



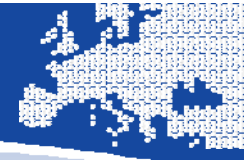
European Territorial Cooperation in legislative proposals

Virve Vimpari
Transnational and Interregional Cooperation
DG Regional Policy



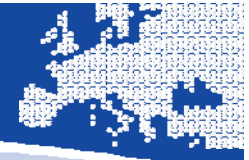
Legislative package

- **General regulation**
Common provisions for cohesion policy, the rural development policy and the maritime and fisheries policies
Common provisions for cohesion policy only (ERDF, ESF, CF)
- **Fund-specific regulations for ERDF, ESF, CF, ETC**
- **EGTC regulation**



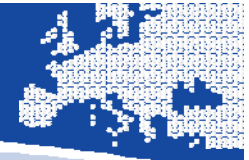
ETC in regulatory framework

- Overall reform aims apply (Europe 2020 alignment, thematic concentration, performance orientation)
- Cooperation activities of CSF Funds covered by Common Strategic Framework and Partnership contracts
- Performance framework applies, but not performance reserve
- Ex-ante conditionalities do not apply
- Changes deriving from revisions of Financial Regulation apply (annual closure of accounts, accreditation mechanism etc.)



Key features of ETC regulation

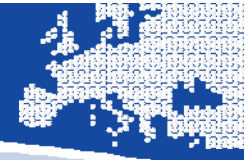
- Continuity (three strands, joint programme management and project selection, lead partner principle etc.)
- Clarifications (responsibilities of bodies involved in programme implementation, third country involvement, role of EGTCs, Concept of sole beneficiary, use of the Euro)
- Strengthening of joint approach at programme and project level (Eligibility rules, organisation of financial control and audit, project selection criteria)



Architecture

Cross-border cooperation

- COM to adopt list of cross-border areas to receive support by programme (at NUTS 3 level)
- List specifies border areas covered by IPA/ENI
- List includes regions in NO, CH etc. and countries neighbouring outermost regions for information purposes
- Addition of adjacent NUTS 3 regions may be proposed when submitting programmes



Architecture

Transnational cooperation

- COM to adopt list of transnational areas to receive support by programme (at NUTS 2 level)
- Third country regions covered by ENI (incl. Russia) and IPA can also be covered by programme, funding from external instruments to be made available.
- Third country regions included in list for information purposes
- Addition of adjacent NUTS 2 regions may be proposed when submitting programmes

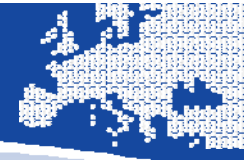
Interregional cooperation

- EU-27, whole or part of territory of third countries may be covered



Financial Resources

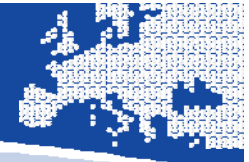
- 3 categories
 - 73 % for cbc (EUR 8.6 bn)
 - 21 % for transnational (EUR 2.4 bn)
 - 6 % for interregional (EUR 0,7 bn)
- EUR 50 mio. to be set aside from interregional allocation for outermost regions cooperation, ERDF support for outermost regions' cooperation not to be less than 150 % of 2007-2013 level
- Population = criterion for breakdown by Member State
- 75 % co-financing rate (50 % for outermost regions' allocation)



Financial Resources

ERDF transfer to ENI and IPA

- Amount to be transferred to be established by COM and MS
- If no programme submitted, funds to be allocated to internal cbc programmes of Member State concerned
- Programme to be discontinued if none of the partners countries have signed the financing agreement by deadline established in ENI/IPA regulations



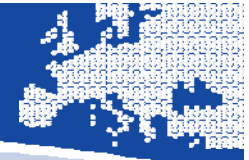
Thematic concentration

- List of thematic objectives established in Art. 9 CPR applies
- Cross-border and transnational select 4 thematic objectives
- Interregional («INTERREG VC») can cover all thematic objectives
- Investment priorities are defined for each thematic objective in ERDF regulation, these also apply to ETC programmes
- Additional element in ETC regulation: ESF-type actions, legal and administrative cooperation and cooperation between citizens and institutions, macro-regional strategies



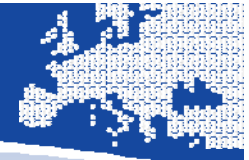
Programming

- Strategy for programmes' contribution to the Unions' strategy of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth
- Justification for choice of thematic objectives and corresponding investment priorities
- Specific objectives for each investment priority, common and specific output and result indicators, corresponding categories of intervention
- Performance framework



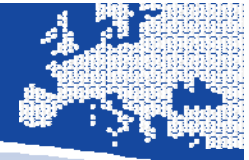
Programming

- Implementing provisions (info on control and audit responsibilities, procedure for setting up JS, summary description of management and control arrangements, apportionment of liabilities)
- Programme content to be adapted for URBACT, INTERACT, ESPON
- Confirmation of agreement to programme content in writing and commitment to provide necessary co-financing
- COM to adopt programme model



Selection of operations

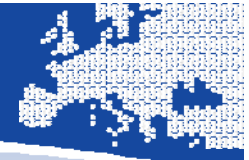
- Concept of sole beneficiary
- Beneficiaries to cooperate in development, implementation, staffing and financing of operations
- MA to provide lead beneficiary with document setting out conditions of support, including products and services to be delivered and time-limit for execution



Monitoring, Evaluation and TA

- First annual report to be submitted in 2016
- Lighter annual reports, regular electronic exchange of data
- More strategic reports in 2017 and 2019
- Annual review can also be carried out in writing
- Common output indicators, programme-specific output and result indicators

- Programme TA: Maximum of 6 % of ERDF allocation, but not less than 1,5 mio. EUR

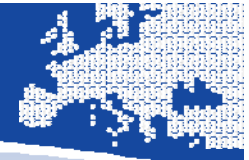


Eligibility

Hierarchy of rules:

- Eligibility rules contained in Art. 55 ff. CPR apply, COM may adopt additional rules for ETC
- MC to adopt eligibility rules for entire programme on matters not covered at EU level
- National rules apply as last resort

Staff costs can be calculated as flat rate



Eligibility

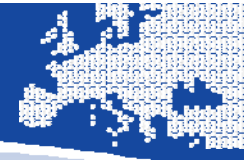
Implementation of operations outside programme area
(within or outside EU):

- higher percentage limit for outermost regions
- control/audit to be carried out either by programme authorities or under respective agreements between programme authorities and counterparts in Member state or third country
- no percentage limit for promotional activities and capacity-building



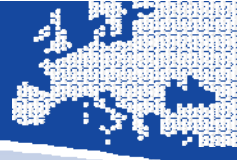
Management, control and accreditation

- MA to carry out functions of MA and CA
- Management verifications to be carried out by the MA
- If not possible, controls to be carried out by controllers designated in Member States (synergies with controls under Investment for growth and jobs goal to be sought)
- Same mechanism for audit authority
- Accreditation by accrediting body of Member State in which MA is located (Art. 117 CPR)



Financial Management

- Use of the Euro: Conversion to be done by beneficiaries in the month during which expenditure was incurred, conversion to be verified as part of management verifications
- De-commitment: 2014 tranche to be spread equally across remaining budget years, $n+3$ (But: same closing date)
- Participation of ENI/IPA countries in transnational/interregional programmes: Rules to be determined in respective programme and/or financing agreement



Thank you for your attention!