

## DECISIONS OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE during meetings and through written procedures

*Updated on 20 December 2024*

In compliance with article 28 (4) of the ETC Reg. (EU) 2021/1059, this document is published on the website at <https://www.italy-albania-montenegro.eu/programme/south-adriatic-2021-27/south-adriatic-docs>, in order to assure the maximum transparency in the use of EU and public national funding.

The composition of the Monitoring Committee (MC) is published at:

<https://www.italy-albania-montenegro.eu/programme/south-adriatic-2021-27/south-adriatic-docs>

All documents, referred to in following decisions and the preparatory documentation are part of the decision-making. To become effective, following decisions of the MC 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 legislations.

Below decisions made at MC meetings (marked with “**MT**” together with the respective meeting no.) or made through written procedure (marked with “**WP**” together with the respective procedure no.) are listed, in compliance with article 5 of the Rules of Procedure:

No	On	Decisions
<b>WP 1</b>	19/10/22	<p>The Monitoring Committee (MC) of the Interreg IPA South Adriatic (Programme) acknowledges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The appointments of 8 September 2022 (Italy), while adding a Member of the Ministry of Economy and Finance (IGRUE), related to the institutional competencies on the national co-financing Fondo di Rotazione, 12 September 2022 (Montenegro) and 19 September 2022 (Albania) of the representatives of the Countries participating in the Interreg IPA South Adriatic at the MC (in the enclosures), which shall be established in compliance with Article 29 of the Regulation (EU) 2021/1059, as well as the obligations for the MC members related to impartiality and confidentiality, set out in the Rules of Procedure, which are going to be confirmed with signed declarations by the members;</li> <li>- The text of the Rules of Procedure of the MC, which was commented and pre-agreed at the 2021-27 Programming Task Force (TF), in the enclosures;</li> <li>- The text of the first call for project proposals, pre-agreed at the TF, in the enclosures;</li> <li>- The text of four factsheets of the programme manual, pre-agreed at the TF, in the enclosures.</li> </ul> <p>Consequently, the MC approves</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The formal establishment of the MC, in compliance with Article 29 of the Regulation (EU) 2021/1059, including the additional Member of the Italian Delegation IGRUE;</li> <li>- The Rules of Procedure of the MC;</li> <li>- The first call for project proposals and gives the mandate to the Managing Authority to make any administrative and technical arrangements, necessary to publish and open the call as soon as possible;</li> <li>- The four factsheets of the programme manual.</li> </ul>
<b>MT 1</b>	15/11/22	<p>1 - The JMC approves the agenda of the 1<sup>st</sup> MC meeting.</p> <p>2 - The MC acknowledges the updated concept notes and approves the Notice for Strategic Projects with the agreements reached at MC meeting, including the revision of the budget, and gives the mandate to the MA to publish the Notice on the website and inform the partnerships.</p> <p>The MC asks to the experts and partners involved in the preparation of Strategic projects to take into account the requests made by the delegations and by the European Commission to make the planning process more effective.</p> <p>The draft of the application forms will be analysed and discusses by the MC prior to the final submission.</p> <p>3 - The MC acknowledges the updates and commit to indicate social and economic partners.</p> <p>4 - The MC acknowledges the A&amp;O businesses.</p> <p>5 - The MC approves that the 2nd MC meeting shall take place in Montenegro on 19 April 2023, as well as commits not to change the date, except for cases of force majeure.</p>
<b>MT 2</b>	19/04/23	<p>1. The MC approves the agenda of the 2nd MC meeting.</p> <p>2. The MC acknowledges the current stage of development of strategic project proposals and each National Delegation commits to support the project partners of its own country, as to make quick progress in the coming weeks.</p> <p>The MC approves the deadline 31 May 2023 for submission of a complete application for the project proposals.</p> <p>3. The MC acknowledges the updates and next steps for the first call.</p> <p>The heads of the national delegations commit to communicate to the MA the respective members of the Steering Committee within 10 working days.</p> <p>4. The MC approves the chapter on the complaint procedure of the programme manual, with the specification proposed, and gives the mandate to publish it on the programme website.</p> <p>5. The MC acknowledges the approved SCOs and the on-going process.</p> <p>The MC approves the text of the appendixes and gives the mandate to the MA to consequently request a programme change to the EC.</p> <p>6. The MC acknowledges the updates and next steps for the financing agreement, TA agreement, management and control system description.</p>

