



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

26th MEETING of the EXPERT GROUP on ESIF (EGESIF)

17 October 2017 (10:00-17:30) and 18 October 2017 (10:00-13:00)

Brussels – Rue Van Maerlant 2, room VML02

DRAFT AGENDA

Agenda item		Progr. period	ESI Funds concerned	Other fora
17 October				
1	Draft Agenda	-	-	-
2	“EU competency framework for management and implementation of the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund” – pilot implementation	2014-2020	ERDF, CF	-
	<i>An updated version of the self-assessment tool for identifying competency gaps in administrations managing and implementing the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund is the main deliverable of a study on the pilot testing of the competency framework in 8 Member State administrations. The results of the pilot testing will be presented together with a demonstration of the updated self-assessment tool. The draft final report of the study and most relevant annexes are presented to Member State representatives for information and potential comments before being finalised.</i>			
3	Implementation of the 7 Joint Communication Actions First feedback on the communication chapter of AIRs	2014-2020	ERDF, CF, ESF	-
	<i>In the past months, both the European Parliament and the Council have encouraged the Commission to scale up communication on cohesion policy. The Commission proposed a list of seven joint communication actions, involving authorities from the Member States at the appropriate level, and called on each Member State to carry out these actions as soon as possible. In the presentation, technical follow-up will be provided on the implementation of the seven actions and contributions from Member States; as well as on the content reported in the communication chapter of the 2016 Annual Implementation Reports.</i>			
4	Boosting Growth and Cohesion in EU Border Regions	2014-2020	ERDF	-
	<i>After two years of research and consultations, the Commission finalises its Cross-Border Review with the adoption of a communication which highlights what can be done in partnership with Member States and regional/local authorities to further enhance the development of border regions by tackling persisting border issues. The communication, adopted on 20 September 2017, is available online.</i>			

5	Lessons learned from Financial Data / AIR structured reporting (new input controls) Recent and planned updates to the Open Data Platform	2014-2020	ERDF, CF, ESF	-
<i>The examination of the 2016 annual implementation reports is being completed by Commission services and programmes. Nearly all programmes have now submitted at least one substantive report (n. b. around 50% of the 2015 reports were empty). This is a good moment to make a first assessment of the quality of data. With a view to reducing human errors and improving robustness of data, new controls will be added to SFC2014 for data input from January next year. The data submitted by programmes is reflected on the ESI Funds Open Data Platform and the Commission will outline the next major developments on the ESIF ODP.</i>				
Lunch break 13:00-14:30¹				
6	Follow-up on implementation state of play and bottlenecks	2014-2020	ERDF, CF, ESF	-
<i>The Commission will give a follow-up presentation to the discussion that took place at the July EGESIF meeting on implementation state of play and bottlenecks. A summary of Member State input will be provided; any further comments and proposals from delegations are welcome.</i>				
7	Error rate in the implementation of Rural Development Programmes (outcomes of the 7th Seminar on Error Rates)	2014-2020	EAFRD	-
<i>In the context of the preparation of the Communication on simplification and modernisation of the CAP, different stakeholders shared their views about the potential that a shift from compliance towards results in the implementation of the CAP might have in terms of simplification and reducing errors in the implementation of rural development programming. The Commission will present a brief summary of the seminar's outcomes.</i>				
8	Support of European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) to the implementation of the Country Specific Recommendations and to structural reforms in Member States (Study)	2014-2020	All	ESF TWG 7-8/02/2017
<i>The study "Support of ESI Funds to the implementation of the Country-Specific Recommendations and Structural Reforms in Member States" is part of a wider studies programme. The overall objective of this study was to assess how the Member States have programmed to use the ESI Funds to address challenges identified in country-specific recommendations. Thus it includes an overview of the programming choices, as well as how the ex-ante conditionalities and investments planned for capacity building contribute to address the country-specific recommendations and structural reforms.</i>				
9	Information on the upcoming study on the administrative costs and burdens in the ESI Funds	2014-2020	All	Expert group on the EMFF 26/09/2017 REGIO EVAL Net. 28/09/2017
<i>DG REGIO jointly with DG EMPL, AGRI and MARE launched a new study aimed at calculating administrative costs and burdens in each of the ESI Funds in the 2014-2020 programming period. Delegations will be informed about the objectives and scope of this study and about the upcoming data collection via surveys and interviews with the programme authorities and national coordination bodies.</i>				
10	AOB	-	-	-

¹ No lunch will be served. Delegations are to have lunch on their own initiative.

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18 October				
11	The 7th Cohesion Report (incl. report on macro-economic conditionality)	2007-2013 2014-2020 2020+	ERDF, CF, ESF	SMWP (tbc)
	<i>The Seventh Cohesion Report is to be adopted on 9 October 2017. The Report shows how cohesion has evolved in EU regions over the recent past and assesses the impact on this of national policies, cohesion policy and other EU policies. It also reviews the measures linking the effectiveness of the European Structural and Investment Funds to sound economic governance. The Commission's presentation will summarise the main conclusions of the Report.</i>			
12	Improving the take-up and effectiveness of financial instruments (Study)	2014-2020	ERDF, CF, ESF	-
	<i>The Commission will present the results of the study that reviews practical issues in the use of financial instruments in cohesion policy and makes recommendations for the future.</i>			