

TA in 2021-2027

Context

Introduced on a voluntary basis in the mid of 2014-2020 (Omnibus Regulation), reimbursement of technical assistance (TA) as a flat rate (FR) in 2021-2027 became mandatory for all programmes. Since it is an SCO, this is a major simplification. Yet, there might be some challenges. TA is **not a fixed percentage of the programme's budget**, but the actual amount that the programmes will receive as TA will depend on the spending levels of the projects (flat rate is calculated on top of the amounts that the programme submits in payment claims to the EC). This can create a shortage of financial resources at the beginning of the 2021-2027 programme implementation. Also, pre-financing for 2021 and 2022 is quite low (1% each year) and is cleared with the respective accounting years.

This means that careful budgeting and close monitoring of TA spending, particularly in the first years of implementation, is of utmost importance. Programmes can also arrange to receive national contributions to TA in full at the beginning of the programme (since national contribution for TA is also expected). These should be accompanied by timely and high-level spending rates of co-financed projects. Finally, programmes can consider using 2014-2020 savings (until the end of Dec 2023).

Do you know?

In the Interact library, you can find a dedicated <u>factsheet on TA in 2021-2027</u> as well as the <u>TA calculator</u> (designed for all Interreg programmes and all budget sizes – for TA planning purpose).

Group work

Discuss the topic:

- Do you expect in your programme challenges concerning TA in the first years of implementation?
- If yes, what measures do you plan to mitigate shortages of financial resources in TA? Do you plan to use 2014-2020 savings?
- How do you plan to maximize projects' spending levels in the first years of 2021-2027?
- Other concerns/ questions related to TA in the first years of 2021-2027 programme implementation?