

TA 2018 Financing decision - Working document

Nr	Title	Content	Objectives and results	Total amount	Procedure	Procedure - Type of action
1/2	<b>DGT / REGIO Translations SLA 8B 2018</b>	Yearly budget for translations to cover needs not falling under the work programme. SLA to be renewed in December 2017.	Necessary to support implementation, audit, communication and other initiatives of the DG. Some examples of documents translated under DG's own budget are: guidance notes, audit summaries, tool kits, etc.	300.000,00	Procurement	Translations
3/4	<b>Business process management</b>	Design of compliant and efficient processes for the 2014-2020 period and for closure of 2007-2013. Preparation for the implementation of post-2020 processes. Re-engineering of existing processes making them simpler, more efficient and reliable.	The action will support the work of the Business Process Team (BPT) and allow the extension of the process inventory, as well as the improvement of existing procedures and monitoring / reporting capabilities for management. The action will be the key to a successful implementation of the BPT annual work plan and its overarching objective to design and optimise standard processes according to the criteria set by the Board. The action will serve to promote the implementation of processes by the services of the Directorate-General through the provision of specifications, review, contribution to testing, standard documents supporting the process execution, guidance documents, training material, trainings, monitoring tools, monitoring, expertise, awareness raising actions, communication with stakeholders, driving process governance in the organisation, liaising with counterparts in other Directorates-General. The budget of the action provides for the recruitment of one additional consultant to reinforce the BPT, in order to prepare for the tasks related to the review of and contribution to the drafting of the procedural aspects of the future Regulations of the post-2020 period.	685.000,00	Procurement	IT
5	<b>ESIF open calls - Proof of concept of publication of calls open for Cities on the One Stop Shop</b>	We are developing at the moment together with DGIT the proof of concept for an online tool able to provide information on ESIF open calls relevant for cities. This tool aims to link open data from national and regional websites where ESIF calls are published with ESIF open data platform. The scope of the action would then be to roll-out the pilot at the moment on-going to largest number of ESIF funded operational programmes.	According to users survey conducted by DG COMM on the goals of the new EUROPA, information on funding is among the top five reasons when looking into EUROPA. The present action is a first attempt into this direction. In fact, the objective is to provide one stop shop for cities where to find information on funding opportunities from EU. The tool has been designed to combine information from share managed and direct managed EU funds, e.g. Horizon 2020. The action supports operational priority "2.3 - To communicate on the results of Cohesion Policy programmes and their contribution to the delivery of Commission political priorities."	200.000,00	Procurement	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
6	<b>Urban Development Network</b>	The objective of the UDN is to support cities and MA in the implementation of the 2014-2020 operational programmes on Article 7 "Sustainable Urban Development" and Article 8 "Urban Innovative Actions". Since two years DG.03 is organising thematic (sustainable urban development, urban mobility), country specific (Spain, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Slovenia, Croatia etc) and peer2peer workshops to support and train Art 7 and Art 8 cities and their MA's. In 2018 we want to continue with this support. UDN workshops/seminars are organised in close cooperation with the MA. And we make use of the support given by EIB, JASPERS, JRC, URBACT, UIA, etc. Whenever possible we use TAIEX tool.	The support UDN delivers contributes to many priorities of the Commission as many of the priorities are directly impacting cities and can only be achieved if cities are contributing fully. We see in many MS a lack of capacities in cities as well as a lack of responsibilities to contribute fully. The workshops contribute to a better implementation of our operational programmes 2014-2020 on Article 7 "Sustainable Urban Development" and Article 8 "Urban Innovative Actions".	450.000,00	Procurement	Meetings and conference

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7	<b>Technical Support for REGIO work on monitoring and reporting of the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda</b>	At Commission level, DG REGIO is leading the implementation at EU level of the urban dimension of 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda. The action aims to support REGIO work on the monitoring and reporting of the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the New Urban Agenda. It will contribute to ensure coherence between the EU action and the Global action on sustainable urban development, including by facilitating the coordination with Member States. Concretely, it will support REGIO work in harmonizing and developing tools for monitoring and reporting the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda and in particular SDG 11, as required by the Council Conclusions on EU response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Work will build on the existing collaboration between REGIO and JRC in the field of urban policy, such as: LUISA territorial development model and its adaptation to Africa and other continents, the Territorial Strategies Identification database (URBADEV project), the Urban Data Platform, and the Territorial Dashboard, as well other JRC projects that serve as input for these platforms. The work will focus on the harmonization of the existing relevant urban indicators in the context of ESIF and the indicators of the 2030 Agenda: relevant links between the Urban Data Platform and SDG indicators have been identified and additional ones should be created. This work will be	The action contributes to the implementation of objective 3.1 of the management plan: "To enhance policy coordination and dissemination of good practices in the area of territorial and urban development." In particular it will contribute to the "Design and implementation of international activities and EU implementation of relevant UN agreements" and namely to the "2.Implementation of the New Urban Agenda and SDG11, contribution to the implementation of Agenda 2030 by the EU". See fiche.	250.000,00	Administrative agreement	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
8	<b>Technical Support for set-up and implementation of the REGIO Expert Group on monitoring and reporting of the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda</b>	At Commission level, DG REGIO is leading the implementation at EU level of the urban dimension of 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda. The action aims to support REGIO work on the monitoring and reporting of the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the New Urban Agenda. It will contribute to ensure coherence between the EU action and the Global action on sustainable urban development, including by facilitating the coordination with Member States. Concretely, it will support REGIO work in harmonizing and develop monitoring system and tools and ensure coherence and consistency in the reporting. Work will be developed through the establishment of an Expert Group on the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda and concretized in quantitative and qualitative inputs to the REGIO monitoring and reporting activities on the 2030 Agenda and New Urban Agenda.	In order to successfully fulfil its role domestically and at global level, REGIO would need to work in coordination and count on the support of the UN system. In the above framework of inter-related Agendas, the support of UN-Habitat, as a focal point for implementing the New Urban Agenda, would be key support REGIO work on implementation, monitoring and review of the 3 agendas by simplifying the coordination among the Global, EU and EU Member States levels through a strategic partnership. Therefore, the support of UJN habitat will be key in order to have a coherent and coordinated approach between the EU action and the Global action. This would also contribute to support the European Commission objective to strengthen the role of the European Union as a global actor. Finally, UN Habitat is also a key partner in the Urban Agenda of the European Union that is the key delivery mechanism of the New Urban Agenda within as established by both Council conclusions on "Habitat III, the EU and its member states objectives and priorities for the 3rd UN conference on housing and sustainable urban development " and "Urban Agenda for the EU".	290.000,00	Grant	Other
9	<b>Experts ITI CLLD, TIA 3, Inclusive growth, UDN</b>	Experts assisting the unit to carry out studies and provide supporting expertise to work on specific issues in relation to integrates territorial investments, CLLD, Territorial impact assessment workshops, Inclusive Growth and Urban Development Network	Receiving expertise in support of policy developments.	286.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract

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10	<b>Inclusive Growth Workshop</b>	In the scope of the inclusive growth priorities, 6 events will be organised to meet the following objectives: awareness-raising activities, capacity building of desk officers and other stakeholders, follow-up events to initiatives launched in 2017. These may include the following themes: integration of people with a migrant background, security in public spaces, segregation of marginalised communities, shift to community-based services, work-life balance.	6 events will be organised such as seminar, workshops, trainings. Half of these workshops will be held in Brussels, the others should be organised in Member States. The topics and other organisational arrangements will be identified with the desk officers of DG REGIO and DG EMPL. These may also include topics which will follow upcoming political priorities. The aim of this action is to facilitate the implementation of the operation programmes of 2014-2020 at the level of call for proposals and project selection. It should also contribute to reflections on the post 2020 priorities on inclusive growth. As a follow up of these events, policy papers and methodological support papers will be prepared.	350.000,00	Procurement	Meetings and conference
11	<b>Communication activities on territorial aspects of Cohesion policy</b>	This action consists in carrying out communication activities on territorial aspects of cohesion policy. [...] see fiche	Increase the awareness of the public on the possibilities to support growth and development potential in regions with geographic specificities and also promote the new instruments for territorial cooperation that offer to local communities more ownership of the policy and more opportunities to design bottom up strategies via partnership of local stakeholders.	150.000,00	Procurement	Communication and publication
12	<b>Evaluation of the Urban Agenda</b>	After two years of implementation, it is time to evaluate the Urban Agenda for the EU. This has been asked by Member States in the Pact of Amsterdam and in the Council conclusions on the Urban Agenda for the EU (June 2016). In addition, we confirmed that we would do such an evaluation in the report to the Council on the Urban Agenda for the EU (to be adopted in October 2017). The evaluation would cover: (a) The governance (e.g. the Partnerships, role of Commission, role of Member States, role of cities); (b) The proposed actions (e.g. political support, relevance, implementation, impact); (c) The outcomes (e.g. improved coordination, territorial impact assessments); (d) The contribution to the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals.	Evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the Urban Agenda for the EU.	125.000,00	Procurement	Study
13/14	<b>Corporate communication under the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020</b>	Contribution towards the European Commission's corporate communication strategy and actions in application of Commission Decision C(2016)6838 of 25/10/2016 on corporate communication under the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020.	To raise awareness of stakeholders and citizens on the contribution of cohesion policy to the development of regions and to the achievement of EU 2020 targets as part of the European Commission's corporate communication, particularly in 2018 which will mark the 30th anniversary of Cohesion Policy.	5.812.590,00	Procurement	Communication and publication
15/16	<b>Communication</b>	Series of contracts of goods and services to deliver on our core missions: media and social media, communication with Member States, Events, Publications, Website activities, Knowledge Management (new in A2 in this year's request) and Internal Communication (see separate fiche (EUR 7 million) for the production and dissemination of communication material under the FWC of DG COMM). NB : In terms of events and compared to 2017 (which did not cater for the Cohesion and RUP fora frontloaded on the 2016 budget), our assessment deducts integrates the requested stakeholders event for 30 years of Cohesion policy, a 30 years Cohesion Policy video and enhanced support for the Regiostars (no longer managed by G1 and possibly disconnected from the EWRC).	Conception et production de produits d'information et d'outils de communication interne; gestion des listes de diffusion; conception, production et diffusion de produits audiovisuels; organisation d'événements (y inclus le support logistique tels que bannières, voyages, catering, matériel promotionnel, etc.); stands; conception et diffusion de produits multimédias, d'information et internet; support et maintenance websites; évaluation des actions d'information/communication (y inclus Eurobaromètre); relations avec les médias, souscription à des bases de données médias et activités media sociaux.	5.687.410,00	Procurement	Communication and publication
17	<b>Communication - OP impression papier - layout - diffusion et stockage</b>	Mise en page par l'OP et impression papier des publications DG REGIO via ses contrats-cadre avec divers imprimeurs; diffusion et stockage des publications papier.	L'OP s'occupe de la mise en page des publications de la DG REGIO et prend en charge l'impression de publications de la DG REGIO via ses contrats cadre avec divers imprimeurs. Elle se charge également de la diffusion et du stockage des publications.	400.000,00	Procurement	Communication and publication

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18/19	<b>Economic magazine - Real economy</b>	DG ECFIN is coordinating an economic magazine by Euronews, in the framework of the partnership agreement signed by DG CNECT and the European TV channel. Several DGs, among them REGIO, have been invited to provide contents and participation in this communication action.	DG REGIO will participate alongside other DGs in providing contents to this 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.	100.000,00	Grant	Communication and publication
20/21	<b>Communication campaign: making results of Cohesion policy more visible to our citizens</b>	Launch information campaign aiming at promoting Cohesion policy. Production of information tools (including AV materials, visuals, printed publications, testimonials of beneficiaries & social media content) and dissemination through purchase of advertising space, events, EU information relays, etc. The action should cover all EU Member states with a particular attention to the net beneficiaries Member States and the Member States hit by the crisis.	In line with the DG REGIO Communication Strategy 2017-2020, these information measures relating to the Cohesion policy aim, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to help explain, implement and develop the Cohesion policy and to raise public awareness of its content, objectives and results;</li> <li>• to raise the awareness on the contribution of cohesion policy to the development of EU's 276 regions and the well-being of its citizens, wherever they live;</li> <li>• to inform stakeholders and citizens on the results of Cohesion policy specifically in their regions;</li> <li>• to increase the participation to setting priorities for the Cohesion policy post-2020 and the funding under the next Multiannual Financial Framework;</li> <li>• to raise the awareness of the win-win impact of Cohesion policy and the potential of Cohesion policy to induce political cohesion in the EU;</li> <li>• to build trust within the EU and among all citizens. Cohesion policy is a policy for all the citizens of the EU and the benefits that it provides to them must be clearly demonstrated. The key issues and messaging should be fully consistent with the Commission's legal requirement to carry out information measures within the meaning of Article 115-117 and Annex XII of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.</li> </ul> Expected results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased citizens' awareness and support of Cohesion policy.</li> </ul>	6.000.000,00	Procurement	Communication and publication
22/23	<b>Grants for information measures relating to Cohesion policy</b>	Call for proposals for funding information measures relating to Cohesion policy. The call is addressed to media organizations with which DG REGIO may establish partnership agreements, and other organizations (non-profit organization, universities, research centres and communication companies).	In line with the DG REGIO Communication Strategy 2017-2020, these information measures relating to the Cohesion policy aim, in particular, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to help explain, implement and develop the Cohesion policy and to raise public awareness of its content, objectives and results;</li> <li>• to raise the awareness on the contribution of cohesion policy to the development of regions and to the well-being of its citizens;</li> <li>• to inform stakeholders and citizens on the results of Cohesion policy specifically in their regions;</li> <li>• to increase the participation to setting priorities for the Cohesion policy post-2020 and the funding under the next Multiannual Financial Framework;</li> <li>• to raise the awareness of the win-win impact of Cohesion policy and the potential of Cohesion policy to induce political cohesion in the EU;</li> <li>• to build trust within the EU and among all citizens. Cohesion policy is a policy for all the citizens of the EU and the benefits that it provides to them must be clearly demonstrated. The key issues and messaging should be fully consistent with the Commission's legal requirement to carry out information measures within the meaning of Article 115-117 and Annex XII of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.</li> </ul> Expected results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the media coverage on Cohesion policy, in particular at the regional level.</li> <li>• Achieve concrete outputs (TV and radio broadcast, online coverage, other communication measures) within the measure's duration.</li> <li>• Establish relations with media organizations and other communication actors.</li> </ul>	5.000.000,00	Grant	Communication and publication
24/25	<b>Active Senior Initiative for former REGIO officials</b>	The Active Senior Initiative launched by DG HR presents the guidelines and provides the legal framework for former officials (receiving a retirement pension) to voluntary assist in unpaid activities for the Commission.	Voluntary assist in unpaid activities for the Commission	25.000,00	Administrative autonomy	Meetings and conference
26/27	<b>Experts</b>	This amount aims to cover travel expenses, daily and accommodation allowance in accordance with the Commission Decision on Rules on the reimbursement of expenses incurred by people from outside the Commission invited to attend meetings in an expert capacity	Reimbursement of expert costs	450.000,00	Administrative autonomy	Meetings and conference
28/29	<b>Missions</b>	credits for TA missions	credits for TA missions	230.000,00	Administrative autonomy	Missions
30/31	<b>Rencontres annuelles</b>	Catering costs for meetings PRESTO	Catering costs for meetings PRESTO	55.000,00	Procurement	Meetings and conference

