

Workshop: Financial Management of INTERREG programmes

Date: 29-30 March 2004

Expert: Mr Axel Senftleben

## Case Studies

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### I. Project Selection and Approval Procedures

- CIP Rhein - Waal (German/Dutch border) Annex 1
- CIP Saxony - Czech Republic, Annex 2

### II. Payment and reporting flows for a III A Programme (PL/SK) and an approved project: Annual vs. multi-annual

- Payment on account from COM to PA
- Audited invoices from Project Partner (PP) to Lead Partner (LP)
- Financial Report with audited invoices from LP to PA
- Payment PA to LP
- Payment LP to PP's
- Payment National Co-financing to LP or PP's (when?)
- Interim payment application PA to COM three times a year
- Interim payment COM to PA if conditions are met

### III. Public like expenditure (COM-letter from 22.10.2001)

- National rules and procedures apply
- COM proposes the following criteria:
  - Are the relevant expenditures subject to public tendering?
  - How are the expenditures judged in relation to state aids?
  - Legal form of the relevant body; but: private form does not mean that the expenditures are not "similar" or "public like"
  - Is the relevant body directed to public interest?
  - Is the relevant body *de jure* or *de facto* subject to public control?

(German – Dutch border)

### I. Project Selection and Approval Procedure

### II. Main Eligibility Criteria

- Cross-border character; i.e.
  - Positive impacts on both sides of the border
  - Financial, organisational and personal contributions of both sides of the border (even if the project is carried out in one Member State)
- At least 20% financial contribution of the final recipient

### III. Main Quality Criteria

- Improvement of the labour market, the competitiveness and economic development; creation of employment
- Project removes structural deficits in the eligible area
- Project promotes sustainable development, combining economic growth, social cohesion and environmental protection
- Project should obtain permanent effects
- Value for money
- “Lighthouse”-project with perspective and concentration of financial funds
- Project shows clear added value
- Project is to date
- Project is for citizens

### IV. Assessment System

The specific criteria are rated:

- adequate
- predominantly adequate
- insufficient

No further scoring system.

## V. Selection and Decision Procedure

- Before filing of the application: Secretariat(Programme-Management) gives advice to applicant concerning content and financial matters
- Official application to Secretariat (Programme-Management); informal eligibility and quality check; further discussions with the applicant; if necessary adapted application;
- Formal assessment by the Programme-Management
- Assessment by expert committees of the Euroregion
- Assessment by the Regional Governments concerning national criteria and national co-financing
- Definite assessment by the Programme Management and proposal for decision to the Council of the Euroregion; decision by the Council; this decision determines the vote of the Euroregion in the Steering Committee
- Submission of application with the different remarks and proposal for decision to the Steering Committee
- SC decision by consensus
- Private subsidy contract between Managing Authority and final recipient (Lead Partner)

The whole procedure lasts about 6 months.

## VI. Assessment Mid-Term-Evaluation:

Positive

### I. Project Selection and Approval Procedure

### II. Main Eligibility Criteria

- Several formal criteria
- Sound co-financing

### III. Main Quality Criteria

#### ✓ Quality of preparation and implementation of the project (3 criteria)

- Clear evidence of demand
- Degree of innovation
- Project can start at short notice

#### ✓ Cross-border character (9 criteria)

- Project is linked with a similar project on the other side of the border
- Project is integrated in joint strategies
- Joint project planning
- Joint implementation
- Project contributes to the creation of sustainable cross-border connections
- Project creates intensive co-operations with neighbour country
- Project reduces barriers (infrastructure, socio-cultural)
- Project contributes to socio-economic development of the region

#### ✓ Regional impact (8 criteria)

- Project is in line with regional strategies
- Project is planned and implemented with Saxon partners
- Results of the project are sustainable ( economic, environmental, social cohesion)

## IV. Assessment System

✓ The 20 criteria are rated:

- Statement applies completely 5 points
- Statement applies partly 3 points
- Statement does not apply 0 points

✓ Maximum points: 100

- < 30 points: red list; not recommended
- 30 – 69 points: yellow list; in principle eligible; to be discussed and decided in SC
- 70 -100 points: green list; particularly recommended

## V. Selection and Decision Procedure

✓ Phase I: From project proposal to project application

- Submission of project proposal to Project Coordinator (Euroregion)
- Informal eligibility and quality check; if necessary further advice concerning content and financing; adjustment of project proposal
- Informal assessment by local and regional actors (coordination-network)
- If necessary: adjustment of project proposal

✓ Phase II: Submission, Assessment and Selection

- Submission of project application through project coordinator to JTS
- Eligibility check; if necessary adjustment
- Assessment by Regional Governments concerning national criteria and co-financing (scoring)
- Assessment by German and Czech SC members scoring)
- Analysis of the assessments by JTS; calculation of average points; proposal for decision (green, yellow or red list)

- SC decision by consensus. Inside Saxon delegation: decision by majority. Only those members have voting right, which have assessed the project in writing
- Public authorisation for German partners by Sächsische Aufbaubank; for Czech partners: to be decided