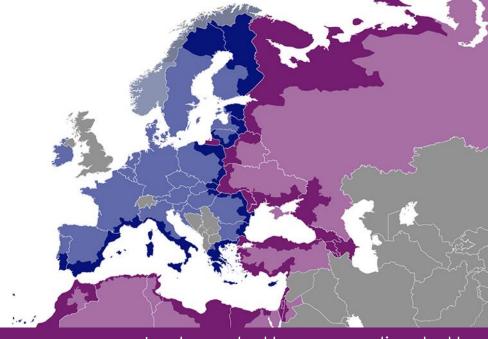


Cross-border added value at selection stage in ENI CBC programmes

(Mapping of results)

Interact event "Quality of cooperation"
Online, 29 March 2023



Implemented by a consortium led by



Ex-post evaluation of ENPI CBC programmes

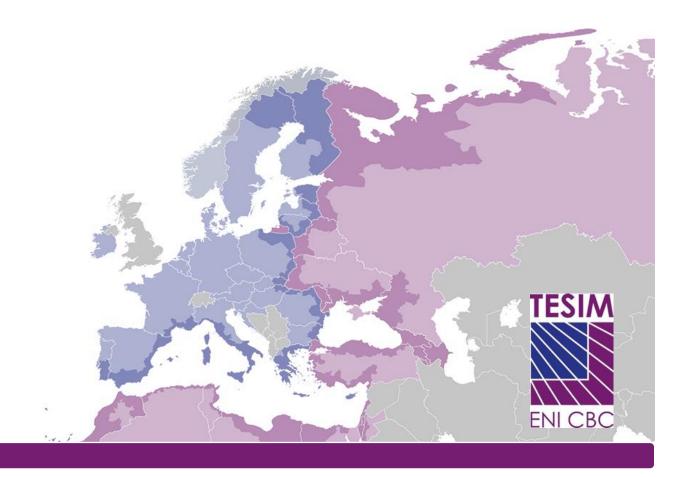


R1.2 Give more weight in project appraisal and greater attention at the selection stage to the impact and sustainability, including the <u>crossborder dimension</u>, and reflect these requirements in information and training for applicants and assessors.

"There is a case for making the cross-border dimension either a yes/no or threshold condition for potential projects, in which failure to demonstrate this dimension leads to rejection".

Selection criteria and cross-border added value in ENI CBC:

six speaking points



CBC added value in the evaluation grids (1)



1

The cross-border dimension is measured in manyfold ways, starting by the <u>need of cross-border cooperation</u> (as opposed to single-country programmes) and extending gradually to other aspects such as the <u>delivery of results/impacts on both sides of the border</u>.

The balanced involvement of partners, the fulfilment of cooperation criteria, the demonstrated benefits for partners working together and the creation of long-lasting cooperations are also considered parts of this dimension.

CBC added value in the evaluation grids (2)



In the large majority of cases (10), the cross-border dimension is assessed as part of the project 'Relevance'. In the remaining five cases, it can be seen as a self-standing criterion.

The weight of the cross-border dimension ranges from 5 to 16% of the total possible score, rendering it difficult to impact the selection process in some programmes, unless competition is high enough to ensure that the selected projects are solid in all assessment criteria.

CBC added value in the evaluation grids (3)



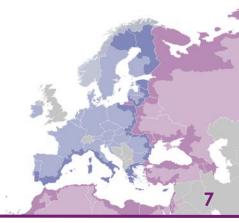
- In some programmes, the weight goes up to 35% at the concept note stage, allowing for a stronger impact on the selection of proposals.
- The criterion has been given by programmes an increased weight of two, three or even four times the basic value.
- Programmes have also set minimum scores to be met in order for the proposals to be retained, either at the level of the specific cross-border criterion or subcriterion or, most commonly, at the level of the project 'Relevance'.

ECA special report on EU cross-border cooperation with neighbouring countries (ENI CBC)



"The calls for proposals [...] included <u>selection criteria</u> aimed at ensuring that the project applications selected addressed the challenges identified in the JOP, were relevant to the programme objectives and chosen priority, promoted <u>cross-border cooperation</u> and would have a lasting impact on the development of the border regions.

The weight of these criteria varied from programme to programme and between individual calls for proposals. However, they were sufficient to minimise the risk of a proposal passing the minimum threshold for selection without providing a sound description of its relevance and cross-border impact.



THANK YOU!