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32/33	Staff expenditure	Salary for contractual agents, national experts and intérimaire	Salary for contractual agents, national experts and intérimaire	4.400.000,00	Administrative autonomy	Staff expenditure
34/35	IT activities (oper)	Intra-muros staff for SFC; Hosting for SFC	Intra-muros staff for SFC; Hosting for SFC	476.482,00	Procurement	IT
36/37	IT activities (admin)	Intra-muros staff A4; Post-2020 preparation; Internalisation of unit B2's monitoring helpdesk; Hosting/ITIC/contribution to other corporate systems; Material (laptops, phones, licenses, print, shop); Intra-muros staff B1.	Intra-muros staff A4; Post-2020 preparation; Internalisation of unit B2's monitoring helpdesk; Hosting/ITIC/contribution to other corporate systems; Material (laptops, phones, licenses, print, shop); Intra-muros staff B1.	8.373.158,00	Procurement	IT
38	Delegation to DIGIT	Delegation to DIGIT - IT activities	Delegation to DIGIT - IT activities	323.518,00	Procurement	IT
39	Delegation to DIGIT	Delegation to DIGIT - IT activities	Delegation to DIGIT - IT activities	1.381.842,00	Procurement	IT
40	Delegation to OIB	Delegation to OIB	Delegation to OIB	60.000,00	Procurement	IT
41	IT activities MAPAR	Contribution to MAPAR (EMPL)	Contribution to MAPAR (EMPL)	250.000,00	Procurement	IT
42/43	Regional enterprise survey in 11 EU MS	This action will finance a regional survey of enterprise in 11 EU Member States to assess what is holding them back. It measures topics including access to finance, corruption, infrastructure, crime, competition and performance measures.	Cohesion policy supports SMEs and helps them to innovate and grow. Improving the business environment could increase start-up rates and growth rates of firms. This survey identifies the obstacles to growth.	4.530.865,00	Grant	Study
44/45	Geospatial data	This action will purchase geospatial data for use by the Commission such as road networks.	A license for using the road network.	250.000,00	Procurement	Statistics, data collection
46/47	Producing break-free Labour Force Survey (LFS) Time Series	This action will finance the development work to produce break-free time series as the labour force survey will encounter a substantial number of changes in the different Member States.	The overall objective of the grant is to ensure production of break-free time series for the labour force survey. As the methodology of the labour force survey will change with the implementation of the new IESS (Integrated European Social Statistics) regulation and the employment/unemployment definitions will be amended to be in line with the latest ICLS (International Conference of Labour Statisticians) resolution, the national statistical institutes need to invest to produce a break-free time series of data and indicators.	1.050.000,00	Grant	Study
48/49	Data and short analysis	To support regional and urban analysis, small data purchases or short papers are often needed.	Provide data or short economic analyses.	100.000,00	Procurement	Statistics, data collection
50/51	Supporting the impact assessment	This action will provide short papers on the economic logic of Cohesion Policy. It will also organise the public consultation and analyse the replies.	To propose cohesion policy post 2020, REGIO has to conduct an impact assessment including a public consultation. This will support that work.	750.000,00	Procurement	Study
52/53	Evaluation activities	Implementation of regulatory and strategic required evaluations on specific themes (Evaluation conference 2019, thematic studies, Evaluation Helpdesk, Monitoring Helpdesk, workshops and meetings with experts).	To evaluate the achievements of Cohesion Policy and to identify conditions for success or failure	2.800.000,00	Procurement	Evaluation
54	Fi-Compass	The action aims at provision of advisory services that is applicable to all Member States/regions and types of financial instruments. Such activities have typically included events, the exchange of best practice and the networking across Member States, as well as trainings or methodological guidance on common themes such as ex-ante assessments, public procurement; regulatory aspects concerning cohesion policy, possibly State aid, etc. fi-compass deliverables are publicly available under www.fi-compass.eu. Given the advanced state of implementation, it is suggested to reduce fi-compass activities and to focus fi-compass activities on study work and analysis.	The objective is to improve the knowledge of the managing authorities on the set-up and implementation of financial instruments 2014-2020 with regard to issues common to all MS and regions to ensure a wider and smoother uptake of these instruments in the current programming period. In terms of outputs, fi-compass will be expected to deliver a certain (to be defined for 2018-2020) number of products, in particular studies but possibly also events, trainings, webinars, publications (brochures, videos). The outputs are expected to bring the following results: • Provide information on the implementation of financial instruments under ESIF; • Increase awareness on the role of FIs and generate buy-in across all stakeholders.	6.000.000,00	Procurement	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
55/56	Legal Advice	Old German Article 5(2) cases for 2000-2006 to be analysed by the contractor so that the decision can be adopted and cases closed. Follow-up of OLAF reports to be outsourced for GUs to analyse the reports, the MS reply and consider if financial corrections need to be applied or not. The analysis of MS replies and drafting of financial correction decisions for 2000-2006 Cohesion Fund cases may be outsourced.	The above actions will help the DG to close old files relating to OLAF reports and Article 5(2) irregularity cases. This in turn will allow the DG to close 2000-2006 ERDF programmes and contribute to the closure of 2007-13 programmes. The outsourcing could also help with the closure of the 2000-2006 Cohesion Fund cases. The outsourcing of these files will help to liberate GU resources internally in the DG to focus on the implementation of the 2014-2020 programmes. The actions above will contribute to the following MP objectives: 4. To ensure sound financial management of the Funds, in particular objective 4.1 To close the 2007-2013 programmes, the 2000-2006 Cohesion Fund projects and the remaining open 2000-2006 ERDF programmes and pre-2000 open irregularities, and 6.3 To ensure optimal use of resources.	320.000,00	Procurement	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS

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57/58	<b>Homologues Group Meeting 2018</b>	27th annual meeting of the European financial controllers "Homologues Group" meeting, host country should be confirmed at 26th Homologues meeting to be held 25-26 September 2017.	The "Homologues Group" meeting is intended to enhance the dialogue and improve the co-ordination of audit work. It offers the Commission services and their national counterparts the opportunity to openly discuss issues on audit and control, and to exchange opinions and best practices. Presentations will be made by Commission representatives and Member States representatives on subjects that are currently relevant in the Member States Audit Authorities work with the Commission. 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.  This action accordingly contributes to the MP objective 4. "To ensure sound financial management of the Funds" and specifically 4.2 "To obtain reasonable assurance that the expenditure declared to the Commission is legal and regular by ensuring that the audit authorities can be relied upon (single audit approach) and by focusing DG resources on identified risks".	250.000,00	Grant	Meetings and conference
59	<b>Ad-hoc expert assistance and advice for audit issues</b>	Advice, guidance notes, participation in meetings concerning audit issues	Better communication and working practices with the MS. Assisting the contracting party with opinion and advice, participation in meetings with Member State and EC representatives to present and clarify audit related topics, assisting in workshop sessions within the Commission and in the Member States. The action contributes by ensuring an optimal use of resources, selecting expertise when needed.	50.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract
60/61	<b>ARACHNE project (Risk scoring tool)</b>	The project ARACHNE aims at establishing a comprehensive and complete database of projects implemented under the Structural Funds in the MS and to enrich the data with publicly available information in order to identify, based on a set of risk indicators, the most risky projects.	The common provisions regulation for 2014-2020 contains an explicit legal requirement for managing authorities to put in place effective and proportionate anti-fraud measures taking into account the risks identified. To help Member States fulfil this legal requirement and to support managing authorities in monitoring the most risky projects, the European Commission has developed Arachne in cooperation with some Member States and with the help of external specialists. It provides managing authorities with an efficient tool to prevent and detect errors and irregularities and to identify risk of fraud. This action accordingly contributes to the MP objective 4. "To ensure sound financial management of the Funds" and more specifically 4.2 "To obtain reasonable assurance that the expenditure declared to the Commission is legal and regular by ensuring that the audit authorities can be relied upon (single audit approach) and by focusing DG resources on identified risks".	1.300.000,00	Procurement	Audit
62/63	<b>Outsourced Audits</b>	Outsourcing of audit work will include on the spot audits and desk review tasks and will be covered by the REGIO audit FWC or if this is not possible the BUDG 15 audit FWC.	Assistance to REGIO.C with the execution of audits, controls and related audit activities made up of desk and on-the-spot audit work. The action contributes by ensuring an optimal use of staff resources, selecting the resource and expertise when needed.	930.000,00	Procurement	Audit
64	<b>Study on environmental and ecological thematic in the framework of MRS and policy coordination with DG NEAR/ENV</b>	The status of migratory fish, such as the sturgeon as the Danube flagship species, is a parameter of the ecological condition and important indicator of the entire Danube River Basin. Sturgeons and other migratory fish species need to migrate up and down the Danube in order to be able to fulfil their life circle. The Danube as key migration route for sturgeons connects all tributaries for migration. The Iron Gate Hydropower and Navigation System with Iron Gate Dams I & II represents significant migration barriers for fish. At the same the action "To make the feasibility study for restoring continuity at the Iron Gates is one suggested project of the Danube Action Plan under PA 4 "Water Quality" and was foreseen to be finalised by 2012. However so far, the realisation of the study could not be implemented. The importance of that project regarding the improvement of the whole sturgeon situation as flagship project of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region is obvious. The action would contain a "Feasibility study" including the following steps: the publication of ToR, selection of consortium, input to study and implementation including monitoring activities and follow-up of results.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribution in concrete terms of the implementation of Action Plan of the EUSDR and to its objectives 4) to restore and maintain the quality of waters and to 6) to preserve diversity; due to its strong European added value</li> <li>• Contribution to the improvement of water quality of the Danube river in a wider sense as foreseen by the Danube River Basin Management Plan – Update 2015. Restoration of longitudinal river continuity at the Iron Gate I &amp; II, if found feasible, would re-open a reach of more than 800 km upstream to the Gabčíkovo Dam, downstream of Bratislava on the border of Slovakia and Hungary. This may open up access to various habitats, including spawning grounds, along the main river and its tributaries for numerous Danube migratory fish species.</li> <li>• The project would kick-start the process of finding solutions to reduce the obstacles caused by the Iron Gates and would trigger funding sources for related follow-up measures; falling right in timing regarding the preparations of the next funding period 2021-2027.</li> <li>• As a cross-border cooperation project it directly involves one EU-Member State (RO) and one non-EU Member State (RS) making it relevant for implementation of the Enlargement Negotiations policy. In addition to its cross-border character, this project has basin-wide relevance and thus it contributes to the Eastern Neighbourhood Policy (ENP).</li> <li>• The EU is contracting party to the ICPDR and it currently holds the Presidency of the ICPDR. This project contributes to strengthening the EU's standing in the ICPDR context further by promoting cross-border co-operation between the EU and its neighbours. It also corresponds well with two priorities of the EU Presidency of the ICPDR: (1) to ensure better coordination of the EU support mechanisms for the ICPDR contracting parties with particular emphasis given to the non-EU Member States and (2) to promote the integrated approach between water management and other water uses.</li> </ul>	400.000,00	Grant	Study
65	<b>Annual event Interreg programmes</b>	This action should cover organisation of the Annual event for Interreg programmes, which will take place in June 2019 (exact date and place tbc.).	Sharing most acute implementation issues (and related guidance) as well as good practices with the 88 programmes concerned: networking activities, strategic steering of processes, political commitment (according to Article 51 of regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)	300.000,00	Procurement	Meetings and conference

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66	<b>Stakeholders' workshops as a direct follow-up to REGIO's Communication on Border Regions</b>	Two decentralised workshops to be organised with border stakeholders to go over the recommendations and actions proposed in DG REGIO's Communication on Border Regions and obtain concrete input.	Fulfil the actions/recommendations outlined in the Communication on Border Regions, with input from border stakeholders and practitioners.	250.000,00	Procurement	Meetings and conference
67	<b>Joint REGIO/SANTE conference to disseminate the results of on-going mapping of cross-border health care and promote good practices</b>	DG REGIO's Communication on Border Regions foresees a specific action to promote cross-border health care, using the results of an on-going mapping exercise carried out by DG SANTE.	Main objective is to promote existing good practices in the field of cross-border health care provision and raise awareness of the benefits of pooling resources in border regions. Pooling results in cost-efficiency gains and in saving lives.	200.000,00	Procurement	Meetings and conference
68	<b>Interreg Volunteers Youth Initiative</b>	Interreg Volunteers (Youth) Initiative started in March 2017 with the aim to bring young people closer to Cohesion Policy by offering them the possibility to volunteer as 'Interreg project partner' (helping on Interreg cross-border projects) or 'Interreg reporter' (publicising on-going or closed Interreg cross-border projects). It is necessary to foresee additional budget as a continuation of the already existing action (action 151 under TA 2017 CCI: 2017CE160AT001) in order to deploy more volunteers and to achieve even better results.	Setting up of a scheme encouraging young people to participate actively, on a voluntary basis, to Interreg projects or on their promotion. This will help us to tackle the deficit of awareness about Cohesion Policy and Interreg in particular in young generation.	1.000.000,00	Grant	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
69	<b>Support in the implementation process and in particular regarding the Smart Specialisation Strategy</b>	Support to the French regions in the implementation process and in particular regarding the implementation of the Smart Specialisation Strategy.	A more efficient and more operational Smart Specialisation Strategy and overall better coordination between the different innovation strategies in France.	30.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract
70/71	<b>Anti-fraud measures in ESIF</b>	Article 125.4.c) of the CPR sets out an obligation for MAs to put into place effective and proportionate anti-fraud measures. This REGIO E1 action is aimed at helping Member States in their fraud prevention efforts. Under this action we will seek external services to assist with the analysis and/or implementation of anti-fraud activities (e.g. pilot actions, initiatives in open data, transparency, civil society or the like). This will also include a follow-up to the assignment 2016CE16BAT068 "Preventing fraud and corruption in the ESIF – taking stock of practices in the EU Member States" which is being implemented until mid-2018.	The overall objective is to strengthen fraud prevention capacities within ERDF/CF management system. The expected result is more effective anti-fraud measures. The initiative is directly linked to the following objective of the MP 2017: "Objective 3: Minimisation of the risk of fraud through application of effective anti-fraud measures, integrated in all activities of the DG, based on the DG's anti-fraud strategy (AFS) aimed at the prevention, detection and correction of fraud."	250.000,00	Procurement	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
72/73	<b>REGIO Communities of practitioners</b>	This action will help national and regional administrations (managing authorities and intermediate bodies) to make the best use of ESI Funds and ensure better spending by setting up a knowledge sharing space.	This is the next phase of the project originally developed together with the JRC - EU Policy Lab: Unit E.1. will undertake preparatory actions/studies to analyse and explore demand for and feasibility of setting up a new comprehensive instrument which would provide a platform for exchange of experiences between managing authorities and intermediate bodies for peer learning and offer a wide range of tools to address bottlenecks linked to management and implementation of ESIF. Co-design with representatives of managing authorities of proposals/solutions to address challenges by using a policy lab approach will be used. Actions can also include prototyping and testing the potential for collaboration between managing authorities on topics like state aid, support to beneficiaries, professionalization of the management of ERDF/Cohesion fund, and simplification at national/programme level. The action will contribute to increased professionalization of management of the ERDF and Cohesion Fund.	120.000,00	Procurement	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
74	<b>REGIO Community of practitioners (experts)</b>	Next phase of the project developed together with the JRC - EU Policy Lab. Community building and support (assuming 1 man day per week over a year).	A project to help national and regional administrations make the best use of ESIF and ensure better spending by setting up a knowledge sharing space. The budget under this heading will be mainly used for the preparation of the platform and advisory support.	40.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract

Nr	Title	Content	Objectives and results	Total amount	Procedure	Procedure - Type of action
75/76	<b>Promotion and dissemination of the EU Competency Framework for Management and Implementation of ERDF and CF</b>	Actions to widely disseminate information on and thereby spread usage of the competency framework and its self-assessment tool among administrations managing and implementing the ERDF and Cohesion Fund.	The EU Competency Framework for management and implementation of the ERDF and Cohesion Fund (CF) will assist Member State administrations to identify and address competency gaps both at the level of individual staff and at the level of their administration. The ultimate goal is to contribute to increased professionalization of management of the ERDF and CF. The Competency Framework and its self-assessment tool is the outcome of a study launched in 2014. In 2016 the self-assessment tool was transformed to a more user-friendly web based version which has been pilot tested in 8 MS administrations in 2017 together with the entire Competency Framework. Following finalisation of the pilot testing, which will lead to improvements of the tool, it will be necessary to promote and disseminate the final version of the Competency Framework and its tool and also provide guidance to Member States on how they can use the competency framework in practice to support the development of competencies within the authorities managing and implementing the funds. The action will result in awareness of the competency framework and how it can support further development of administrative capacity.	80.000,00	Procurement	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
77/78	<b>Pilot projects on strengthening and administrative capacity</b>	Support will be made available for 5 to 10 pilot projects at the level of an operational programme to strengthen their administrative capacity for the management of the funds. The lessons learnt from these pilots can be directly applied in the current programme period but will also strengthen the organisation's administrative capacity in view of the next programming period. The PRA's in Italy (programmes for administrative reforms) could serve as a benchmark.	The objective will be to have a more strategic and coherent approach to strengthening the administrative capacity of key bodies in charge of the implementation of an operational programme. The support will be based on existing and tested tools, but which will be tailor made for the specific needs of each individual pilot. Tools will be i.a. an analysis on the basis of the competency framework, resulting action plan with concrete measures like e.g. tailor made trainings, PEER 2 PEER exchanges, participation in community of practitioners and support from existing expert pools (see other relevant TA actions). The pilots will be chosen in close coordination with the geographical units. Pilots will be max. 200 000 per pilot, so 1 million EUR for 5 pilots.	900.000,00	Procurement	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
79/80	<b>Public procurement: pilot project to promote strategic procurement</b>	Public procurement represents roughly 14% of the EU GDP with a value of approximately EUR 5.8 trillion (2015 data). It is not only a crucial pillar of strategic governance and service delivery, but also a key economic activity. If used strategically, public procurement can improve the competitiveness of market economies, as well as help deliver major policy outcomes in response to today's societal and economic challenges, especially when it comes to creating sustainable growth and jobs. Procurement has also an important impact on the EU structural and investment funds (ESI Funds), where almost half of these funds are spent via public contracts. Smart contracting helps to get the best value for money from ESI Funds. In order to promote the use of strategic procurement in the context of Cohesion policy, DG REGIO is launching this pilot project to offer practical "hands-on" support to contracting and/or managing authorities in the member states for the strategic procurement initiatives.	The overall objective of the pilot project is to encourage the uptake of strategic procurement in actions under Operational programmes co-financed by the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds). Specific objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify procurement initiatives in Member States which would highly benefit from strategic approaches;</li> <li>• Select a representative sample of procurement initiatives to be co-financed by ESI Funds and help contracting and managing authorities to implement and promote strategic procurement procedures (or specific phase/part of the procedure);</li> <li>• Summarise the experiences and lessons learned; develop packages of support measures for further professionalisation which can be wider applied in operational programmes; provide recommendations and follow-up actions for further and wider promotion of strategic procurement for actions co-financed by ESI Funds under Operational programmes.</li> <li>• Primary target group: ESIF managing authorities, intermediate bodies and beneficiaries (contracting authorities). In cases, where support is provided to a beneficiary (contracting authority) the relevant managing authorities/intermediate bodies shall also be involved/informed about the process in order to ensure spill over effect on ESIF management and control system.</li> </ul>	350.000,00	Grant	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
81	<b>Pool of experts on public procurement</b>	Support Member States through AMI-list experts in dealing with public procurement issues, including support needed to prepare and carry out strategic procurement procedures.	Offer direct support to national bodies in dealing with public procurement issues, including support needed to prepare and carry out strategic procurement procedures, if required by the national authorities. National bodies could ask for assistance when faced with public procurement issues they are unfamiliar with. The emphasis should be on advising how to best achieve a given objective within the Public procurement framework. This action will be implemented in close coordination with and on request of individual applications from geographical desks.	50.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract
82	<b>Pool of thematic experts on State Aid</b>	Support Member States in designing and implementing state aid schemes or individual aid through AMI-list experts.	Offer direct support to national bodies in designing and implementing State aid schemes or individual aid, if required by the national authorities. National bodies could ask for assistance when faced with State aid issues they are unfamiliar with. The emphasis should be on advising how to best achieve a given objective within the state aid framework.	155.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract
83/84	<b>Public procurement: information, promotion and dissemination</b>	Activities to promote and disseminate the outputs of the actions of Public procurement action plan. Those actions include preparation, editing, translation and printing of promotional material, communication events in MS.	The objective is to increase awareness, both inside and outside the Commission, about the PP Action Plan and its deliverables, to make available the instruments and good practices produced to the practitioners in MS and to inform the public about what the Commission is doing and intends to do in the area of efficiency and transparency of public procurement.	80.000,00	Procurement	Communication and publication



Nr	Title	Content	Objectives and results	Total amount	Procedure	Procedure - Type of action
85	<b>Roundtables for good practices in application of State Aid rules</b>	This action intends to launch an expert level discussion of State aid issues with high relevance for ESIF bodies (Managing Authorities). Selected topics could be new developments (e.g. Commission decisions) or issues of practical relevance to Member States.	The objective is to discuss the selected topic in depth and issue a note summarising the (common) position and recommendations of the experts. The outcome of the round tables should provide further good practice guidance and provide ideas to Member States on lessons learnt so far. The action will contribute to enhancing the administrative capacity of ESIF stakeholders to identify and grant State aid in compliance with the EU State aid rules.	60.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract
86/87	<b>Training (seminars/workshops) on State Aid</b>	General and specialised trainings organised on State aid in Brussels. The general trainings target state aid practitioners from MS involved in management of ESIF, the specialised seminars target ESIF practitioners working in specific fields such as broadband, RDI etc. and which are key investment areas for ESIF.	Implementation of training schemes aiming at enhancing administrative capacities of MAs, IBs, CAs and AAs, increase the level of professionalization of staff working in the management of funds in the specific area of state aid.	100.000,00	Procurement	Trainings
88/89	<b>Training (seminars/workshops) on Public procurement</b>	General and specialised trainings organised on Public procurement in Brussels. The general trainings target Public procurement practitioners from MS involved in management of ESIF, the specialised one target ESIF practitioners working in fields of strategic procurement such as green, socially responsible procurement and or public procurement of innovations etc.	Implementation of training schemes aiming at enhancing administrative capacities of MAs, IBs, CAs and AAs.	100.000,00	Procurement	Trainings
90/91	<b>Strengthening firm competitiveness through technology transfer and developing regional smart specialisation processes and strategies across Romania</b>	The action is intended to improve the ability of Romanian regions to absorb European funds for impactful activities along the innovation chain, including for the Lagging Regions activities. The action includes initiatives to address gaps/weaknesses in the regional tech transfer ecosystem for the NE and NW regions through design and implementation support, initiatives to support to all Romanian regions on innovation and smart specialisation activities, global value chain activities and the investigation of an investment platform which bundles various funding streams to focus on technology adoption. In addition, the action will provide support to other Romanian regions to take stock and validate the maturity of their smart specialisation strategies and processes.	Romania is performing well below the average of the EU on all dimensions and all indicators of the EU Innovation scorecard. The weakest relative performance in terms of dimensions is Linkages and Entrepreneurship; while in terms of indicators, the weakest relative performance is observed for PCT patent applications. Policy instruments targeting technological transfer, public-private cooperation, and financing for business R&D have been lacking or relatively ineffective. The proposed action supports the priority area "A new boost for jobs, growth and investment" and general objective 4 ("A deeper and fairer internal market with strengthen industrial base") as it aims to increase productivity of individual firms based on international integration and innovation. More explicitly, it will cover the provision of applied support to Romania's lagging region with a view to enhance the administrative capacity of national and regional stakeholders from the innovation eco-system. Several interventions are planned at key stages of the innovation chain, building on processes and practices tested with the implementation of the first regional pilots (2016-17). in the North West and North East with JRC support, as well as on the support provided by World Bank to Podkarpackie and Swietokrzyskie regions in Poland . See expected results in the fiche.	2.000.000,00	Grant	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
92	<b>Monitoring system for RIS3 in HU</b>	Expert support to establish a reliable RIS3 monitoring system in Hungary. With the help of the S3Platform the 2 experts will support the Hungarian administration responsible for RIS3 in the completion and deployment of the monitoring system of their Smart specialisation strategies.	Expert support to establish a reliable RIS3 monitoring system in Hungary. With the help of the S3Platform the 2 experts will support the Hungarian administration responsible for RIS3 in the completion and deployment of the monitoring system of their Smart specialisation strategies.	50.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract

