

ANNEX I

1. LEGAL BASIS

Article 58 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006.

2. BUDGET LINE

13 03 65 01 - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) — Operational technical assistance

3. WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2014

3.1. *Introduction*

On the basis of the objectives given in Article 58 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2014 as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (3.2): EUR 23 396 000
- for prizes (implemented under direct management (3.3): N/A
- for procurement (implemented under direct management) (3.4): EUR 31 550 198
- for actions implemented under indirect modes (13.5): N/A
- for financial instruments (3.6) : N/A
- for other actions (3.7): EUR 6 020 750

IN TOTAL : EUR 60 966 948

3.2. *Grants*

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for grants in 2014 amounts to EUR 23 396 000

3.2.1 23rd annual meeting of the European financial controllers (Homologues group meeting)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The 23rd annual meeting of the European financial controllers (Homologues group meeting) will be hosted by the Slovakian National Audit Authority. This is an annual conference gathering of representatives of Member States and the Commission to discuss issues related to controls of the management of the Structural Funds. The objectives of this meeting are sharing and dissemination of best practices amongst Member States. The expected result is better cooperation between Member States and the Commission.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 (RAP)

The annual conference gathering representatives of Member States to discuss issues related to controls of the management of the Structural Funds.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (c) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a *de jure or de facto monopoly*, duly substantiated in the award decision.

Because of the treatment and exchange of confidential and sensitive information during the 23rd meeting of the Homologue Group between the representatives of the Ministries of Finance of the Member States, the European Court of Auditors and the European Commission, the organisation of this meeting is limited to the national bodies of control and audit. These entities have decided to designate annually (during the meeting of year n-1) the body amongst them that will ensure the organisation of the meeting for year n. For 2014 the designated body is the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic. Therefore a *de facto monopoly* has been established.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by the Member States shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This Action will be implemented directly by DG REGIO. The grant will be of an amount of EUR 170.000 of which: EUR 119.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 51.000 will be financed under 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the grant awarded without a call for proposals

Reference	Date	Amount
N/A	4th quarter 2014	EUR 119 000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

80%

3.2.2 Action plan for SILC improvements: Grants to Member States to support the further developments and improvements of SILC, in the context of its redesign, its timeliness and its regional coverage

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

These grants will ensure a better regional coverage of SILC indicators such as risk of poverty or social exclusion rate. This will help national statistical institutes to change their samples, create a regional weighting scheme and/or increase the sample size of the SILC survey among other things. This will ensure the publication of more and more reliable regional SILC indicators.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012

Grants will be awarded to Member States to support the further developments and improvements of SILC, in the context of its redesign, its timeliness and its regional coverage.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (d) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in the case(s) of bodies identified by a basic act, within the meaning of Article 54 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, as beneficiaries of a grant. According to Article 5(3) of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹, grants may be awarded to the National Statistical Institutes (NSIs) without a call for proposals.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposals submitted by the NSIs shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness

Implementation

This action will be implemented by ESTAT through cross-subdelegation. The grant will be of an amount of EUR 1.500.000 of which: EUR 1.050.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 450.000 will be financed under 13 04 61 01 budget line.

¹ Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics and repealing Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1101/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the transmission of data subject to statistical confidentiality to the Statistical Office of the European Communities, Council Regulation (EC) No 322/97 on Community Statistics, and Council Decision 89/382/EEC, Euratom establishing a Committee on the Statistical Programmes of the European Communities (OJ L 87, 31.3.2009, p. 164).

Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the grant awarded without a call for proposals

Reference	Date	Amount
N/A	4th quarter 2014	EUR 1 050 000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

90%

3.2.3 JASPERS 2014

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Continuing assistance to Member States (EU 12, Croatia, Greece) to prepare major projects, and capacity building. Faster approval of projects and better quality of investment.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant

Assessment of major projects applications.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (d) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in the case(s) of bodies identified by a basic act, within the meaning of Article 54 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, as beneficiaries of a grant. According to Article 31(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, a grant may be awarded to the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Investment Fund covering initiatives implemented on a multi-annual basis. JASPERS will be implemented throughout the 2014-2020 programming period (in continuation of JASPERS action in the 2007-2013 programming period) .

