

2nd Monitoring Committee

Postojna (Slovenia)

May 20th, 2016

Short Minutes of Monitoring Committee meeting

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The meeting takes place in Postojna (Slovenia) at the premises of Jamski Dvorec on May 20th, 2016, starting at 10.10 a.m.

Ms Comelli, acting as Managing Authority, welcomes and thanks the participants.

The quorum requested by the RoP is reached.

Topic 1 - Approval of the agenda

The MA introduces the topics of the proposed agenda and MC members ask to make change to it.

Conclusions on topic 1:

The MC approves the agenda amended as follows:

1. Welcome - Approval of the agenda;
2. Annual report for the year 2015: discussion and approval;
3. Selection criteria for standard projects: discussion and approval
4. First call for proposals for standard projects No 1/2016 and its related documentation: discussion and approval
5. I.T.I. implementation
6. Programme Communication Strategy: discussion and approval;
7. Modification of the Cooperation Programme: presentation of the requested changes, discussion and approval;
8. Presentation of the e-Cohesion progress report;
9. Any other business (Establishment of the JS, Roadmap)

Topic 2: Annual report for the year 2015: discussion and approval

The topic is discussed and MC members underline the necessity of some minor changes and integrations.

Conclusions on topic 2:

The MC approves the following revisions on the proposed Annual report for the year 2015:

- addition of a reference to the implementation of the e-cohesion system (EC proposal);
- removal of the text related to the ex ante evaluation (EC proposal);
- insertion of the baseline indicator in 2014 and 2015 (EC proposal);
- addition in section 2 of a reference to the consultation with beneficiaries (Slovene delegation proposal);
- removal in section 5 of the sentence "Nevertheless, it was not possible to reach the agreement between Programme Partners about the all call related documentation" (Slovene delegation proposal);
- removal in table 3 of the footnote (Slovene delegation proposal);
- integration of some output indicators (Slovene delegation proposal);

The MC members approve the revised Annual report for the year 2015, which include the above agreed revisions.

Topic 3 - Selection criteria for standard projects: discussion and approval

Criteria and related scores are introduced and explained according to the assessment procedure.

Conclusions on topic 3:

The MC members approve the selection criteria for standard projects.



Topic 4: First call for proposals for standard projects No 1/2016 and its related documentation: discussion and approval

The Application Package has been published on 4PM.

The Call No 1/2016 has been divided into four calls and numbered adding the IP (eg. Call 1/2016 - 1b).

Those calls will be published on FVG Official Bulletin, Slovene Gazette and on the Programme official website.

The Application Package will be published in Italian and Slovene language on the Programme website.

Regarding the content of the calls for standard projects, information related to financial allocation, financial size, project duration are described as below.

PA	TOTAL ERDF available for standard projects	No. of calls	% financial allocation first call	Financial allocation first call	Project financial dimension first call	Suggested partners number	Project duration first call	Ranking list	ERDF available for the second call
1	12.703.189,00	2	70%	8.892.232,30	(600.000 - 1.500.000)	6	30 months	1	3.810.956,70
2	5.689.493,00	1	100%	5.689.493,00	(600.000 - 1.500.000)	6	30 months	1	0
3	10.525.484,00	2	70%	7.367.838,80	(500.000 - 1.500.000)	6	24 months for 6c 30 months for 6d and 6f	3	3.157.645,20
4	8.835.991,00	2	70%	6.185.193,70	(300.000 - 1.500.000)	6	18 months	1	2.650.797,30

The application procedures and deadlines, required documents and mandatory annexes (knock out procedure) and assessment procedure are described according to the Assessment Manual.

Under submission procedure, the need of digital signature is explained.

The legal adviser goes into some of legal issues related to the submission and assessment of the applications. In order to avoid complaints with the Court (FVG TAR) as happened in the previous programming period 07-13, the new on line system shall not allow minor errors, no possibility of clarification and integration, no possibility of warnings of possible rejection (Art. 10 bis of the Italian national Law no. 241 dated 7 August 1990), in case of conflict prevalence of data inserted by the LP on PP's ones, of LP language, of content annexes on that of the AF.

Jim

With regards to paragraph “1.2.2. Interreg V-A Italia-Slovenia” the name of the statistical region of *Primorsko-notranjska* has to be corrected with *Notranjsko- kraška*.

At the end of the paragraph the following text is added:

The Programme foresees three project typologies (strategic, standard, ITI). This call is intended to address standard projects. The financial allocation allocated to this call amounts at 70% of resources of the Programme devoted to PA 1/2/3/4 for standard projects. The remaining resources for standard projects (30%) will be allocated to a next call on PA 1 for standard projects.