Nr	Title	Content	Objectives and results	Total amount	Procedure	Procedure - Type of action
93	<b>S3 CE Cooperation - expert support in mapping/scoping</b>	Expert support for the mapping and scoping of the industry 4.0 cooperation in Central Europe which will lead to the macro region's better connection to the Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms and the EU wide networks. With the help of the S3Platform, the 2 experts will support the launched cooperation in the Central European region with focusing their efforts and building on local strength.	DG REGIO (GU-Hungary) launched an initiative in mid-2016 that aims at contributing to the setting up of a type of long-term dialogue for an efficient and enhanced cooperation and exchange of knowledge between actors of the knowledge triangle (Business/Government/Research&Education) in Central Europe. The participating Member States are the following: Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany (Bavaria, Saxony), Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. Based on a prospective comparative analysis of the Smart Specialization Strategies of the MS/regions concerned – Expert assessment of synergies and areas of potential cooperation related to Smart Specialization Strategies in Central Europe a networking workshop was held in Zagreb on 8-9 December with as main objective to facilitate cooperation and connect different stakeholders of the national knowledge triangles. In the course of 2017 thematic workshops are organised in the most potential areas of cooperation: Industry 4.0, smart cities and agro-bio economy in Hungary and Slovenia. The overall target of the initiative is to stimulate cooperation between these regional players in implementing RIS3s, to coordinate RIS3s over borders and to overcome the inward-looking approach. As a follow-up action 2 experts will assist the stakeholders in the macro region in the mapping and scoping of the already launched cooperation in Industry 4.0 to better focus resources and build on the existing potential of the region. With the AMI experts help we would like to ensure that the cooperation is governed in a focused and targeted manner. The ultimate aim of the initiative by the end of 2018 is to provide the participants with all necessary knowledge and instruments to be fully integrated in the already existing relevant platforms.	23.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract
94/95	<b>S3 CE Cooperation - follow-up events</b>	These 2 networking events are the next steps of the S3 CE initiative and will follow on from the previous networking workshops on Smart Specialisation Cooperation in Central Europe held in 2016 in Zagreb and in 2017 in Hungary on Industry 4.0 and in Slovenia on Smart cities and agro-bio economy.	DG REGIO (GU-Hungary) launched an initiative in mid-2016 that aims at contributing to the setting up of a type of long-term dialogue for an efficient and enhanced cooperation and exchange of knowledge between actors of the knowledge triangle (Business/Government/Research&Education) in Central Europe. The participating Member States are the following: Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany (Bavaria, Saxony), Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. Based on a prospective comparative analysis of the Smart Specialization Strategies of the MS/regions concerned – Expert assessment of synergies and areas of potential cooperation related to Smart Specialization Strategies in Central Europe a networking workshop was held in Zagreb on 8-9 December with as main objective to facilitate cooperation and connect different stakeholders of the national knowledge triangles. In the course of 2017 thematic workshops are organised in the most potential areas of cooperation: Industry 4.0, smart cities and agro-bio economy in Hungary and Slovenia. The overall target of the initiative is to stimulate cooperation between these regional players in implementing RIS3s, to coordinate RIS3s over borders and to overcome the inward-looking approach. As a follow-up action 2 working group events are planned to take place in Hungary to foster the cooperation of the knowledge triangle and form joint projects. The ultimate aim of the initiative by the end of 2018 is to provide the participants with all necessary knowledge and instruments to be fully integrated in the already existing relevant platforms.	60.000,00	Procurement	Meetings and conference
96/97	<b>Sectoral studies for defining unit costs of investment projects</b>	DG REGIO has procured a study on unit costs in railway sector and the study will be completed by the end of 2017. The study should produce a report on unit costs in 26 MS and preparation of cost calculator to help in anticipating costs for future projects. JASPERS has also contracted unit cost study for roads sector. In recent audit on major projects, IAS was positive about our attempts and recommended to undertake unit costs in other sectors where cohesion policy is a significant investor.	The recommendation from the IAS was the following: “carry out or commission studies/analyses of past ESIF projects in different sectors that have been financed by the EU in order to aid the Commission and JASPERS in their evaluations of MP by providing benchmarks against standard costs wherever possible.” It should be underlined the complexity of reaching standard units costs for complex infrastructure projects. Therefore this proposed TA action will depend on success of rail unit cost study. The sectors to be considered include: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road sector (on the basis of JASPERS initial work) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment (waste and wastewater sectors) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy Other non-homogenous sectors such as information society or R&D might be considered for later years.	1.000.000,00	Procurement	Study
98/99	<b>Jaspers</b>	JASPERS (Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Regions). 2014 – 2020 Multiannual Financial Framework	JASPERS (Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Regions) is a technical assistance facility, developed as a partnership between the EC, the EIB and the EBRD (phasing out this year). The EU budget and the EIB provide the bulk of JASPERS resources (80% and 20% respectively), with EBRD phasing out by the end of 2017. JASPERS provides independent advice to beneficiary countries in order to prepare high quality major projects, which will be co-financed by EU funds. JASPERS focuses its support mainly during the preparation phase of projects - from identification to submission of the request for EU grant assistance. This support typically covers cost-benefit analysis, engineering, financial, environmental and procurement issues, review of documentation (such as feasibility studies or grant applications) and advice on compliance with EU regulations. In some cases, advice can be provided up to the start of the construction phase. JASPERS operates to a large extent from the EIB external offices of Bucharest, Vienna, Warsaw and Sofia.	36.000.000,00	Grant	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS

