

How to? - searching for joint solutions.

Online, 14 February 2024

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Meeting objectives

- To update;
- To exchange on current practices;
- To inspire;
- To discuss and to search for simple solutions.



Housekeeping

- Please turn your cameras on
- Be open and share
- Discussions and questions policy – e-hand, speak up, chat
- Stay ‘muted’, unless talking
- Be patient towards each other



Plan

01

**Intro &
objectives**

02

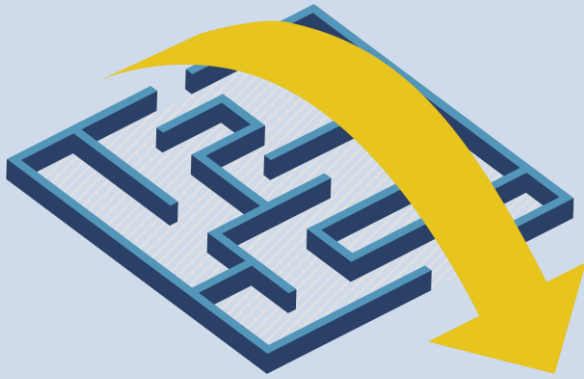
**Session one
Requirements of
Annex XVII
regarding
beneficial
owners –**

03

**Session two
Travel and
accommodation
costs category
existence & flat
rate**

04

**Wrap-up &
closure**



Session one:

Requirements of Annex XVII regarding beneficial owners – LPs, partners (SCOs); contractors / subcontractors

Beneficial owners / Annex XVII

4th and 5th AMLDs and national law transpositions obliged:

- MS to create beneficial owners' registers
- all public authorities to check the registers before awarding a public procurement contract / providing public funding

To avoid money laundering, terrorist activities or financing persons and entities with imposed sanctions

Annex XVII - Data to be recorded and stored electronically on each operation

Annex XVII

Annex XVII - Data to be recorded and stored electronically on each operation

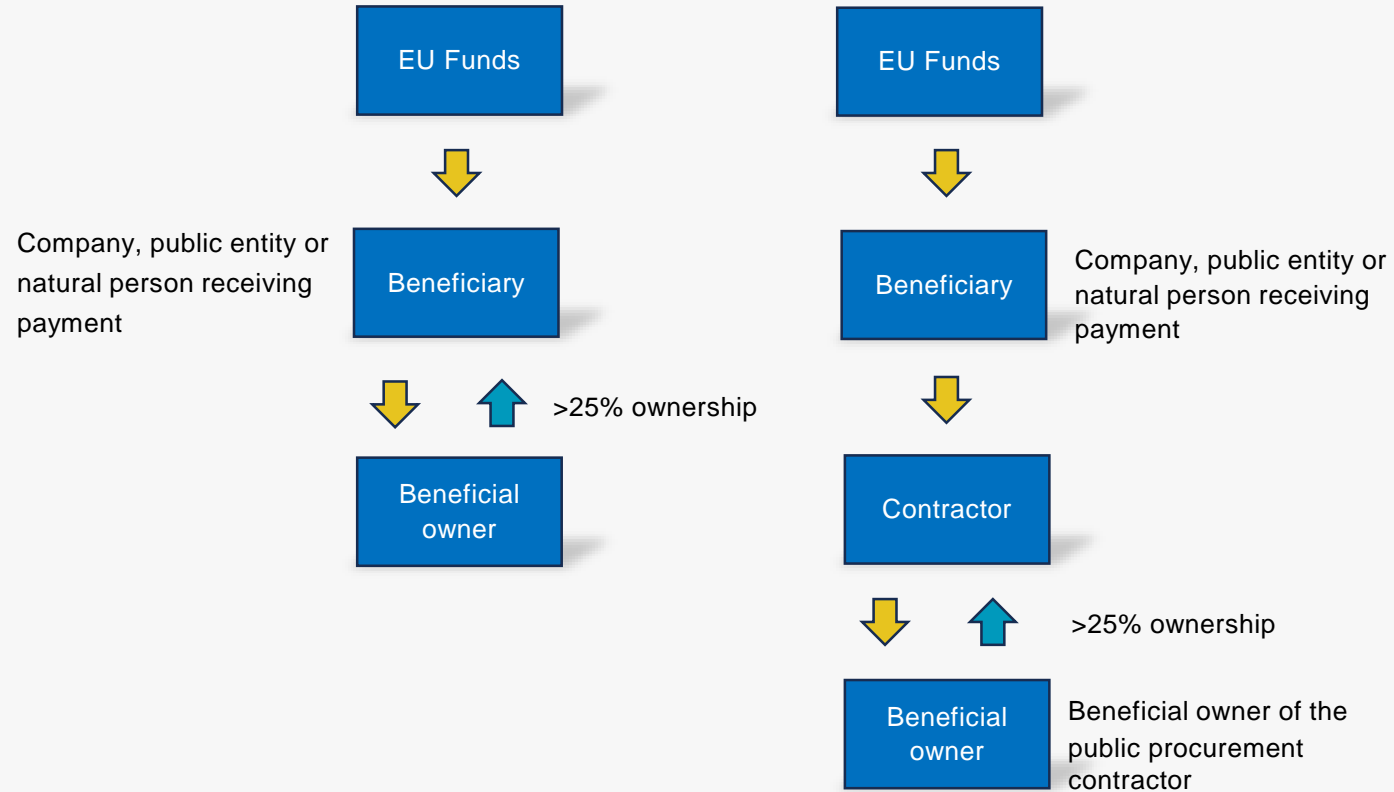
Info on all beneficial owners of the beneficiary (field 3)

