

ID	Action	Status (March 2020)	Lead / Partners	Output(s)	Targets and milestones	Delivery	Comments
<b><u>New - 20-15</u></b>	Support related to using the public procurement framework in the emergency situation related to the <b>COVID-19 crisis</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>	<b>GROW/REGIO</b>	* Guidance on using the public procurement framework in the emergency situation related to the COVID-19 crisis * Q & A practical documents for Member states representatives	n/a	In-house	Guidance can be found at: <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52020XC0401%2805%29">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52020XC0401%2805%29</a>
<b><u>New - 20-14</u></b>	<b>Overview of typology of PP errors</b> reported by national audit authorities and errors detected by REGIO auditors	<b>ONGOING</b>	<b>REGIO</b>	* Detailed presentation which REGIO shares with the AAs in the first technical meeting each year	On annual basis	In-house	Presentation will also indicate the areas in PP where still important number of irregularities occurs and this will be shared with MS audit authorities recommending them to further disseminate it to other stakeholders in their MS
<b><u>New - 20-13</u></b>	<b>Support to post-2020 Programme negotiations</b> (PP enabling condition, roadmaps, etc)	<b>ONGOING</b>	<b>REGIO/GROW</b>	* Fulfilment of Public procurement enabling condition is assessed for all Member States * Administrative capacity roadmaps developed for some Member States	During Programme negotiations	In-house	Administrative capacity gaps in the area of Public procurement can be addressed for example by developing and implementing the Roadmaps for administrative capacity (especially in the cases where country reports envisage such a need).
<b><u>New - 20-12</u></b>	<b>Contribution to "Green deal"</b> by promoting strategic (circular) procurement	<b>ONGOING</b>	<b>REGIO/GROW</b>	* MS commitments in the Programmes to promote the strategic use of procurement	During Programme negotiations	In-house	A new Circular Economy Action Plan envisages to "Mandatory green criteria or targets for public procurement in sectoral legislation and phasing-in mandatory reporting on green public procurement (as of 2021)".
<b><u>New - 20-11</u></b>	<b>Training on PP</b> (Directives 2014 and strategic procurement) - new edition	<b>ONGOING</b>	<b>REGIO/GROW</b>	2-3 two days training sessions per year 1-2 internal trainings	Trainings in September and November 2020	EIPA + In-house expertise	For Member State trainings: training content is updated to incorporate the following aspects: contribution of strategic procurement to efficiency of ESIF investments, "Green deal", ensuring level playing field, etc. Ad hoc trainings can also be organised in the Member states.  For internal trainings: auditor's needs to be taken into account (trainings focusing on provisions that cause most difficulties for the interpretation or application; as well as on the PP related parts of new guidance on conflict of interest which is being prepared under BUDG lead).

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<u>New - 20-10</u>	Actions to ensure <b>Level playing field</b>	ONGOING	REGIO/GROW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Internal information session for REGIO desk officers and auditors</li> <li>* Specific information session for MS managing &amp; audit authorities (on request)</li> <li>* Monitoring of 3rd countries bidding in ESIF projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Internal training I quarter 2020</li> <li>* Monitoring - on-going</li> </ul>	In-house (GROW expertise, REGIO - internal monitoring efforts)	
<u>New - 20-09</u>	<b>Open PP data pilots with EBRD</b>	ONGOING	REGIO/GROW	* 2 pilot project implemented	By the end of 2021	Grant to EBRD	<p>Action will provide tailored operational and technical support to respective authorities in a few MS (pilots in selected MSs) to comply with post-2020 requirements for ESIF in area of open data and enabling conditions for public procurement (PP). This will include assistance to put in place effective PP monitoring mechanisms by using e-Forms, the Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS) - open source TED-compliant global transparency standard; arrangements to make the data and indicators as well as the result of the analysis available to the public through user-friendly open data.</p> <p>DG REGIO primary interest in funding such project is to promote good practices in effective PP monitoring mechanisms that facilitate the compliance with the Commission's proposal on enabling conditions for public procurement post-2020.</p>
<u>New - 20-08</u>	<b>European Competency Framework for public buyers - implementation</b>	ONGOING	GROW	Targeted assistance to a select number of MS (tentatively 5), which require help in putting the ECF into practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>End of contract PwC: July 2020</li> <li>End of contract OECD: 2022</li> </ul>	OECD, PWC	
<u>New - 20-07</u>	<b>European Competency Framework for public buyers - development</b>	ONGOING	GROW	Development of the matrix of public procurement competencies, self-assessment tool, generic training curricula, guidance documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>End of contract: April 2020</li> <li>Publication in 2021</li> </ul>	PWC	

