

WRITTEN PROCEDURES

Decisions of the Joint Monitoring Committee through written procedure

Updated on 13 February 2023

This summary document is published on the website at <https://www.italy-albania-montenegro.eu/programme/official-docs>, in order to assure the maximum transparency in the use of EU and public national funding.

The composition of the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) is published at: <https://www.italy-albania-montenegro.eu/programme/programme-bodies>

All documents, referred to in following decisions, the preparatory documentation and the minutes of the meeting are part of the decision-making.

To become effective, following decisions of the JMC shall be followed up on with administrative decrees by the involved authorities, which will be published in the related websites, in compliance with the relevant national legislation.

In compliance with article 5 of the Rules of Procedure, the JMC may also decide through written procedures, which are reported below:

No	Closed on	Decisions
1	14/6/16	The JMC approves the Annual Implementation Report 2015
2	31/7/16	The JMC approves the Communication Strategy of the Programme
3	31/7/16	The JMC approves the composition of the Technical Assistance staff
4	28/2/17	The JMC approves the Minutes of the 2 nd JMC meeting 24 January 2017 Podgorica
5	8/5/17	The JMC approves the Evaluation Plan of the Programme
6	10/5/17	The JMC approves to postpone the deadline for the submission of project proposals for the first call of standard projects and therefore to amend the related text of the first call, by replacing "60 calendar days" with "75 calendar days". Except for cases of force majeure, no further postponements shall be approved.
7	26/5/17	The JMC approves the Annual Implementation Report 2016. The JMC approved the amendments to the Cooperation Programme.
8	15/2/18	The JMC approves the procedure for the development of Thematic Projects.
9	28/3/18	The Joint Monitoring Committee approves amendment to the financial allocation to the first call for standard projects, on the basis of the outcomes of the negotiations. Accordingly, and in order to reach the number of projects foreseen, the Joint Monitoring Committee gives the mandate to the Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat to negotiate an optimization of activities and budget with the projects No 96 NEST and No 127 CROSS BORDER OI of priority axis two, with a budget reduction of at least 27% in order to not exceed the available

		amount for this priority axis. The Joint Monitoring Committee approves that any fund remaining after the negotiation shall be made available for financing future thematic, strategic or standard projects.
10	6/4/18	The Joint Monitoring Committee approves the content of the public notice on thematic projects, which shall be published accordingly. In particular, the Joint Monitoring Committee agrees that following thematic project ideas are sufficiently mature and supported in order to be developed into thematic projects: Topic: Telemedicine (S.O. 1.1), Topic: Agrofood (S.O. 1.1).
11	15/6/18	The Joint Monitoring Committee approves the change of the selected partners for the thematic project “1.1.07 Internationalisation/governance for SMEs”, as specified in annex 1 of this decision. The revised public notice shall be published accordingly.
12	25/7/18	The Joint Monitoring Committee approves the postponement of the deadline for submission of the thematic project proposals from 31.07.2018 to 05.09.2018. The project partners shall be immediately informed and the revised public notice shall be published accordingly.
13	27/8/18	The JMC approves the amendment of the financial indicator targets of the performance framework and the submission of this amendment to the European Commission by the Managing Authority
14	5/9/18	The JMC approves the amendment of the notice of the thematic projects, related to the postponement of the submission of thematic projects and gives the mandate to the Managing Authority to publish it on the website and to timely inform the partners. In order to meet the deadlines and prior to this decision, the JMC approves an exception to article 5 of the Rules of Procedure of the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) for this written procedure, to be approved within two, instead of three working days, justified by the exceptional circumstances and the urgency of the decision to postpone the deadline of 5 September 2018, which must be made not later than 5 September 2018.
15	25/9/18	The JMC approves the text of the pre-announcement of the targeted call for project proposals, including all annexes. Accordingly, the JMC gives the mandate to the Managing Authority to publish the pre-announcement as soon as possible.
16	10/4/19	The Joint Monitoring Committee acknowledges that following up on the negotiations carried out by the Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat with the Lead Partners of the Thematic Projects the conditions set by the JMC on 23 October 2018 are complied with. The Lead Partners committed to submit integrative required documentation and information soon. The Managing Authority set as final deadline for submitting this required documentation and information 30 April 2019. With the confidence that the Lead Partners are going to meet this final deadline, the MA is starting the administrative procedure to be in the position to sign the contract as soon as this documentation and information is provided. For the lead partners failing to do so, the Joint Monitoring Committee agrees to discuss a re-allocation of funds in the next meeting of 14-15 May 2019. Accordingly, the Managing Authority is immediately informing the lead partners. On this basis, the Joint Monitoring Committee approves the final financial allocation. The Joint Monitoring Committee acknowledges that priority axis one thematic projects are currently confirming the overbudgeting, which shall be allocated in the future, as soon as and as far as resources become available upon closing of other projects. Once the unspent amounts of closed projects are clear, upon