		<p>7. The MC acknowledges the updates on the Interreg IPA South Adriatic communication actions.</p> <p>8. The MC agrees that the 3rd MC meeting shall take place in Albania on 25 October 2023, as well as commits not to change the date, except for cases of force majeure</p>
<b>WP 2</b>	20/06/23	<p>The MC acknowledges the outcomes of the Relevance Filter assessment (R.V.) by the JS, NIPs and SC;</p> <p>The MC approves the scores in the ranking list of the R.V. and the release of project proposals, succeeding the R.V., to the full eligibility and quality assessment;</p> <p>The MC approves to admit project proposals amounting to 4,507 times the budget available in all priority axis, as recommended by the Steering Committee;</p> <p>The MC approves the exclusion from the full eligibility and quality assessment of the project proposals without statements and those NOT succeeding the R.V. in P.A. 4.</p>
<b>WP 3</b>	20/07/23	<p>The MC acknowledges the outcomes of the Strategic Project development procedure, set out in annex 02 of the Programme and in the Notice to strategic project partners, which has resulted in the current versions of the five project application forms;</p> <p>The MC approves under condition the Strategic Projects and the proposed partnerships, as described in the current versions of the project application forms in annexes 01 to 05, with all conditions set in annex 01 and with the additional conditions foreseen by the MC members;</p> <p>The MC gives the mandate to the Managing Authority, assisted by the Joint Secretariat, to negotiate the fulfilment of all conditions. The MC reserves the right to further analyse and to request to re-approve the modified versions of the application forms, once ready, and before the signature of the subsidy contract by the Lead Partners and the Managing Authority</p>
<b>WP 4</b>	26/09/23	<p>The MC acknowledges the proposal for an Evaluation plan, developed by the JS in compliance with article 35 of the Interreg Regulation (EU) 2021/1059 and 44 of the Common Provisions Regulation (EU) 2021/1060.</p> <p>The MC approves the Evaluation plan and commits to monitor its implementation under the lead of the MA/JS, in compliance with articles 30 and 35 of the Interreg Regulation (EU) 2021/1059.</p>
<b>MT 3</b>	20/10/23	<p>1. The MC approves the agenda of the 3rd MC meeting.</p> <p>2. The MC acknowledges the updated Application Forms of Strategic Projects, which were approved through written procedure as well as the further comments made by Italy to improve the application forms of the Connectivity and Skills projects.</p> <p>The MC approves the request made by Italy to strengthen the monitoring of Strategic projects and in particular:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mid-term reviews necessary every 2 years (reporting FS updated) &amp; regular information on an annual basis to MC both on the spending level of the Strategic projects and the results achieved;</li> <li>- Subsidy clause for De-commitment in case of serious under-spending of partners, after discussion in mid-term reviews: If the partners continuously show failures in the project implementation the MA will proceed with de-commitment.</li> </ul> <p>3. Complementing the written procedure no. 2 of 19 June 2023, the MC approves to admit the project proposals 4.1/ EcoDe / SA-0100088 and 4.1/ SALEP / SA-0100078 to the relevance and full quality assessment, as their eligibility was affected by a material error, which emerged from partners' complaints.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The MC acknowledges the outcomes of the eligibility and quality assessment by the JS, NIPs and SC, including those for the two additional project proposals.</li> <li>- The MC approves the scores in the ranking list.</li> <li>- The MC approves an additional allocation of 1.790.000 in order to finance entire and one additional project for P.A. 1 and 5 and two project proposals for P.A. 2, 3 and 4. The necessary additional funds, to be fixed upon the negotiations, are provisionally shifted from the allocation to the last SSP call.</li> <li>- The MC gives the mandate to MA/JS to hold negotiations to optimise the project activities and budgets, considering the comments by the Steering Committee, the ongoing indexation of SCOs to inflation and project specific conditions, but NOT exceeding the total amounts requested, for further approval of the final budgets by the MC.</li> <li>- For projects no. 072, 100, 169, 178, 176, 114, 002, 073 the MC recommends a consultation with the respective national authorities during the negotiation phase, as to ensure administrative / financial capacity of partners, incl. pre-financing and co-financing capacities.</li> </ul> <p>4. The MC postpones the approval of the text of the Standard Call only for the National Delegations criteria, as the Italian delegation reserves the right and requests further reflection on these criteria.</p> <p>5. The MC acknowledges the updates on Financing agreement, TA and programme finances, including SCO procedure.</p> <p>6. The MC acknowledges the updates on the Interreg IPA South Adriatic communication actions.</p> <p>7. AOB - Updates from MAs of IT-HR, IPA HR-BiH-ME</p> <p>8. The MC agrees that the 4th MC meeting shall take place in Italy on 18-19 April 2024, as well as commits not to change the date, except for cases of force majeure.</p>
<p><b>WP</b> <b>5</b></p>	<p>10/01/24</p>	<p>The MC acknowledges that the Simplified Cost options (SCOs), which were approved by the MC through the Written Procedure no. 1 on 19/10/2022, were updated for the indexation to the inflation and as a result of</p>