The sentence has to be adjusted according to the PA.

The **section 6 is deleted**. The list of the documents of the AP is included into section 2.

The APPLICATION FORM is not included in the list of annexes, because, the “Guidelines for the on line Application Form” already includes the procedure and the architecture of the on line AF. The “Guidelines for the on line Application Form” is an annex of the AP and it is considered a technical document not subject of approval.

In paragraphs “2.2.1.1. Activities outside the eligible Programme area” and “2.2.1.2. Partners outside the eligible Programme area” the text “*in EU regions outside of the Union part of the Programme area*” is changed into “*outside the Programme area*”.

With regards to paragraph “2.3. Eligible Applicants”, the Slovene delegation proposes to keep the list of beneficiaries as illustrated into the CP. It is proposed to delete in each call the sentence “Other typologies, related directly to priority Axis 1/2/3/4 can be accepted in exceptional and duly justified cases where specified and justified in the Application Form)”

After having listened to the various views expressed by ONG, Research institutions of Veneto Region representative and the legal counsel, the Italian delegation agrees with .

The MC agrees that the list includes entities like the European Economic Interest Grouping (EEIG).

With regards to paragraph “2.7. Partnership size”, Slovene delegation suggest to rephrased the text as follows: “*As regards the size of the project partnership, the minimum requirements for partnership is one partner per Member State. The partnership will be implemented in a bottom up approach. The recommended maximum partnership size is up to 6. Only in well justified cases bigger partnerships will be allowed.*”

According to the EC and Slovene delegation considerations, the last part of this paragraph (“If the additional ... must be fulfilled.”) is deleted.

With regards to “3.1. Application procedures and deadlines”, MC members debate on the opportunity to post-pone the deadline. The MC agrees to establish the deadline for submission September 14th, 2016.

With regards to paragraph “3.2. Required documents and mandatory annexes”, the EC and Slovene delegation ask to re-formulate the text “*At any time and for further verification of*



conformity, the Joint Secretariat and the Managing Authority may request by e-mail that the LP produce within 8 (eight) working days from the request the original paper documents registered by the on-line System or scanned in the on-line System or send by registered e-mail.” as follows:

“At any time and for further verification of conformity, the Joint Secretariat and the Managing Authority may request by e-mail that the LP produce within 8 (eight) working days from the request the original paper version of the documents submitted through the on-line System or scanned in the on-line System or sent by registered e-mail.”

With regards to paragraph **“3.2.1. Signature of documents”**, upon request of the EC, it is specified hand-signed and digitally signed.

With regards to paragraph **“3.4. Projects assessment, ranking, and admission to funding” - State Aid Assessment** the EC asks to add who will carry out the State Aid Assessment. With regards to State aid issue, then MA explains the intention to propose an umbrella scheme of the Programme which should include the list of articles relevant for the interventions and should be notify to the EC also after the launch of the calls.

With regards to paragraph **“Project approval”**, Slovene delegation asks to add the two general reports done by the two assessors. The same revision must be done into the Manual. *“The ranking list of assessed Application will be presented to the Monitoring Committee together with an Overall Evaluation Report, including the two general reports done by the two assessors, which shall also refer to the degree of fulfillment of Programme Result Indicators with reference to each SO, in order to allow a MC’s decision on financing projects.”*

With regards to paragraph **“5.1. Languages”**, Slovene delegation suggests to delete this text *“If the content of the Application Form is in conflict with the content of the Annexes, the Annexes shall prevail. If the content of the Application Form inserted by the PP is in conflict with the content inserted by the LP, the LP’s data shall prevail. If in the Application Form some contents of the sections are in conflict with other contents of the sections, it will prevail the content of the latter sections in respect to section coming before of the Application Form (e.g. the content of D3 prevails on the content of C4 in case of conflict between D3 and C4 and so on).”*

The legal adviser explains the provisions.

With regards to the ANNEX II - Assessment Manual

Slovene delegation asks explanations about the terms **“knock out”** and **“In case of conflict”**. Legal support explains the meanings of those concepts.

With regards to the A2 **“Completeness of AF”** criteria, the Slovene delegation asks clarifications relating to the assessment *“In case of incoherence, it shall prevail the content of the latter sections in respect to section coming before in the Application Form.”*

The legal adviser explains the meanings of that provision.



With regards to paragraph “6.2. Operational criteria” the Slovene delegation asks to delete the part in which assessors may ask applicants any clarification and additional documentation.

With regards to paragraph “5.3 Outcomes of the Assessment Procedure” the Slovene delegation asks clarification on the option “iii. Approved but not financed for lack of funds or for reasons of fulfilment of Programme Result Indicators with reference to each SO”.