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<b>New - 20-06</b>	Research for <b>good practices in the field of socially responsible public procurement</b>	ONGOING	GROW	ICLEI and AEIDL will collect 70 good practices covering a number of different social goals and with the widest possible geographical coverage (within the EU).	Launched in Fall 2019, end: April 2020 Published in June 2020	External contractor - ICLEI, AEIDL, PPA and SEE	This is part of a larger project including a communication campaign to raise awareness on socially responsible procurement (video, social media) <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/making-socially-responsible-procurement-work-71-good-practice-cases_en">https://ec.europa.eu/info/making-socially-responsible-procurement-work-71-good-practice-cases_en</a>
<b>New - 20-05</b>	Update of the <b>Buying Social guide</b>	ONGOING	GROW	Providing practical guidance for public buyers in line with 2014 EU rules on PP, in a clear and informal style, with concrete case studies and takeaways for each section.	Publication in 2021	External contractor - ICLEI, PPA	
<b>New - 20-04</b>	Study on <b>Digital Transformation of Public Procurement</b>	ONGOING	GROW	Collection of worldwide cases where emerging technologies are applied in Public procurement. These emerging technologies are: AI & ML, Data Analytics, Blockchain, VR & AR, 3D printing, RPA, Robots and drones and IoT. The results will be publicly available.	End of project: February 2020	Deloitte	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/40102/attachments/1/translations/en/renditions/native">https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/40102/attachments/1/translations/en/renditions/native</a>
<b>New - 20-03</b>	<b>Guidance</b> to Member States and contracting authorities on the application of the <b>collusion-related exclusion ground</b> provided for by the Directives.	ONGOING	GROW	Present a guidance paper provide the Commission's views on how contracting authorities could exclude from award procedures tenderers that are suspected of having agreed to distort competition.	Publication in 2021	In-house	
<b>New - 20-02</b>	Promote the <b>voluntary ex ante assessment mechanism</b> for the compliance of large-scale projects with EU procurement rules, including a helpdesk function and an information exchange mechanism	ONGOING	GROW/REGIO	Use of the mechanism currently in place	Infrastructure forum day – 6/12/2019 & Animation video	In-house	

