



EUROPEAN UNION



REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Strategic projects in ENPI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme 2007 – 2013

March 2009

Fact sheets on ENPI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme

→ ELIGIBLE TERRITORIES

117 regions of 19 different countries

→ POPULATION

143 millions inhabitants

→ PROGRAMME STRATEGY

4 priorities articulated in 10 measures

→ BUDGET

€173,6 million of EU contribution, of which:

- € 156,2 million for financing cross-border projects

- € 17,4 million for technical assistance

€15,6 million of national cofinancing

(minimum 10% at the project level)

→ PROGRAMME LANGUAGES

English, French and Arabic

→ JOINT MANAGING AUTHORITY

Regione Autonoma della Sardegna

ENPI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme



The principles

The ENPI Regulation (art. 4) points out the **key principles** to orientate the definition and implementation of the Programme:

- **Common benefits**
- **Partnership**
- **Complementarity**
- **Co-financing**

Dialogue among the participating countries has led to the identification of a set of **principles which integrate** those already included in the ENPI Regulation:

- **Co-ownership**
- **Sustainable development**
- **Equality** of opportunities, non-discrimination and respect of human rights
- **Territorial dimension** of the development process and valorization of endogenous potentials within the cooperation area
- Support to **competitiveness**
- **Integration and coordination** with other national and local initiatives

Beyond principles: some methodological elements

In order to **avoid fragmentation** and dispersion of the Programme actions, the participating countries have decided to **focus** on sectors which:

- constitute **common challenges** and whose measures will allow the beneficiaries to carry out activities to produce results for all the covered area of cooperation;
- are able to enrich the territories with **innovation** elements (on a technological or organisational level);
- are able to **stimulate and increase the competences** of different actors (public and private) at various levels (national and local);
- can produce an **added value** to other programmes and initiatives carried out within the Mediterranean Basin.

The Programme framework: priorities and measures

PRIORITIES	MEASURES	BUDGET
1. Promotion of socio-economic development and enhancement of territories	1.1 Support to innovation and research in the process of local development of the Mediterranean Sea Basin countries	€ 68.748.500 40%
	1.2 Strengthening economic clusters creating synergies among potentials of the Mediterranean Sea Basin countries	
	1.3 Strengthening the national strategies of territorial planning by integrating the different levels, and promotion of balanced and sustainable socio-economic development	
2. Promotion of environmental sustainability at the basin level	2.1 Prevention and reduction of risk factors for the environment and enhancement of natural common heritage	€ 51.561.375 30%
	2.2 Promotion of renewable energies use and improvement of energy efficiency contributing to addressing, among other challenges, climate change	
3. Promotion of better conditions and modalities for ensuring the mobility of persons, goods and capitals	3.1 Support to people flows among territories as a means of cultural, social and economic enrichment	€ 17.187.125 10%
	3.2 Improvement of conditions and modalities of circulation of goods and capitals among the territories	
4. Promotion of cultural dialogue and local governance	4.1 Support to mobility, exchanges, training and professionalism of young people	€ 34.374.250 20%
	4.2 Support to the artistic creativity in all its expressions to encourage dialogue among communities	
	4.3 Improvement of governance processes at local level	

Eligible actors

The main typologies of eligible actors are **specified for the different priorities and measures of the Programme:**

- Public bodies and local, regional and national authorities;
 - Universities and research centers;
 - Non-Governmental Organisations;
 - Traders' associations and organisations representing economic and social interests;
 - Companies and other private organisations.
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- ❖ The modalities for the **participation of private actors** will be defined in the call for proposals, in compliance with national and EU legislation on State aid.
 - ❖ Each call for projects may define the eligible actors for that call out of the whole list contained in the PRAG

Programme management

The organisational structure ensures a transparent and shared decision making process in the management of the Programme:



- **Joint Monitoring Committee**
- **Projects' Selection Committee**
- **Joint Managing Authority (Cagliari – ITALY)**
- **Joint Technical Secretariat (Cagliari – ITALY)**

Diffusion of opportunities offered by the Programme and territorial coverage:



- **Branch Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (Aqaba – JORDAN)**
- **Branch Office for the Western Mediterranean (Valencia – SPAIN):**
also functioning as **Liaison Office** for ensuring the coordination with the transnational “Mediterranean” programme financed by Structural Funds (ERDF).

Managing structures - 1

The Joint Managing Authority → Established within the Autonomous Region of Sardinia, it is responsible for the management and implementation of the Operational Programme and ensures the legality and regularity of the operations. In particular, it:

- Chairs the Joint Monitoring Committee;
- Countersigns the Financing Agreements between the European Commission and the Mediterranean Partner Countries;
- Prepares and launches the calls for proposals and the calls for tenders;
- Negotiates and signs contracts with the beneficiaries.
- Submits the requests for payment to the European Commission and proceeds with payments to the final beneficiaries;
- Carries out the monitoring and audit of projects and of Programme activities.