- first name(s) and last names(s),
- dates(s) of birth
- VAT registration number(s) or tax identification number(s)

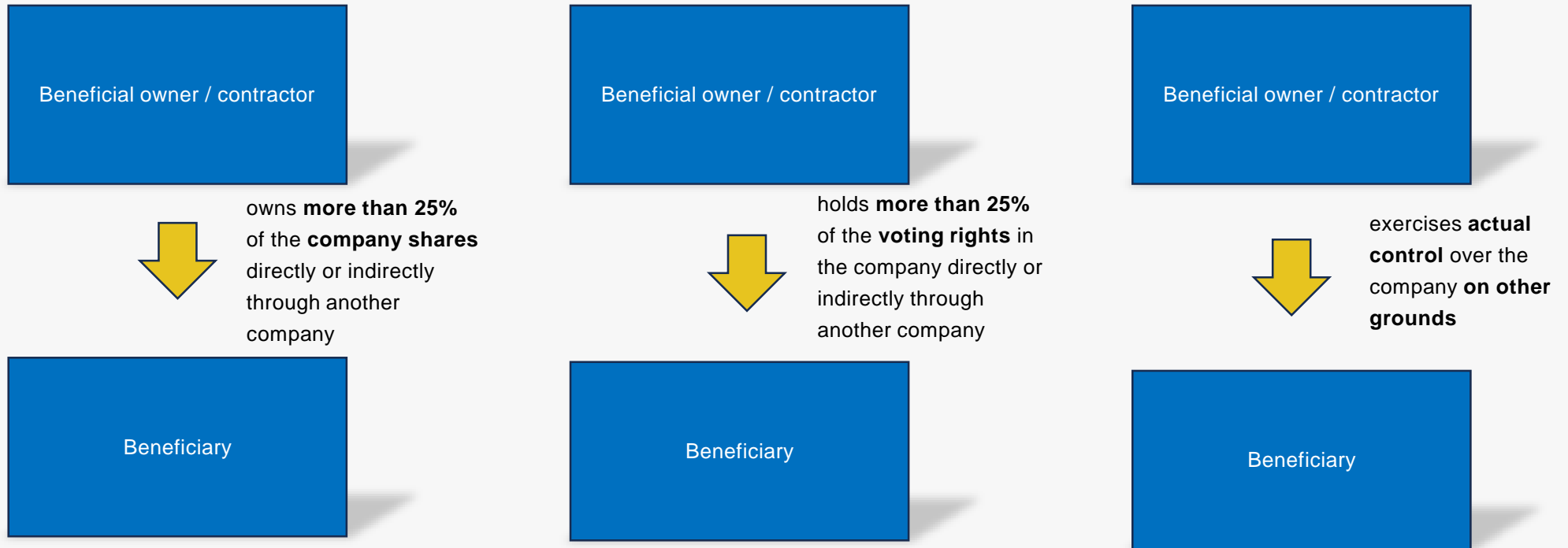
The same info on beneficial owners of the public procurement contractor(s) (field 23)