Nr	Title	Content	Objectives and results	Total amount	Procedure	Procedure - Type of action
100/101	<b>Lagging Regions III in Poland</b>	The third phase of the Catching-up Regions Initiative (CRI) in Poland will aim to provide hands-on support to a limited number of small and medium-sized cities in order to boost their economic growth and enhance their attractiveness for investors, businesses and citizens. Furthermore the initiative envisages some additional technical assistance for assuring the roll-out of the developed pilot projects of phases I and II in Poland's regions. The action will be carried out with the World Bank.	As part of the Responsible Development Strategy, the Polish government identified in April 2017 more than 250 towns facing the threat of a prolonged economic stagnation and decline. The list was established on the basis of such criteria as unemployment rates, percentage of highly qualified workers, number and type of full-time jobs, rate of start-ups development, drop in foreign investments and communal revenues, population ageing and net migrations. Out of this group, some 122 towns are considered as extremely vulnerable and in urgent need for economic regeneration. The project will select 4 to 5 vulnerable medium sized cities and projects will be identified to remove bottlenecks for development. These projects will be implemented by Regional or National Operational Programmes.	1.500.000,00	Grant	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
102/103	<b>Catching-up regions initiative</b>	This initiative is focused on enhancing the efficiency and prioritisation of investments to be made from the European Structural and Investment Funds already allocated to the Member States and from the national budget, as well as from other funding sources, in order to obtain an accelerated development in the less developed regions.	The project aims to promote growth and investment in regions that have either experienced several years of negative GDP growth or that despite the efforts made are still at a low level of economic development. This project was already successfully undertaken by two regions in Poland (Swietokrzyskie and Podkarpackie) in 2016 and has proven to be very efficient tool to tackle the bottlenecks of the potential growth of the regions. The results of the Polish pilot projects are available here: <a href="http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/693011496056300360/pdf/115314-WP-OverviewENvwww-PUBLIC-ENGLISH.pdf">http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/693011496056300360/pdf/115314-WP-OverviewENvwww-PUBLIC-ENGLISH.pdf</a> . The strong asset of the initiative is that it is led by the regions themselves, the local stakeholders, the Member State authorities on both central and regional level, with the expertise and continuous support of the Commission as well as other international stakeholders. In case of Poland, the pilot was implemented in close partnership with the World Bank, which was financially supported via a Trust Fund. In 2018, it is intended to involve one of the least developed regions in Slovak Republic, in order to benefit of additional support and targeted technical assistance to the competent authorities in implementing their investment strategies/projects in the 2014-2020 programming period with a view to ensure that Cohesion Policy investments achieve their full impact in terms of growth and job creation.	1.000.000,00	Grant	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
104	<b>Pilot action for interregional RIS3 cooperation</b>	The new action aims to implement actions announced in the Commission Communication on Smart Specialisation COM(2017)376, to work in close collaboration with thematic partnerships representing policy-makers, researchers, businesses and other innovation actors, in particular to help partnerships of researchers and businesses to develop strategic inter-regional common projects to complement the work of the thematic smart specialisation platforms. This action will launch a second call for five to ten partnerships.	The aim will be to test approaches to commercialise and scale-up inter-regional innovation projects that have the potential to encourage the development of European value chains. These partnerships could include advanced manufacturing and industry 4.0, the bioeconomy, big data, energy, low carbon transition, clean and connected mobility, health, cybersecurity, water and innovation in traditional sectors. This work will build on the close working relationship developed between the Commission services and the partnerships developed in the context of the thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms, and on relevant EU innovation initiatives. This will complement the support provided by the S3Platform (financed under administrative agreements from TA and EP pilot actions).	1.000.000,00	Procurement	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
105	<b>Conference on designing better Innovation policies</b>	Organisation of a conference on designing better innovation policies as part of the follow-up to the smart specialisation COM(2017)376 and to the "Smart Regions II" conference in June 2017. To be developed on the basis of cooperation with the OECD.	Showcase and discuss the work undertaken with the OECD as a follow-up to the actions announced in the smart specialisation COM(2017)376.	500.000,00	Procurement	Meetings and conference
106	<b>Designing better innovation policies for regions and cities</b>	Organisation of 5 seminars with the OECD on the basis of expert papers on a range of issues linked to improving the implementation of innovation policies for regions and cities.	Feed into the development of the Commission's approach to regional innovation policies, drawing on lessons from academic literature and other OECD member states. The results will be fed into current work on smart specialisation and Cohesion Policy post-2020.	500.000,00	Grant	Meetings and conference
107	<b>Smart and sustainable growth: external expertise</b>	Expert's contracts in thematic fields	Support in thematic fields where specific expertise is required to support the programme implementation, performance audits, review existing strategies and plans, pilot actions, etc. focusing primarily on priorities and actions bringing the greatest added value in relation to smart and sustainable growth (incl. transport).	500.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract
108/109	<b>Small studies for policy development</b>	The action is intended to provide the possibility to undertake small studies to support policy development in the area of smart and sustainable growth.	The aim of the action is to provide a thematic evidence basis in relation to innovation, ICT, SMEs, energy efficiency, adaptation, environment and transport.	100.000,00	Procurement	Study

Nr	Title	Content	Objectives and results	Total amount	Procedure	Procedure - Type of action
110/111	<b>Brussel's based facility for Broadband Competence Offices (BCO)</b>	Running of the Brussel's based Facility for Broadband Competence Offices (BCO) from 2017 until end of 2020.	DG AGRI, DG REGIO and DG CNECT jointly run the Brussel's based Facility for supporting the network of Broadband Competence Offices (BCO) from 2017-2020. This structure was established in Brussels in early 2017 and coordinates and supports a network of national and/or regional BCOs in order to promote the introduction of fast and ultra-fast broadband all over the EU territory, including in rural areas. The aforementioned structure is in line with the priorities of the 2014-2020 ESIF programming, Financial Instruments priorities, Digital Single Market (DSM) priorities and the overall priorities of Juncker Commission.	300.000,00	Procurement	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
112	<b>Pilot action for regions in Industrial transition</b>	The new action aims to implement actions announced in the Commission Communication on Smart Specialisation COM(2017)376. The Commission will put in place a pilot action involving a limited number of test regions expressing their interest to work on the basis of their respective smart specialisation strategies in order to promote broad-based innovation to address the challenges of the industrial transition. This action will launch a second call for around five partnerships.	The aim of the action is to facilitate the combined use of existing EU instruments and programmes managed by the Commission together with the resources available from cohesion policy, with the aim of accelerating the innovation uptake, removing investment barriers and facilitating reskilling and preparing for industrial and societal change.	3.000.000,00	Procurement	Technical and other administrative assistance to MS
113/114	<b>Study on the development and implementation of framework for monitoring and evaluation of Smart Specialisation</b>	Linked to the Communication, adopted as of 18 July 2017, and to the European Parliament Resolution PA_TA-PROV(2016)0320, it is expected to work on improvements of the research and innovation system at regional and local levels. Development of a system of a "monitoring/evaluation/knowledge management" for Smart Specialisation will be helpful in this regard. This is the second stage of the project.	The aim of this action would be a development of a Monitoring and Evaluation framework which transparently record successes and failures to implement regional innovation strategies for smart specialisation in MS regions and allow prompt detection of problems in design and execution of projects as a management tool. The World Bank can develop a Monitoring and Evaluation framework by carrying out this study.	300.000,00	Grant	Study
115	<b>Analyse comparative des modes de financement des entreprises au Portugal</b>	Analyse comparative des trois formes de financement FEDER pour les entreprises au Portugal (subventions, aides remboursables, instruments financiers).	Examen comparatif des résultats obtenus pour chaque forme de financement pendant la période 2014-2020 en fonction d'un certain nombre de paramètres à définir, tels que taille des entreprises, secteur d'activité, performance atteinte, budget engagé, etc. Principales conclusions à tirer afin d'encourager la rationalisation et l'obtention du meilleur rapport entre le financement mis à disposition et les objectifs atteints dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre de programmes opérationnels post-2020 au Portugal.	27.500,00	AMI list	Expert contract
116	<b>Support to intermediate bodies in the implementation of TO-04</b>	The aim of this contract is to support the work of the Geographical Unit by preparing a mapping and assessment of the calls for proposals carried out so far under the TO4 of the different OPs. By evaluating the calls for proposals as well as a set of awarded projects, the study will help on providing direct feedback to the European Commission. The results will be shared with the Managing Authority and the REBECA network.	In the period 2014-2020 Spain has substantially increased the allocation of funds for Low Carbon Economy under the European Regional and Development Fund (ERDF). This increase is particularly significant in the areas of energy efficiency and renewable energy. Under the programme 2014-2020, the activities on Low Carbon Economy are gathered under Thematic Objective 4 (TO4). The total allocation for Low Carbon Economy has increased up to EUR 3 425,25 million, which represents an increase up to tenfold compared to the allocation in the 2007-2013 programme. Out of the 22 OPs in Spain, 20 include activities on Low Carbon Economy. The expert shall review all the calls opened throughout 2016, 2017 and early 2018 (depending on the date of the signature), including information available on the ERDF section of the website that each region should have set up. This should include: documentation for the call, evaluation for selection and evaluation criteria and public results (if available). In addition, the expert shall carry out a desk review of 3 awarded projects per programme (a total of 60 projects). The objective of this review is to analyse the response to the objectives of the call and the quality of the projects obtained. The information will be obtained with the collaboration of the managing authorities and the intermediate bodies. The analysis will provide feedback and help improve the implementation of the OPS on the following points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality and completeness of the evaluation process.</li> <li>• Correspondence between the objectives of TO4, the calls for proposals and the proposals selected.</li> <li>• Level of ambition of the calls for proposals (in terms of energy efficiency or renewable energy).</li> <li>• Communication of the call for proposals (i.e. how where the proposals made public).</li> <li>• Feedback into the evaluation process (to improve the calls).</li> <li>• Comparison on the evaluation criteria used in each OP.</li> </ul> The results and conclusions of this study will help to improve future calls and in particular better direct the scope and evaluation criteria of the calls.  The results of the mapping and analysis will be shared between the DG-REGIO, the managing authorities and the intermediate bodies through the REBECA network. The results will also be shared with DG-ENER for policy feedback.	40.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract

Nr	Title	Content	Objectives and results	Total amount	Procedure	Procedure - Type of action
117	<b>Support urban authorities in the implementation of article 7</b>	Two experts will give support to urban authorities in the implementation of article 7. The experts will provide assistance to Spanish Urban Authorities implementing article 7 in different ways: organising thematic workshops, facilitating exchange of good practices, performing ad hoc visits and consulting, as much as supporting the Managing Authority and the Intermediate Bodies with the coordination of these actions.	<p>The Urban Sustainable Strategies (EDUSIS, in Spanish) regulated by article 7 of ERDF, are financed in Spain through PA12 (urban axis) of the Operational Programme for Sustainable Development (POCS) with an ERDF co-financing around 1,5 billion euros to finance more than 140 integrated strategies in urban areas of more than 20.000 inhabitants. Due to the high number of cities implementing strategies and the complexity linked to managing ERDF funds and the successful implementation of integrated urban strategies, DG REGIO (unit G2 and DDG03) identified the need of reinforcing the monitoring and technical assistance given to cities.</p> <p>The Commission decided to order a study (contract nr 2016CE160AT092) which consists in a repository of the first batch of integrated urban strategies (83 fiches), an on-line consultation to urban authorities and the realization of these focus groups. The result will be a document with a consensus proposal on the priorities and the road map for the implementation of the technical assistance given to the cities through the Spanish Network of Urban Initiatives (RIU). The final report is expected at the end of September.</p> <p>The work of the two experts will be used to support the implementation of the roadmap.</p> <p>The objective is twofold. On one hand, due to the amount and diversity of the urban strategies and local authorities, the Commission intends to actively support the speed up of the implementation, avoiding further delays which could endanger the fulfilment of the commitments in terms of performance framework and N+3 rules. Furthermore, the actions taken so far are already improving the overall governance of the funds, enabling a multilevel cooperation between the European Commission, the Spanish Managing Authority and the Urban Authorities while empowering cities by enhancing the participatory approach and the partnership principle.</p> <p>On the other hand, it aims to reinforce the coordination of the technical assistance, avoiding atomization of initiatives and to improve the capacity of the RIU to ensure the coherence of the implementation of these strategies with the construction of the Spanish Urban Agenda and with the European Urban Agenda.</p>	80.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract
118	<b>Expert assistance in the area of RIS3 implementation and innovation dissemination in Greece and Cyprus</b>	Hire three AMI list experts for Greece and two for Cyprus in order to advise the Commission's services in the field of the optimal implementation of RIS3 and innovation dissemination in Greece and Cyprus	Greece and Cyprus are struggling in implementing their approved RIS3s and disseminating innovation. The AMI-list experts will be called to provide assistance to the Commission's services in assessing the published or planned to be published calls in these fields in order to make the best use of the available resources and achieving the planned results. Their work will involve as well assessment of the adequate use of research infrastructures, interaction with relevant policies such as the Digital Growth Strategy and delivery methods (financial instruments, grants, etc)	75.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract
119	<b>Improving the use of ERDF funding on migration in Italy: impact of ERDF funding in 2007-2013 and recommendations for 2014-2020</b>	The project aims to assess the impact of ERDF funding on the reception and integration of migrants in the 2007-13 period and, on that basis, identify areas for improvement for the 2014-20 period. It will focus on the "Sicurezza" National Operational Programme and on maximum 6 Regional Operational Programmes. In addition, the project aims to improve synergies between national and regional OPs as well as between the ERDF and other EU funds (AMIF and ESF).	<p>The project will 1) improve DG REGIO's knowledge of the results achieved by the ERDF in the field of the reception and integration of migrants in Italy, both through national and Regional Operational Programmes and 2) contribute to improving the use of ERDF resources in this area in the 2014-20 period.</p> <p>The expected results are: (i) identify the results achieved by the "Sicurezza" national OP and by a number of regional OPs in the 2007-13 period; (ii) identify the main difficulties encountered by national, regional and local actors and make recommendations for the future; (iii) make recommendations to improve synergies between national and regional OPs; (iv) make recommendations to improve synergies and avoid overlap with other EU funds (AMIF and ESF); (v) outline the regional strategies and framework set up for the reception and integration of migrants in the selected regions; (vi) identify priority areas of intervention for the ERDF based on needs expressed by responsible actors. The expert will produce one final report by end of June 2018 containing the main findings based on the objectives set out above.</p>	27.750,00	AMI list	Expert contract
120	<b>Deployment of monitoring systems of RIS3 strategies - phase II</b>	The project is the continuation of phase I, implemented during 2017 and considered as pilot. With the assistance of the S3Platform colleagues, a short series of focused workshops involving all Italian regional and national parties involved in the monitoring system of their Smart specialisation strategies. The scope will be extended to all regions (21) and the national strategy, building on the lessons learnt from phase I.	The project will assist Italian authorities with the revision exercise of RIS3 strategies, based on the outcomes of the monitoring of the first years of implementation. In particular, in line with the national RIS3 and building on phase I, the project will aim to develop common approaches to monitoring RIS3 strategies at national level, including through the development of common indicators. In addition, the project will continue with the entrepreneurial discovery process looking, in particular, at ways of involving stakeholders during revision and implementation. The initiative will support regions in their effort to stick to RIS3 strategies when investing in OT1, as well as OT2 and OT3, by promoting simplification and building on the experience so far. Finally, the project would provide useful input into the preparation of post-2020 funding.	70.650,00	AMI list	Expert contract

Nr	Title	Content	Objectives and results	Total amount	Procedure	Procedure - Type of action
121	<b>Drawing lessons from ERDF support in the areas struck by the earthquake in Abruzzo</b>	The project aims to assess the socio-economic impact of the use of 2007-2013 ERDF resources in the areas struck by the 2009 earthquake in Abruzzo and to draw conclusions for more efficient use of resources in the future (as part of the additional resources to be allocated to the Abruzzo region – 40 million EUR at the end of 2017 – following the 2017 earthquake). There is little information on the socio-economic impact (the FIR does not provide such information) and there is evidence that the resources have had limited impact (little economic activity in L'Aquila's historical centre; large amount of small projects with little impact).		20.000,00	AMI list	Expert contract
122/123	<b>Expenditures for Learning and Development</b>	Organisation of Learning and Development actions, in line with the priorities set out in the annual Strategic Learning and Development Plan.	Developing skills and knowledge of DG REGIO staff	75.000,00	Procurement	Trainings
124/125	<b>Improved regionalisation and timeliness of SILC (2018-2019)</b>	Grants will be provided to MS to support the further developments and improvements of SILC, in the context of its redesign, its timeliness and its regional coverage.	These grants will ensure a better regional coverage of SILC indicators such as the 'at risk of poverty' or social exclusion rate.	450.000,00	Grant	Study
<b>total</b>				<b>113.605.765,00</b>		