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<b>14-05</b>	"TAIEX REGIO PEER2PEER" (study visits, expert missions, workshops)	ONGOING	REGIO/ Service level agreement with TAIEX / DG NEAR for REGIO PEER2PEER	Improved capacity, systems and procedures, knowledge sharing	Implementation <b>until mid 2020</b> . The extension is under negotiations.	Experts identified via TAIEX REGIO PEER2PEER	TAIEX-REGIO PEER 2 PEER instrument facilitates the hands-on exchange of knowledge and experience among public authorities in Member States on topics of direct relevance for cohesion policy. Since the launch of the instrument in 2015, 208 exchange events have been organised, 16 of them on public procurement issues. Public procurement is among one of the most popular topics for exchanges requested by Member States
<b>17-05</b>	Pool of experts for PP issues	ONGOING	REGIO/GROW	* Provide ad-hoc expert support needed for MS in order deal with PP issues	depends on concrete need/assignment	AMI experts	Budget planned for 2020. Actual use will depend on the needs.
<b>17-04</b>	Promotion of the <b>strategic use of procurement</b> to pursue Cohesion policy objectives	ONGOING	REGIO/GROW	* Provide hands on support to ESIF Beneficiaries/Managing authorities for the implementation of 5-6 strategic procurement initiative; * Develop promotional material, guidance & practical tool-kits.	Duration is 48 months	OECD (grant)	OECD is counselling and assisting managing/contracting authorities to implement strategic procurement initiatives. Project is extended to 48 months, additional emphasis will be placed on promotional activities, involvement of audit authorities and demonstration of added value for ESIF investments (2 case studies with cost/benefit analysis)
<b>14-04</b>	Pilot initiative against corruption in PP for ESIF projects " <b>Integrity Pacts - Civil control mechanisms for safeguarding EU funds</b> " in cooperation with Transparency International (TI).	ONGOING	REGIO / GROW	Learning from global Integrity Pacts (IP) experience; Development of materials adapted to the ESI Funds Targeted outreach in MSs to raise interest in piloting IPs Implementation of 18 IPS	*18 projects for IP piloting	Grant to TI	Overall objective: to explore and promote the use of Integrity Pacts (IP) for safeguarding EU funds against fraud and corruption, and as a tool to increase transparency and accountability, enhance trust in authorities and government contracting, contribute to a good reputation of contracting authorities, bring cost savings and improve competition through better procurement Project duration is extended to end 2021 to capture most of the lessons learn (to cover all PP cycle and in some cases the implementation).
<b>17-08</b>	PP competence centre	ONGOING	GROW	* one stop shop portal	Phase 1: completed, eCompetence centre launched on 7 December 2017. Phase 2: further development of the content and translation in all EU languages	In-house	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/public-procurement/support-tools-public-buyers_en">https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/public-procurement/support-tools-public-buyers_en</a>

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<b>16-05</b>	<b>Feasibility study</b> concerning the actual implementation of a <b>joint cross-border procurement</b> procedure by public buyers from different Member States	<b>COMPLETED</b>	GROW	Report and case studies	n/a	Consultants BBG and SKI	The main task of this project is to carry out a feasibility study on the possible implementation of Joint Cross-Border Public Procurement (JCBPP), in particular focusing on the legal, administrative and organisational aspects of four selected JCBPP projects. <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/DocsRoom/documents/22102/">http://ec.europa.eu/DocsRoom/documents/22102/</a>
<b>15-03</b>	<b>Study on PP as a strategic tool</b> , green, social, innovation, SMEs.	<b>COMPLETED</b>	GROW / REGIO	Report In depth country reports Case studies	n/a	Consultants PwC	Study includes economic analysis to quantify the level of take up of green, socially responsible and innovative public procurement in ten selected Member States. Final report published in September 2016. <a href="file:///C:/Users/vilimie/AppData/Local/Packages/Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge_8wekyb3d8bbwe/TempState/Downloads/GROW%20Final%20Report%20v4-2.pdf">file:///C:/Users/vilimie/AppData/Local/Packages/Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge_8wekyb3d8bbwe/TempState/Downloads/GROW%20Final%20Report%20v4-2.pdf</a>
<b>17-02</b>	Promote initiatives to improve <b>cross-border market access for SMEs</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>	<b>GROW</b>	Increased SME participation in public procurement both nationally and cross-border	Study on SME participation is finalised	GROW	There is an ongoing COSME financed pilot project to enhance SME's participation, especially across borders. Based on the lessons learned from this project, the evolution of SME's participation in public procurement and the reports from the MS on these issues, the Commission will report on best practices and recommended measures
<b>15-02</b>	<b>Monitoring of Action Plans for non-fulfilled ex-ante conditionalities in 8 MS.</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO / GROW / AGRI / MARE / EMPL	Development of benchmarks	n/a	WG PP	Objective was to provide consistent and fair treatment of all Member States having an action plan when deciding whether actions were correctly implemented or whether funds should be suspended. Information sharing between COM services (ESIF Funds) and developing indicators and benchmarks providing a basis for decision on suspension of funds in 2017.
<b>13-01</b>	<b>Practical Guidance on the avoidance of the most common errors</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO/GROW/AGRI/MARE/EMPL	Guidance document[2]	n/a	Expert, Translation and dissemination by EC services	Translated to all 23 official languages. Wide dissemination (over 70 000 uploads) via ESIF managing and audit authorities/ paying agencies, to GROW Expert Groups and PP agencies and through ad hoc seminars, e.g. on MS request. N.B. This Guidance was updated (see action 16-02)