- For PPs above the EU PP Directive thresholds
- If SCOs applied, beneficial owners' data stored for SCO direct costs only
- Additionally, if there are subcontractors with a budget above 50.000, basic info on them -> only for the lead service provided, who signs the service contract.

Beneficial owners – who are they?



Beneficial ownership – when?



Beneficial owner data

2 ways to get the information on beneficial owners:

- Data submitted directly by beneficiaries / contractors, but
- Data collected from central registers (MA has presumption of legality to obtain access)


Audit of data



- the managing authorities have the legal obligation to collect the information on beneficial owners
- The Commission services will require access to and will use data on beneficial owners registered in the electronic systems of the programme authorities.

Beneficial owners' data in Jems

Contracting

Partner specific section (LP1 test lp)



Ultimate Beneficial Owner(s) 

First name	Last name	Date of birth	VAT / Tax identification number	Delete
<input type="text" value="First name"/>	<input type="text" value="Last name"/>	<input type="text" value="Date of b..."/> 	<input type="text" value="* VAT / Tax identification number"/>	

[+ Add beneficial owner](#)

[Discard changes](#) [Save changes](#)



Beneficial owner(s) of the contractor

First name	Last name	Date of birth	VAT / Tax identification number	Delete
<input type="text" value="First name"/>	<input type="text" value="Last name"/>	<input type="text" value="Date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY)"/> 	<input type="text" value="* VAT / Tax identification number"/>	

[+ Add beneficial owner](#)

[Discard changes](#) [Save changes](#)

Subcontract(s)

Contract name	Reference number	Contract date	Contract Amount	Currency	Supplier Name	VAT / Tax identification number	Delete
<input type="text" value="Contract name"/>	<input type="text" value="Reference number"/>	<input type="text" value="Contract date (DD/MM/YYYY)"/> 	<input type="text" value="Contract Amount"/>	<input type="text" value="0,00"/> <input type="text" value="EUR"/>	<input type="text" value="Supplier Name"/>	<input type="text" value="* VAT / Tax identification number"/>	

[+ Add subcontractor](#)

[Discard changes](#) [Save changes](#)

SCOs - implementation issues

Article 72(1)(e) and Annex XVII CPR

Background:

- in March 2023 there was a presentation on the collection and storing of data on beneficial owners
- 2 aspects: collection & storing + requirement for real costs and SCOs
- Negative feedback from a number of MS + Interact – an issue raised up the CPR Expert group and TN network on simplification

Solution:

- SCO exception only for indirect costs;
- Separate thread in [Interreg SCOs](#) community.

Experience sharing:

Ellen Vanbecelaere

Interreg
Vlaanderen-Nederland



Gefinancierd door
de Europese Unie

Anne-Cécile
Renard

**Interreg
Europe**



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Jozsef Szarka

ESPON



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Practical implementation (1)

1. How do you collect the information on the beneficial owners of the partners – do you check national registries (do you / MS representatives have access to them?) or do you ask partners to fill in the information?
2. How do you collect the information on contractors' beneficial owners?
3. If the information was provided by the partners/contractors do you verify somehow that it was correct?