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by the EIB shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This action will be implemented directly by DG REGIO. The grant will be of an amount of EUR 29.000.000 of which: EUR 20.300.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 8.700.000 will be financed under the 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the grants awarded without a call for proposals

	Date	Amount
	3rd quarter 2014	EUR 20 300 000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of total costs

100 % according to Art. 60 §2 of the CPR.

Financing through unit costs for technical assistance actions implemented by the EIB is established by a separate Commission Decision.

3.2.4 Economic Magazine

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

DG REGIO will participate alongside other DGs in providing contents to the economic magazine, with the aim of explaining to EU citizens how regional policy has a real impact in their lives, supporting the Europe 2020 strategy for growth and jobs and playing an important role in the EU's response to the current economic crisis.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant

DG COMM is coordinating a new economic magazine by Euronews, in the framework of the partnership agreement signed by DG COMM and the European TV channel. The Real Economy has been launched in June 2013 aiming at informing a European wide TV audience about Cohesion Policy projects. Several DGs, among them DG REGIO, have been invited to provide contents to this magazine. This is a fortnightly, 12-minute programme with a total number of 25 per year. The format includes reportages and interviews, and/or studio debates.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (c) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a *de jure or de facto monopoly*, duly substantiated in the award decision. A direct grant will be awarded to Euronews.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by Euronews shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This action will be implemented by DG COMM via cross-subdelegation. The grant will be of an amount of EUR 250.000 of which: EUR 175.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 75.000 will be financed under the 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the grants awarded without a call for proposals

	Date	Amount
	3rd quarter 2014	EUR 175 000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of total costs

95 %

3.2.5 Regional business demography

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The objectives are to test the robustness of the new methodology and draw policy recommendations from the variation in regional business demography.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant

This study will analyse the regional business demography data collected by Eurostat and assess the methodology used.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (f) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals. A direct grant will be awarded to OECD.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by the OECD shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This action will be implemented by DG REGIO directly. The grant will be of an amount of EUR 450.000 of which: EUR 315.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 135.000 will be financed under the 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the grants awarded without a call for proposals

	Date	Amount
	4th quarter 2014	EUR 315 000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of total costs

100%

3.2.6 Cities Report

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The objective is to receive input for policy analysis and lay-out support for the European Cities report, which will be submitted to the HABITAT III conference.
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Description of the activities to be funded by the grant

This will provide support for the preparation of the cities report to be published in 2016.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

<p>Under Article 190(1) (f) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals. A direct grant will be awarded to UN.</p> <p>The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by the UN shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.</p>

Implementation

This action will be implemented by DG REGIO directly. The grant will be of an amount of EUR 410.000 of which: EUR 287.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 123.000 will be financed under the 13 04 61 01 budget line.
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Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the grants awarded without a call for proposals

	Date	Amount
	4th quarter 2014	EUR 287 000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of total costs

100%

3.2.7 Stakeholder events

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Expected results are a better governance system through closer networking, political commitment towards the Strategy and more efficient implementation through the exchange of experience.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant

Annual stakeholders event on macro-regional strategy.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190 (1) (c) of the Rules of Application grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in the case of bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly, duly substantiated in the award decision.

The direct grant will be awarded to the State Ministry of Baden Württemberg, which according to the European strategy for the Danube region is a Priority Area Coordinator (PAC). Therefore it holds a de facto monopoly position in the Strategy work.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by the State Ministry of Baden Württemberg shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This action will be implemented by DG REGIO directly. The grant will be of an amount of EUR 590.000.

Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the grants awarded without a call for proposals

	Date	Amount
	4th quarter 2014	EUR 590 000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of total costs

95 %

3.2.8 *Anti-fraud/anti-corruption: Integrity Pacts*

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

- 1) to explore and promote the use of an Integrity Pact (IP) as civil society control mechanism for safeguarding EU funds against fraud and corruption, and a tool to increase transparency and accountability;
- 2) preparatory activities for identification of ERDF or CF (ESIF) projects for Integrity Pact piloting in different Member States, including, the work on mitigation of potential risk factors for IP piloting.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant

This prior approval for a direct award relates to **Phase I** of the project which is meant to be preparatory phase for actual implementation phase of pilot Integrity Pacts in selected Member States for selected sectors/ projects (to be identified during Phase I). Thus, the phase I project is self-standing project with clearly defined outputs. However, the results of the phase I project will contribute to the shaping and identifying scope of the phase II project.

The project that would be implemented by TI, if the direct award is granted, will encompass the following main activities

- 1) **Launch conference** for all EU Member States (target audience: Managing Authorities, key potential beneficiaries and civil society representatives) for promoting the use of IP for EU co-funded projects;
- 2) **Call of expression of interest to participate in piloting IP** for EU co-funded projects (Managing Authorities / an independent monitors in member states) and coordinated evaluation and selection of pilot IP projects;
- 3) Preparation of **guidance document on the use of IP for ESIF co-funded projects** and **communication materials** for promotion of IP for EU funded projects; development of a **methodology / indicators** how to measure the impact of an IP ;
- 4) **Project management** - setting up a technical support facility for managing implementation of the project, including, providing support to individual IP implementation teams in Member States.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190 (1) (f) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative

power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals.

A direct grant will be awarded to Transparency International (TI). TI is the only civil society body capable of conducting the actions of the project in the intended shape and scope. Since its inception in the early 1990s, TI with more than 100 national chapters worldwide and an international secretariat in Berlin has become the leading civil society organisation fighting corruption with significant expertise and experience in designing applied research tools, conducting evidence-based policy and advocacy initiatives, and coordinating complex multi-country projects. The Integrity Pact (IP) is a tool developed by TI and TI has acquired substantial experience in implementing Integrity Pacts. As this project will encompass preparatory activities for identification of projects for Integrity Pact piloting in different Member States thus only the TI Secretariat's reputation, knowledge, quality control and administrative capacity to coordinate and manage multi-country pilot project coupled with the country specific knowledge of TI National Chapters can ensure successful implementation of this complex project.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by TI shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This action will be implemented by DG REGIO directly. The grant will be of an amount of EUR 350.000.

Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the grants awarded without a call for proposals

	Date	Amount
	4th quarter 2014	EUR 350 000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of total costs

100 %

3.2.9 Poverty mapping

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The European Commission and World Bank mutually interest in reducing poverty and socio-economic exclusion. The World Bank's extensive experience in developing poverty maps based on small area estimation methods and its collaboration with Eastern European Governments since more than 20 years makes this international organisation a unique partner in developing strategic projects with the endorsement of the national Governments. In the

case of the poverty maps, the World Bank has partnered with the National Statistical Offices and responsible Ministries by signing a memorandum of understanding and access census and survey data carried out by each Member State. These Member States are also the World Bank members and many of them are still borrowing countries (the World Bank operates with the Government through multiannual investments programmes). Such strategic partnership in so many countries can only be achieved in a joint action between the European Commission and an International Organisation of the size of the World Bank.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant

The project will update the poverty maps and provide technical assistance to the national statistical institutes that are interested in small area estimations.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (f) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals. A direct grant will be awarded to the World Bank.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by the World Bank shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This action will be implemented by DG REGIO directly. The grant will be of an amount of EUR 300.000 of which: EUR 210.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 90.000 will be financed under the 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the grants awarded without a call for proposals

	Date	Amount
	4 th quarter of 2014	EUR 210 000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of total costs

100 %

3.3. Prizes

N/A

3.4. Procurement

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for procurement contracts in 2014 amounts to EUR 31.550.198,00