		<p>consultation of the Joint Monitoring Committee, the Managing Authority shall de-commit those resources from the original allocation and commit them to the thematic projects overbudgeting. The representatives of Regions Puglia and Molise confirm that they take over the risk of overbudgeting for the partners located in the respective territory.</p> <p>The Joint Monitoring Committee acknowledges that the remaining funds shall be allocated at the time of the final approval of the score grid of the targeted call.</p>
17	31/5/19	<p>The JMC approves to postpone the deadline for the submission of project proposals for the targeted call launched on 4 April 2019 and therefore to amend the related text of the call, by replacing "60 calendar days" with "77 calendar days". Except for cases of force majeure, no further deadline extensions shall be approved.</p>
18	28/8/19	<p>In relation to the eligibility assessment of the project proposals submitted within the Targeted Call, the Joint Monitoring Committee approves the enclosed list of errors to be admitted, not admitted and it gives the mandate to the MA to request any necessary integrations/corrections, to inform the Lead Applicants of not admitted project proposals and to proceed with the quality assessment according to the assessment methodology approved on 5 July 2017, as well as the additional requirements for the targeted call, which were approved on 23 October 2018.</p>
19	25/3/20	<p>As specified in annex 1, which is integral part of this decision, the Joint Monitoring Committee approves the changes requested by project partners.</p> <p>Accordingly, the Managing Authority and Joint Secretariat are going to follow up with the amendments of the project and subsidy contracts.</p>
20	23/6/20	<p>1) The Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) acknowledges the outcomes of the negotiations between Managing Authority and Lead Partners in compliance with the conditions set for the projects at the top of the rankinglist of the targeted call, as approved by the JMC on 18 December 2019 in Tivat, and it approves the final budget of the projects of the targeted call at the top of the ranking list in annex 2, which is integral part of this decision.</p> <p>2) The JMC acknowledges the exceptional circumstances and needs emerging as a consequence of the COVID-19 crisis, and in derogation from the rule set in the targeted call for the approval by the JMC of a six months extension of the project duration, the JMC approves that the Managing Authority may approve such extensions with information to the JMC, in order to speed up a procedure likely to occur.</p> <p>3) The JMC acknowledges that the Managing Authority may request project partners of the targeted call to assess suitable adaptations of project activities to circumstances and needs emerging from the COVID-19 crisis, within the approved project scope and objectives.</p> <p>4) The Joint Monitoring Committee acknowledges the extension of the duration of the first call standard project No. 321 TOURNEE for nine months, duly justified by the delays caused by the COVID-19 crisis, and suitable to enable the partnership to finalize all planned activities, to reach the planned outputs and therefore to assure the achievement of the expected results, in compliance with the original project proposal approved by the JMC.</p>
21	25/11/20	<p>The Joint Monitoring Committee acknowledges the delays in the implementation of projects caused by the lasting COVID-19 restrictions, which are extended by the competent authorities also in Autumn 2020, and approves the extension of the duration requested by projects, as specified in annex 1 of this decision.</p>
22	31/12/20	<p>The Joint Monitoring Committee acknowledges the delays in the implementation of projects caused by the lasting COVID-19 restrictions, which are extended by the competent authorities also in Autumn 2020, and approves the extension of the duration requested by projects, as specified in annex 1 of this decision.</p>

