



DG REGIO Transnational Network on Simplification

14th meeting of DG REGIO Transnational Network (TN) on Simplification

8 - 9 June 2023 – Santiago de Compostela

Parador Hostal dos Reis Católicos - Plaza del Obradoiro, 1, Santiago de Compostela

Meeting room: Comedor Real

(website: [Parador Hostal dos Reis Católicos](https://www.parador.com/en/parador-hostal-dos-reis-catolicos))

Agenda

Day 1: Thursday, 8 th June	
8:30 – 9:00 CEST ¹	Registrations and welcome coffee
9:00 – 9:10 CEST	Welcome by the host Member State <i>Francisco Conde López (First Vice-President and Regional Minister for Economy, Industry and Innovation of Xunta de Galicia)</i>
9:10 – 9:20 CEST	Introduction to the meeting Introducing the agenda of the meeting: objectives and activities. <i>Emma Toledano Laredo (Director, EC-DG REGIO F 'Better implementation, Closure and Programme Implementation III')</i> <i>Luca Santin (Coordinator of the TN)</i>
9:20 – 9:35 CEST	Updates from the CPR expert group Presenting the key outcomes of discussions around SCOs and simplification carried out at the last meeting of the CPR expert group. <i>Charlie Grant (Head of Unit, EC-DG REGIO F.1 'Better implementation and closure')</i> .
SESSION I – Simplified Cost Options (SCOs)	
9:35 – 9:55 CEST	I.1 - Introduction and updates on SCOs Updates on the state of play of SCO proposals and on frequently asked questions around SCOs. <i>Presentation by representatives of EC-DG REGIO F.1 'Better implementation and closure'</i>
9:55 – 10:15 CEST	I.2 – Audit of SCOs: examples of audit findings Presenting examples of most frequent types of audit findings around SCOs. <i>Presentation by representatives of REGIO-EMPL Joint Audit Directorate for Cohesion.</i>

¹ Central European Summer Time

10:15 – 10:40 CEST	<p>I.3 – SCOs in practice</p> <p>Presenting the key outcomes of the multi-country workshop held in conjunction with the TN meeting.</p> <p><i>Presentation by TN members.</i></p>
10:40 – 11:10 CEST	<p>I.4 – EU Level SCOs – first study</p> <p>The purpose of this session is to present and discuss the preliminary results of the first study launched by DG REGIO to develop EU level SCOs and other EU level results-based tools in the programming period 2021-2027 for <i>Research & Innovation activities</i> and <i>SME Growth & Competitiveness</i>.</p> <p><i>Presentation by the study team.</i></p>
11:10 – 11:30 CEST	Coffee break
11:30 – 12:00 CEST	<p>I.5 – EU Level SCOs – second study</p> <p>The purpose of this session is to present and discuss the state of play and next steps of the second study launched by DG REGIO to develop EU level SCOs for <i>Health, ICT and Environment</i>.</p> <p><i>Presentation by the study team.</i></p>
12:00 – 12:45 CEST	<p>I.6 – Group discussion on SCOs and EU Level SCOs</p> <p>Based on the information shared in previous sessions, the purpose of this session is to identify key issues on SCOs and EU Level SCOs to be addressed by the Commission and the study teams.</p> <p><i>Group discussions.</i></p>
12:45 – 14:00 CEST	Lunch break
14:00 – 14:35 CEST	<p>I.7 – Panel discussion on SCOs and EU Level SCOs</p> <p>The key outcomes of group discussions carried out in session I.6 are addressed in plenary in a panel discussion with representatives of the European Commission and members of the study teams.</p> <p><i>Panel discussion with representatives of EC-DG REGIO F.1 'Better implementation and closure', REGIO-EMPL Joint Audit Directorate for Cohesion, EC-DG EMPL G1 'European Social Fund +' and the study teams.</i></p>
SESSION II – Financing Not Linked to Costs (FNLC)	
14:35 – 14:50 CEST	<p>II.1 – Introduction on Financing Not Linked to Costs</p> <p>Updates on the state of play of proposals submitted by the Member States under article 95 CPR and on how assurance is provided when implementing FNLC.</p> <p><i>Representatives of EC-DG REGIO F.1 'Better implementation and closure' and of REGIO-EMPL Joint Audit Directorate for Cohesion.</i></p>
14:50 – 15:20 CEST	<p>II.2 – Feasibility checks on Financing Not Linked to Costs</p> <p>The purpose of this session is to present and discuss the preliminary results of the feasibility checks for the use of FNLC in ERDF/CF programmes, developed under the first study launched by DG REGIO.</p> <p><i>Presentation by the study team.</i></p>
15:20 – 15:40	Coffee break

