressed to MySMIS 2014+ users, March-April 2020

- ▶ Interventions for human resources policies – Stability of the personnel increased, but the performance of human resources is still difficult to assess. OPTA had a major contribution to meeting training needs.

#### CONCLUSIONS

- ▶ Address the challenges in public procurement Carry out systematic actions for public awareness
- ▶ Involve social partners for debating coherence, complementarities and strategic perspectives
- ▶ Better irregularities management triggered by modification of Emergency Ordinance No 66
- ▶ Identify needs for the development of electronic system for 2021-2027 programming period
- ▶ Adopt modern practice for human resources management.

Variation in staff turnover in ESIF institutions supported by OPTA



Source: Ministry of European Investments and Projects data and evaluator processing