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<b>14-01</b>	<b>Stock-taking study of current MS performance in PP and past capacity building initiatives and efforts</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO / GROW / AGRI / MARE / EMPL	Interviews in 15 MS, Workshop in Brussels, Study[1], 28 Country Profiles	n/a	Consultants PwC	Overview of PP performance and experiences in MS, with emphasis on ways in which capacity, including control functions, has been built up. Recommendations are formulated per MS and the EC. The report finalised in 1st quarter of 2016 and it is the basis for further follow-up actions. <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/public-procurement/study/">https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/public-procurement/study/</a>
<b>17-09</b>	<b>Single bidding</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO	Analysis per country and sector for EU funded projects in relevant MS	n/a	Consultants / researchers	Final report is available: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/reports/2019/single-bidding-and-non-competitive-tendering">https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/reports/2019/single-bidding-and-non-competitive-tendering</a>
<b>17-07</b>	<b>Internal training</b> on new Directives and strategic procurement	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO/GROW	* Training for ESIF DGs (including auditors) * Training to other DGs.	n/a	In-house	1 training session was held in REGIO and 3 in DG GROW (open to participant from other DGs).
<b>17-06</b>	<b>External training</b> on new Directives and strategic procurement (social, green and innovative)	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO/GROW/AGRI/MARE/EMPL/ENV/JUST	* Training for ESIF managing authorities and other key bodies involved in ESI funds	n/a	Outsourced via procurement contracts	7 raining session were organised and more that 200 participants from 24 member states were trained. This action is considered completes and new action with updated scope will be introduces in the next revision of PP Action plan.
<b>15-05</b>	Scoping of the potential for <b>database of irregularities in public procurement</b> and exploitation of the currently existing ones	<b>COMPLETED</b>	GROW / REGIO / AGRI / MARE / EMPL / OLAF	Defining the scope, Pilot project with SK Court of Audits in 2018	n/a	In-house	Objectives to support irregularities databases in MS. A future EU database should cover information available from existing databases at National and EU level. Further actions depend on MS "buy-in".
<b>16-04</b>	<b>Recommendation to Member States on Professionalisation</b> of public procurement	<b>COMPLETED</b>	GROW /REGIO	Recommendations	n/a	In-house	Recommendation adopted as part on the Public Procurement Package on 3 October 2017. <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32017H1805">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32017H1805</a>

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<b>15-04</b>	Developing an <b>index for rating Contracting Authorities</b> according to their performance ("Trip advisor")	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO /GROW	Scoping paper, Pilot of Index, Index	n/a	Consultants / researchers	Performance in public procurement can be measured at several levels, action to focus on the level of contracting authorities and develop an index for assessing and benchmarking their performance. Piloting of the Index on TED data completed in 2016. The second phase of piloting procurement indicators took place in 2017. This time, the analysis of procurement performance was carried out at regional level: comparing regions across the EU. Results of this analysis fed into the 7th Cohesion Report (chapter 4) and were also published as a Working Paper "Assessing the quality of government at the regional level using public procurement data".
<b>17-03</b>	Foster full take-up of <b>E-procurement</b> – create positive incentives for projects in this area, including through the recognition of good practices for a more rigorous approach to publication of tenders in TED database	<b>COMPLETED</b>	GROW	Better functioning e-procurement around the EU Higher publication on TED and higher use of TED data at national level	18 October 2018, Conference in Lisbon on E-procurement	In-house	
<b>16-03</b>	<b>Update of Auditor's checklists</b> for public procurement errors based on changes introduced by the new PP Directives and <b>update of guidelines on financial corrections.</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO / GROW	Updated checklists & guidelines.	n/a	In-house	The auditor's checklist & guidelines for financial corrections are finalised and has been shared with EMPL, AGRI, MARE and made available to ESIF authorities. <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/informat/2014/GL_corrections_pp_irregularities_EN.pdf">https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/informat/2014/GL_corrections_pp_irregularities_EN.pdf</a>
<b>14-03</b>	New PP Directives (April 2014) – <b>training, dissemination on state of progress of transposition .</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>	GROW / REGIO/AGRI	* Ad hoc presentations on request of MS and regular information to the expert group on PP (GROW) * Internal trainings for REGIO staff on new PP Directives (incl. strategic procurement) (REGIO)	n/a	In-house + consultants as required	