CEST	
15:40 – 16:25 CEST	<p>II.3 – Group discussion on Financing Not Linked to Costs</p> <p>Based on the information shared in previous sessions, the purpose of this session is to identify key issues on FNLC to be addressed by the Commission and the study team.</p> <p><i>Group discussions.</i></p>
16:25 – 16:30 CEST	Wrap-up and instructions for day 2
19:30 CEST	TN dinner

Day 2: Friday, 9th June

8:45 – 9:15 CEST	Registrations and welcome coffee
9:15 – 9:50 CEST	<p>II.5 – Panel discussion on Financing Not Linked to Costs</p> <p>The key outcomes of group discussions carried out in session I.6 are addressed in plenary in a panel discussion with representatives of the European Commission and members of the study team.</p> <p><i>Panel discussion with representatives of EC-DG REGIO F.1 'Better implementation and closure', REGIO-EMPL Joint Audit Directorate for Cohesion, EC-DG EMPL G1 'European Social Fund +' and the study team.</i></p>
SESSION III – Simplification	
9:50 – 10:10 CEST	<p>III.1 – Risk-based management verifications: reflection paper</p> <p>Presenting the reflection paper on risk-based management verifications (art. 74 CPR) prepared by the European Commission.</p> <p><i>Presentation by representatives of REGIO-EMPL Joint Audit Directorate for Cohesion.</i></p>
10:10 – 10:30 CEST	<p>III.2 – TN working group on risk-based management verification</p> <p>Presenting the work carried out by the TN working group on risk-based management verifications, including the draft case reports prepared by group members.</p> <p><i>Presentation by members of the working group.</i></p>
10:30 – 10:45 CEST	<p>III.3 – Closure of 2014-2020 programmes</p> <p>Towards swift closure of ERDF/CF programmes for the 2014-2020 programming period.</p> <p><i>Presentation by representatives of EC-DG REGIO F.1 'Better implementation and closure'.</i></p>
10:45 – 11:05 CEST	<p>III.4 – Collaboration between authorities and beneficiaries</p> <p>Presenting good practices of collaboration between managing authorities and beneficiaries to enhance simplification and better implementation of the ERDF/CF programmes.</p> <p><i>Presentations by TN members.</i></p>
11:05 – 11:25 CEST	Coffee break

<p>11:25 – 12:05 CEST</p>	<p>III.5 – Next steps on simplification – group discussions</p> <p>Participants discuss in groups to select future topics to be address by the TN to further enhance simplification in ERDF/CF and JTF programmes and the actions and organisational processes that should be carried out by the network and possible working groups around simplification.</p> <p><i>Group discussions.</i></p>
<p>12:05 – 12:45 CEST</p>	<p>III.6 – Next steps on simplification – panel discussions</p> <p>Outcomes of group discussions carried out in session III.5 are presented in plenary and addressed in a panel discussion with representatives of the European Commission and TN members.</p> <p><i>Panel discussion with representatives of EC-DG REGIO F.1 'Better implementation and closure', REGIO-EMPL Joint Audit Directorate for Cohesion and TN members.</i></p>
<p>SESSION IV – Next steps</p>	
<p>12:45 – 12:55 CEST</p>	<p>IV.1 - Updating the Work Plan & planning the next meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recap of the main decisions, ideas and proposals. ▪ Planning the next meeting and activities. ▪ Updating the TN's Work Plan. <p><i>Luca Santin (Coordinator of the TN)</i></p>
<p>12:55 – 13:00 CEST</p>	<p>Closing remarks</p> <p><i>Charlie Grant (Head of Unit, EC-DG REGIO F.1 'Better implementation and closure').</i></p>
<p>13:00 – 14:00 CEST</p>	<p>Lunch</p>