The MA explains the meanings of that option, in order to facilitate the MC.

The MC agrees to delete the option.

The MC agrees to delete the sentences:

“Applicants shall submit anything required by the JS within the set deadline. Applications failing to send the requested information/ documentation/ clarifications within the set deadline shall be evaluated at the state of the proceeding.”

and

“Applicants shall submit anything required by the JS within the set deadline.

The project proposals eligibility is assessed again after receiving in due time the requested information/ documentation/ clarifications.

Applications failing to send the requested information/ documentation/ clarifications within the set deadline shall be evaluated at the state of the proceeding.”

The MC agrees to add the following specification:

“State Aid Assessment is made by external assessors - National authorities”

also in the following related table.

The MC agrees to add the following sentence:

“The Report shall contain the reports of the assessors.”

The MC agrees to delete the reference to fulfillments of results Programme indicators.

The criterion D1 is deleted the following “On this item, assessors may ask to applicants any clarification and additional documentation on demonstrating LP/PP adequate financial, technical, organizational, management capacity in order to assess the declarations included in the LP/PP Statement. Also clarifications on roles, competences, accountability systems might be requested.”

With regards to the ANNEX IV - Manual on Eligibility of Expenditure, the EC expresses some observations on including travel and accommodation costs in the basis for calculation of flat rate according to article 19 of reg. 1299.

They are inserted for 10% and 15% flat rate and text is redrafted accordingly.

The MC discusses on modification of private investments on private property.

The MC agrees to insert a sentence related to investments on private properties.



Conclusions on topic 4:

With regard to the text of the calls for standard projects, the MC approves the above mentioned revisions. The deadline for submission of standard project proposals is September 14th, 2016.

The MC approves the English content of the revised calls for standard project proposals.

The MA will provide for the translation and submit the Italian and Slovene versions of the calls to all MC members via 4pm.

The MA will collect any comment or observation from MS delegations on the Italian and Slovene content of the calls not later than June 10th, 2016.

With regards to the ANNEX II - Assessment Manual the MC approves the above mentioned revisions. In "6.2. Operational criteria" the clerical error "assessors may ask applicants any clarification and additional documentation" is deleted.

The MC agrees to delete the option "iii. Approved but not financed for lack of funds or for reasons of fulfilment of Programme Result Indicators with reference to each SO" and to delete the sentence "It shall also refer to the degree of fulfillment of Programme Result Indicators with reference to each SO, in order to allow a MC's decision on financing projects."

The MC agrees that the National Authorities will carry out the State Aid Assessment.

The MC agrees on integrating the Assessment Manual in order to make available and accessible all data of the Assessment procedure.

The MC approves the English content of the revised Assessment Manual.

With regards to the ANNEX IV - Manual on Eligibility of Expenditure, **the MC approves the English content of the revised Manual on Eligibility of Expenditure.**

The MC approves the AP: the, SC, PA, LP/PP statements will be finetuned at technical level.

Topic 5: I.T.I. implementation

Conclusions on topic 5:

A WG will be set up on ITI and on strategic projects.

Topic 6: Programme Communication Strategy: discussion and approval

Conclusions on topic 6:

The MC approves the Communication Strategy.

Topic 7: Modification of the Cooperation Programme: presentation of the requested changes, discussion and approval

Conclusions on topic 7:

Not discussed so nothing is approved on this topic.

Topic 8: Presentation of the e-Cohesion progress report

Conclusions on topic 8:

Not discussed so nothing is approved on this topic.

Topic 9: Any other business (Establishment of the JS, Roadmap)

Conclusions on topic 9:

Info on the set up of the JS are given.

Kick off meeting will be done on 9th June 2016 (and closure of 2007-13)


The meeting end at 5.25 p.m.



Annexes:

1. MC full/voting members signatures for approval of this short minutes

MC full/voting members signatures for approval of this short minutes of the 2nd Monitoring Committee of the INTERREG V-A Italy-Slovenia Programme (May 20th, 2016).

n.	SURNAME	NAME	SIGNATURE
1	Flavia Zaccari	Regione Veneto	
2	LUCA ROSSETTI	Regione Veneto	
3	ALESSANDRO ZACCHIGNA	REGIONE FVG	
4	SARKO	DARJO	
5	RENEK	TATJANA	
6	TEOMIK	PETER	
7	JAVAPIC	BOJAN	
8	BREŽAN	UROŠ	
9	MEJAC	SLONKA	
10	IVANA KOSCHERJA	FUGI	
11	IVANA SACCO	DPC	
12	PAJNO	PAOLA	
13			