23	19/5/21	The Joint Monitoring Committee approves the text of the Annual Implementation Report 2020, which is going to be submitted to the European Commission by 31 May 2021.
24	3/6/21	The Joint Monitoring Committee approves the request of the Lead Partner of the project NO. 206/INTERACT 4.0 of 29 April 2021, enclosed.
25	8/7/21	The Joint Monitoring Committee approves the request of the Lead Partner of the small-scale project NO. 384/ENEA, dated 25/06/2021, i.e. to replace the Montenegrin partner Foundation Budva (Fondacija Budva) with the new Montenegrin partner NGO Expeditio.
26	18/8/21	The Joint Monitoring Committee approves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The changes of projects REEHUB PLUS, ISACC, ALMONIT MTC, CRISIS, requested by the project Lead Partners, - The mandate to the Managing Authority to sign the subsidy contracts with the Lead Partners of the targeted call projects at the top of the ranking list, for which sufficient resources are and are going to become available in each priority axis, after the closure of all standard projects; - The mandate to the Managing Authority, assisted by the Joint Secretariat, to negotiate with the lead partner of the project LASTING, P.A. 4, a substantial revision of the work plan, while focusing on strategic goals and activities, and accordingly to reduce the project budget for at least 40%.
27	30/11/21	The Joint Monitoring Committee approves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a six months extension of the project duration for all eight Thematic Projects (until 31/12/2022), upon request by the project partners; - a mandate to the Managing Authority to assess and exceptionally approve additional requests to extend the duration of Thematic and Targeted Call Projects until 30/06/2023 at the latest, if duly justified by the partners, not due to failures of project management and as to avoid programme de-commitment; - in compliance with the previous mandate by the JMC to introduce SCOs for thematic projects, to extend this possibility also to all other projects, thus partially amending the terms of the calls and of the subsidy contracts, in particular aiming at promoting / capitalizing on project results; - the additional exceptional extension of the duration of the project no. 324 ON CLOUD NINE until 30 April 2022, the related reduction of project budget and activities, due to the exceptional circumstances of the air traffic during the COVID-19 pandemics; - the budget shift of the project no. 493 AIDA; - the swap of partners responsibilities, activities and budgets of original LP with PP2 of the project no. 505 LASTING and the new budget of € 634.714,54; - that the PP3 Agency NEA of the project no. 465 CRISIS becomes associate partner and that its budget and activities are shifted to the LP and PP4.
28	4/2/22	The Joint Monitoring Committee approves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to give the mandate to the MA to negotiate with the lead beneficiaries of the thematic and normal targeted call projects to renounce at least 5% of the total project budget, including a budget revision, on the basis of article 2 par. 2 and 8 and article 2-bis of the Subsidy Contract, as it has become evident that there will be savings, unless they provide duly documented evidence of the contrary; - in amendment of the JMC decision of the 16th Written Procedure, to exclude the over-budget of Thematic Projects of P.A. 1, with recommendation to newly distribute the total available budget among project partners if needed, unless duly documented evidence of the commitments of over-budget is provided; - to de-commit unspent funds allocated to projects, as soon as these are closed, as well as to de-commit budgets, which beneficiary explicitly renounce to (with major project change or declaration) and to commit these de-committed resources to

		<p>the first three P.A. 1 small-scale projects at the top of the ranking list of the targeted call, scoring at least 60 points, as well as to capitalization actions resulting from the restricted procedure below;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the text of the restricted procedure for capitalization actions in annex 1, which shall be published in the website, once approved; - to proceed according to the restricted procedure, with a Joint Steering Committee (JSC), which is going to prepare the decision on the capitalization ranking list through subsequent written procedure. Each member of the JSC is appointed by the respective JMC Head of National Delegation or, if no appointment is received within 10 working days from the closure of this written procedure, it is assumed that the JMC Head of Delegation is also the respective JSC member; - the changes requested by project partners, enclosed.
29	5/4/22	<p>The Joint Monitoring Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approves the ranking list for the restricted capitalization procedure, to be published on the programme website, enclosed in annex 2; - gives a mandate to the Managing Authority to facilitate a solution for the thematic project DUE MARI, to make sure that the planned activities are timely implemented and consequently gives a mandate to approve necessary major project changes, once agreed and requested by the partnership, such as a shift of activities and budgets above 25%, or changes of partners, or changes of their roles, or other kind of reasonable changes, which may be developed and requested by the partnership; - approves the changes requested by project partners, enclosed in annex 1.
30	4/5/22	<p>The Joint Monitoring Committee approves the changes requested by project partners of the project no. 358 DUE MARI, enclosed in annex 1.</p>
31	6/5/22	<p>The Joint Monitoring Committee approves the project extension requested by project partners of the project no. 324 ON CLOUD NINE, enclosed in annex 1, and gives the mandate to the Managing Authority to assess and approve any future and duly justified requests of extension of this standard project.</p>
32	28/7/22	<p>The Joint Monitoring Committee acknowledges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The savings resulting from the closure of standard projects and from the negotiated reductions of thematic project budgets in the 4 axes; - The proposals for capitalization of first call standard project submitted and negotiated with the JS/MA, in compliance with the procedure approved by the JMC; - The possibility to finance additional capitalization activities in priority axes 2 Culture and Tourism, if a shift of available resources at programme level from priority axes 1 SMEs and 4 Connectivity, as well as the flexibility provided by art. 1(2) of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/891, allowing to reallocate an amount of up to 8% of the P.A. budget and no more than 4% of the programme budget to another priority without Commission Decision; - To mitigate the de-commitment risk, some project partners of the thematic projects have expressed their availability in identifying activities and outputs, being eligible, coherent and functional to reaching the project global objective, advanced i.e. already contracted, carried out or paid, pre-financed through other national sources of funding, which may be reported within the respective thematic project in overbudget; - The Managing Authority intends to take all possible measures to minimize the de-commitment risk, but it may not assume the political and technical responsibility for the de-commitment, which is shared with the programme partners, especially national / regional authorities and the thematic project partners; - The request for major project changes of projects 3C, CROSS WATER,