Practical implementation (2)

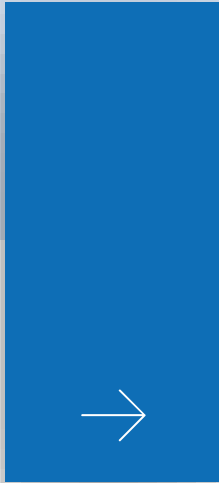
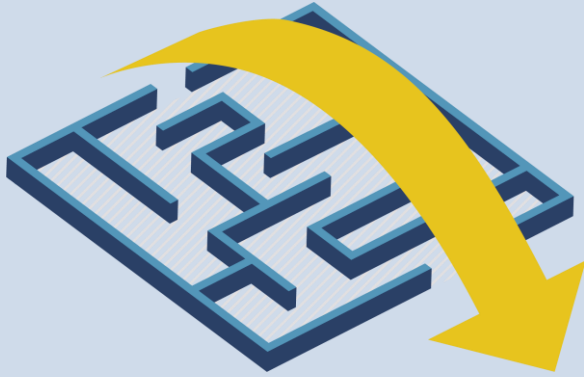
4. In which moment do you collect the information on beneficial owners of partners (application phase/contracting phase)?
5. In which moment do you collect the information on contractors' beneficial owners?
6. In case SCOs are applied and there are public procurement contracts, in which cases do you collect on contractors' beneficiary owners?

Practical implementation (3)

7. What kind of information do you collect? Do you have cases (eg. specific MS) where the information is incomplete (e.g. the date of birth is missing)?
8. What do you do when the partners/contractors do not agree to share the information claiming that it is protected personal data?

Floor is open for discussion





Session two:

Travel and accommodation costs category existence & flat rate

Verification of the application of an SCO methodology

Flat rate

- Basis costs: correctly allocated, eligible, no double declaration
- Existence of the cost category (except for indirect costs)
- Correctly calculated

Lump sums and unit costs

- Pre-defined deliverables/ milestones achieved, justified
- No double declaration in case of combination with real costs
- Amount declared = unit cost x actual number of units delivered

Regiowiki -

QA00209 – Audit of travel and accomodation costs reimbursed based on a FR

The answer was updated on January 17, 2024

Main changes (answer to question no 2):

- reference to travel and accommodation activities in a description of activities of a partner progress report is sufficient evidence;
- where such activities are not mentioned in a report, any similar evidence is considered to be sufficient;
- what to do, when at the moment of verification no travel and accommodation have occurred within a project and (have a look at a subsidy contract or application form);
- one trip during entire lifetime of a project is considered a sufficient proof of the existence of the cost category.

Factsheet | Verification of SCO's

2. Up to 15% flat rate for travel and accommodation costs of direct staff costs⁸

What to check	What not to check
The flat rate set by the MA ex-ante is part of the project partner budget (in the latest version of the application form) and indicated in the document setting out the conditions for support (i.e., subsidy contract)	Underlying expenditures of the travel and accommodation cost category (the expenditure has been incurred and paid)
The flat rate covers travel and accommodation costs (as defined in Article 41 of the Interreg Regulation) and uses direct staff costs as the basis costs	Supporting documents to make sure the amount of the flat rate was spent on the expenditures of the travel and accommodation cost category
A correct percentage of the flat rate (as set out in the programme's rules, in the application form and in the	Evidence that the actual amount spent corresponds to the amount of the calculated

The category (travel and accommodation) of costs covered by the flat rate exists. This information can be gathered from either a mission order or report or a recording of a meeting or similar evidence for at least one trip (the existence of the cost category is to be checked at least once in the project's lifetime).

project staff were

exists with
checked.

either a mission order or report or a recording of a meeting or similar evidence for at least one trip (the existence of the cost category is to be checked at least once in the project's lifetime).

Experience sharing:

Interreg
Baltic Sea Region



Co-funded by
the European Union

Dana Hennings

Interreg



Co-funded by
the European Union

Central Baltic Programme

Merike Nitepold

Interreg
South Baltic



Co-funded by
the European Union

Inga Kramarz

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Petra Geitner

Floor is open for discussion





Wrap-up and closure

Please fill in our evaluation survey – thank you in advance!

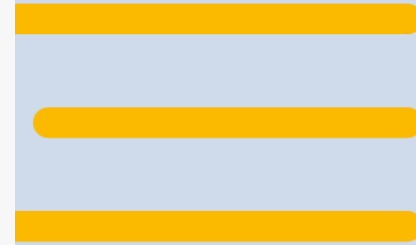


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Cooperation **works**

All materials will be available on:

Interact website / Library