The Joint Technical Secretariat → Technical and administrative body established by the Joint Managing Authority. In particular, it:

- Assists the Joint Managing Authority and the Joint Monitoring Committee (preparation of calls for proposals, and selection and management of projects, etc.)
- Provides technical assistance to project applicants in the preparation their project proposals, and to beneficiaries in the project implementation.
- Contributes to the implementation of the information and communication activities.

Managing structures - 2

The Joint Monitoring Committee → Decision-making body of the Programme composed of a delegation for each participating country.

- It approves the selection criteria and the list of selected projects drafted by the Projects Selection Committee;
- It decides on the financial allocations for project financing in the calls for proposals;
- It decides on the financial resources for technical assistance activities;
- It examines and approves: the annual working plan and budget of the Programme, the activity, financial and audit reports prepared by the Joint Managing Authority.

The Projects Selection Committee → Established by the Monitoring Committee, it is responsible for the evaluation of projects.

- It is composed of experts;
- It evaluates project proposals and prepares a ranking list according to the selection criteria and evaluation grid approved by the Monitoring Committee;
- It submits the list of selected projects and the evaluation report to the Monitoring Committee for approval.

Strategic projects in JOP

Strategic projects should take into account the **opportunities, strengths and challenges** which characterise the Mediterranean basin and they should respond to **the needs of the territories** involved in the Programme.

Their implementation should have **positive impacts overcoming the territorial limits** and generate **important effects** within the framework of regional, national and basin development strategies.

The subjects of the strategic projects will be selected by the Joint Monitoring Committee according to the **main challenges of the cooperation area** in order to define work programmes regarding the whole Programme and **avoiding fragmentation** of the operations.



Strategic projects are to be regarded to as:

- **Horizontal strategic projects** giving priority to a specific thematic approach considered of strategic value for the Mediterranean basin and involving the active participation of several territories and partners on the two shores of the Basin;
- **Geographically concentrated** strategic projects: focusing on the identification of shared solutions to problems and common challenges in a limited number of territories (of different countries on the two shores) within the framework of a partnership composed of actors of a different nature.



➤ Projects will be selected through the **restricted call for proposals with two-steps procedure**:

- 1) *concept note*;
- 2) detailed application form.

➤ Indicatively **40% of the total budget** is allocated to strategic projects.

	Minimum threshold	Maximum threshold
Financial dimension for each project	2.000.000 €	5.000.000 €

Minimum number of countries represented within the partnership proposing the project	4 of which at least one EU Mediterranean country and one Mediterranean partner country
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The indicative budget for the first call of strategic projects

Total amount of the first call will be of about **€38 million**

Eligible costs of each strategic project must be within a **minimum of €2 million and a maximum of €5 million**



approval of 10-12 strategic projects

Identification and selection of strategic projects

The process for identifying and selecting strategic projects will follow the procedures of **restricted call for proposals established by the PRAG**

Main features of the identification process:

- Adoption of a **shared methodology** for the identification of strategic issues and topics related to cooperation area.
- **Key-role of JMC with a top-down approach** (identification of priorities, approval of ToR, approval of the selection of projects)



Working session between **JMA and heads of delegation** of the JMC on a **strategic re-reading of Programme priorities working document** (elaborated by the JMA).

Key elements of the document:

- Each Programme priority has been re-analysed in relation to elements of the SWOT analysis, complementarity with other ongoing relevant activities, new opportunities and challenges in coherence with the recent dynamics in the socio-economic and political framework (Union for the Mediterranean, impacts of the international economic crisis in the area...).
- On the basis of all these elements, indications of potential strategic topics.



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- During the first working group meeting, JMC members debated on how **to focus the first call for strategic projects**, taking stock of JOP's prescriptions on strategic projects and on budget allocation per priority, of their respective national priorities and of a number of new factors which surfaced after the completion of the JOP.
 - Members of the JMC indicate for their respective countries, the **topics and Programme measures** they consider as most relevant, on the basis of national policies and priorities and following national consultations in the respective countries to better address the topics of the selected priorities .



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- A **revised draft of the working document**, including new indications on selected topics for the call for proposals based on the results of national consultation on strategic topics currently held by the Heads of Delegations
 - A second meeting of the working group to **approve the list of strategic topics**
 - JMA publish the Work Programme for the call for proposals on strategic projects
 - Key experts** are asked to draft **technical fact sheets on selected strategic topics** retained for strategic projects; these fact sheets are attached to the working document and will constitute the basis for the elaboration of the terms of reference for the call for proposals.
 - Final version of the ToR** is approved by the JMC meeting.
 - Launching of the call for proposals** on strategic projects. Partners are invited to present **concept notes** for a preliminary evaluation phase of project proposals.

Information and contacts

More information are available at:

<http://www.regione.sardegna.it/speciali/enpicbc/en/>

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