		<p>FOOD4HEALTH, TO BE READY.</p> <p>Accordingly, the Joint Monitoring Committee approves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proposals for capitalization of first call standard projects FILA, BRE, INERRAnT, INNOTOURCLUST, HISTEK, INERRAnT, CROSS BORDER OI, FLAT, ADRINET, SAGOV and PORTS and gives the mandate to the MA to de-commit savings, to commit these for the capitalization projects and to sign the related subsidy contracts; - The change of the programme budget in P.A. 1 (-485.000 €, 2,62% of the P.A.), P.A. 4 (-100.000 €, 0,63% of the P.A.) and P.A. 2 (+585.000 €, 2,25% of the P.A.) for a total of 1.170.000 € i.e. 1,40% of the total programme budget and it gives the mandate to the MA to proceed informing the EU Commission as provided for; - To mitigate the de-commitment risk, that the Managing Authority allows the inclusion into the thematic projects of eligible activities and expenditures in overbudget, being functional to achieving the project global objective, through an addendum to the subsidy contracts and in compliance with the rules in the programme manual; - The major project changes of projects 3C, CROSS WATER, FOOD4HEALTH, TO BE READY, PHASE.
33	7/10/22	<p>The Joint Monitoring Committee acknowledges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proposals for capitalization of first call standard project submitted and negotiated with the JS/MA, in compliance with the procedure approved by the JMC; - the requests for project adaptation without major changes and the requests for major changes; - the overbudget activities of FOOD4HEALTH. <p>Accordingly, the Joint Monitoring Committee approves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proposals for capitalization of first call standard projects 3D-IMP-ACT, ADNICH, CIRCE, HAMLET, NEST, OPEN TOURISM, TOURNEE, Welcome, P.A.S.T.4Future, LASPEH and revised versions of INNOTOURCLUST, FILA and BRE and gives the mandate to the MA to de-commit savings, to commit these for the capitalization projects and to sign the related subsidy contracts; - The major project changes of projects AWESOME, RECON, ALMONIT-MTC.
34	13/2/23	<p>The JMC acknowledges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the request of major changes for the project PHASE and the capitalization action LASPEH PLUS in annex 1; - that at closure of each project there are different levels of funds absorption among project partners (PPs), budget lines (BLs) and work packages (WPs), i.e. some PPs may have exceeded the budget available for the single PP (or for the single BL or WP), even though at project level sufficient budget may be available to cover all these expenditures. Consequently, the possibility to allow budget shifts, even higher than 25% among PPs, BLs and WPs, but within the total available budget, at project closure would enable a more effective and higher absorption level for the entire project and thus mitigate the risk of de-commitment at programme level; - in priority axis four “Connectivity” approximately 286.000 are available as a consequence of savings from closed projects. The targeted-call project LASTING was approved on the basis of some limited savings and its original budget had to be substantially decreased from 1.185.511€ to 634.715,07 €. The JS is verifying the possibility to absorb more funds for this project with the project partnership; - that the Ministry of Culture of Montenegro, Lead Partner of MONET PLUS (capitalisation action approved by the last JMC on 14/11/22) informed the Managing Authority that due to internal arrangements, the capitalisation actions

	<p>may not be implemented any longer. As no pre-financing was paid and no expenditures have been incurred yet, the amount 95.000 € becomes available at programme level in P.A. 2.</p> <p>The JMC approves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the major changes for the project PHASE and the capitalization action LASPEH PLUS in annex 1;- that for all closed projects the Managing Authority may timely assess the suitability and approve budget shifts, up to the total project budget available, among Project Partners, Budget Lines or Work Packages, in order to efficiently absorb a higher percentage of the total project budget and to mitigate the de-commitment risk;- an increase of the budget of the project LASTING may be approved by the Managing Authority up to maximum 286.000 €, as currently available in priority axis four of the programme and as far as the project partners are requesting it.
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