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<b>13-03</b>	<b>Country specific Strategies</b> for Member States with identified systemic weaknesses.	<b>COMPLETED</b>	GROW /REGIO	Strategies tailored to MS needs, endorsed by the MS. These country strategies are initiated by GROW and implemented by the MS to achieve reforms for more effective, efficient and accountable public procurement	n/a	MS administration with the support of GROW and REGIO	This action is completed and resulted in some follow up initiatives such as MoU with SK.
<b>16-02</b>	<b>Update of the Practical Guidance</b> on the avoidance of the most common errors taking the new EU Procurement directives into account.	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO	Updated guidance document	The guide was published on the DG REGIO website on 13th February 2018	External consultant	The guidance is meant to help national, regional and local public officials dealing with EU funds ensure efficient and transparent public procurement procedures for EU-funded projects. This updated version covers the process from A to Z, from the preparation and publication of the calls to the selection and evaluation of bids and the contract implementation. <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/guidelines/2018/public-procurement-guidance-for-practitioners-2018">https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/guidelines/2018/public-procurement-guidance-for-practitioners-2018</a>
<b>14-02</b>	<b>Training/Guidance</b> on how to prepare and follow-up on Action Plans to improve public procurement capacity	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO	Regular presentations	n/a	REGIO / other ESIF DGs	Training/Guidance on how to prepare and follow-up on Action Plans to improve public procurement capacity linked to funds management (linked to ESIF EAC). Focused on diagnosis and capacity building/training internally.
<b>13-02</b>	<b>Compilation &amp; analysis of evidence/ indicators on PP performance</b> linked to funds management as input to ex ante conditionality (ExAC) negotiations with concerned MS in 2014. Information sharing and harmonisation for MS, MAs, IBs, etc. (linked to the ExAC) for error rates, severity, duration, infringements etc. reported at different levels (MS, Funds, ECA, OLAF).	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO / GROW / AGRI / MARE / EMPL	EAC assessment & evidence based reasoning in case of dis-agreement with MS self- assessment	n/a	WG PP	Prepare a readiness assessment as well as individual country fiches. Action plans for negotiation. Cooperation with ESIF DG's and GROW.
<b>17-01</b>	Promote the <b>voluntary ex ante assessment</b> mechanism for the compliance of large-scale projects with EU procurement rules, including a helpdesk function and an information exchange mechanism	<b>COMPLETED</b>	GROW / REGIO	The mechanism currently in place;	n/a	GROW	This is a follow-up of the adoption of the COM (2017) 573 - Helping investment through a voluntary ex-ante assessment of the procurement aspects for large infrastructure projects. <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/pp-large-projects/">https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/pp-large-projects/</a>



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<b><u>16-01</u></b>	<b>Study on Public Procurement good practice sharing across the EU for improving the delivery of European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO/ GROW / AGRI / MARE / EMPL	e-library/ structured handbook on good practice and roadmaps/ feasibility studies	n/a	Consultants PwC	This is a follow-up to the stock-taking study (Action 14-01). The purpose is exploring ways of transferring and sharing PP good practices (GP) between MS with a global objective to improve the compliance and quality of PP involving ESIF. Specific objectives: creation of an e-library and handbook of PP GP; development of feasibility studies and roadmaps of most impactful good practices . <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/public-procurement/e-library/">https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/public-procurement/e-library/</a>
<b><u>15-01</u></b>	<b>Pilot Project - Tailor-made and specifically targeted assistance to MS to improve PP administrative capacity</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>	REGIO	Support (dependent on the necessity of the MS) delivered to SK and BG.	n/a	OECD	Two TA cooperation projects with the OECD in SK and BG on Public Procurement