3.4.1 Actions to be implemented via procurement procedure

Audit	
Type of procurement	service
Indicative amount	EUR 1 067 710
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC, direct contract
Indicative number of contracts	7 Specific Contracts, 1 Direct Contract
Timeframe	3rd quarter
Implementation	EUR 420.000 will be cross-subdelegated to DG EMPL
Communication and publication	
Type of procurement	service
Indicative amount	EUR 7 293 100
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC, direct contracts
Indicative number of contracts	40 Specific Contracts under FWC, 5 direct contracts
Timeframe	2nd quarter
Implementation	Out of the overall amount: EUR 500.000 will be co-delegated to OPOCE, and EUR 2.411.100 is co-delegated to DG COMM for the Corporate Communication Pilot. The rest will be managed directly by DG REGIO

Evaluation	
Type of procurement	service
Indicative amount	EUR 5 586 000
Type of Contract	direct contracts
Indicative number of contracts	10
Timeframe	3rd quarter
Implementation	Directly by DG REGIO
Meetings and conferences	
Type of procurement	service
Indicative amount	EUR 169 988
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC, direct contract
Indicative number of contracts	7 Specific Contracts under FWC, 1 direct contract
Timeframe	3rd quarter
Implementation	Directly by DG REGIO
Study	
Type of procurement	service
Indicative amount	EUR 2 771 000
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC, direct contracts
Indicative number of contracts	20 Specific Contracts under FWC, 5 direct contracts
Timeframe	3rd quarter
Implementation	Directly by DG REGIO

Technical and other administrative assistance. This includes a direct contract to the EIB for the “TA platform-Horizontal assistance “.

Type of procurement	service
Indicative amount	EUR 13 757 500
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC, direct contracts
Indicative number of contracts	5 Specific Contracts under FWC, 5 direct contracts
Timeframe	3rd quarter
Implementation	Directly by DG REGIO

Informatics

Type of procurement	service
Indicative amount	EUR 595 000
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC
Indicative number of contracts	3
Timeframe	3rd quarter
Implementation	Directly by DG REGIO

Translation (externalised)

Type of procurement	service
Indicative amount	EUR 309 900
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC
Indicative number of contracts	3
Timeframe	3rd quarter
Implementation	Externalized translations by DGT

3.5. *Actions implemented in indirect management*

N/A

3.6. *Financial instruments implemented in direct or indirect management*

N/A

3.7. *Other actions or expenditures*

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for other actions or expenditures is EUR 6 020 750

3.7.1 *Expert contracts – AMI List*

Amount

EUR 2 645 000

Description and objective of the implementing measure

This action covers expenses for technical assistance provided by experts through simplified experts contracts, implemented under Article 204 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

3.7.2 Smart specialisation platform (Administrative Agreement with JRC)

Amount

EUR 1.590.750

Description and objective of the implementing measure

Member States and regions have been asked to develop smart specialisation strategies. The S3Platform was set-up in the first phase to provide strategic intelligence and hands-on support, including a web-site, newsletter, guidance documents, data material, individual advice, training, database, organization of conferences and meetings, peer-reviews, etc..In the second phase, the Platform will build on this by continuing some of the above-mentioned strategy design support activities for as long as not all smart specialization strategies are in place (until possibly December 2016), maintain the web-site, database, etc.

3.7.3 Regional Model for Impact Assessment of EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2016 (Administrative Agreement with JRC)

Amount

EUR 1.470.000

Description and objective of the implementing measure

This action aims at developing further, update and maintain the regional economic model of DG REGIO (RHOMOLO) and use it to carry out a series of simulations in order to support the design, the implementation and the evaluation of cohesion policy (impact assessment of the 2007-2013 period, analysis of the 2014-2020 programmes, preparation of the budget review, etc).

The objective is to provide DG REGIO with a set of quantitative information concerning the impact of cohesion policy interventions on the performance of the EU NUTS 2 regions. The model will also allow to analyse and compare various policy scenarios relevant for cohesion policy at the level of NUTS 2 regions and on a large number of economic variables (GDP, prices, employment, public finance, etc).

3.7.4 Analysing settlement patterns and population distribution (Administrative Agreement with JRC)

Amount

EUR 315.000

Description and objective of the implementing measure

This project will analyse the location of people and built-up areas and their changes over time. This is a critical input for analysis of accessibility to services and urbanisation.

The results would be a high-resolution GIS layer of built up areas and population and a high-resolution change layer.