		<p>the process of ex-ante verification by the Audit Authority, in view of introducing the SCOs into the programme appendix 1, in compliance with article 94 of Reg. (EU) 2021/1060.</p> <p>Consequently, the MC acknowledges the current versions of the Programme Appendix 1, for the different SCOs.</p> <p>The MC approves the Appendix 1 to be added to a new version of the Programme and gives the mandate to MA to submit it to the European Commission for approval.</p>
<b>WP 6</b>	07/02/24	<p>The MC acknowledges the outcomes of the negotiations and optimization of SSPs of the 1st Call by the JS, on the basis of the mandate of MC in the decision of 10 October 2023. The projects admitted for funding were optimized considering the comments by the Steering Committee, the indexation of SCOs to inflation and project specific conditions within the total amounts requested in the project proposals.</p> <p>The MC approves the Ranking List, including the final budget of the projects.</p>
<b>WP 7</b>	18/03/24	<p>The MC acknowledges the outcomes of the internal discussion among the National Delegations on the new criteria added in the quality criteria of evaluation grid of the Call for project proposals - Standard Projects assigned to National Delegations.</p> <p>The MC approves the Call for project proposals - Standard Projects (which content was approved by the MC in the meeting of 19 October 2023) with specific reference to the evaluation grid, as integrated by the quality criteria assigned to National Delegations, and gives the mandate to the Managing Authority to make any administrative and technical arrangements, necessary to publish and open the call as soon as possible.</p>
<b>MT 4</b>	19/04/24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The MC approves the agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> MC meeting.</li> <li>2. The MC acknowledges the updates on the Interreg IPA South Adriatic</li> <li>3. The MC agrees that the 5<sup>th</sup> MC meeting shall take place in Montenegro on 6-7 November 2024, as well as commits not to change the date, except for cases of force majeure.</li> </ol>
<b>WP 8</b>	15/07/24	<p>The MC acknowledges the State of Play of the Strategic Projects, specified in annex 1.</p> <p>The MC approves the major changes of the projects Grow Smart, Wrecks4All 2.0 and SA Creativity, specified in annex 2.</p> <p>The MC acknowledges the numerous requests by potential applicants for the ongoing call for standard projects to extend the deadline for submission of the project proposals, due to the holiday period. Consequently, the MC approves the extension until 30 September 2024, 11:59 and gives the mandate to the MA to publish the new deadline, as to inform the potential applicants.</p>

<b>WP 9</b>	18/10/24	<p>The MC acknowledges cases of rejections of the project proposals, due to missing essential items, set out in the on-going Call for Standard Project Proposals, as specified in annex 1, types A to D.</p> <p>The MC approves the possibility for the Lead Applicant to integrate non-essential missing items, based on the rules of the Call, as specified in annex 1, types F to I.</p>
<b>MT 5</b>	8/11/24	<p>The MC approves the agenda of the 5<sup>th</sup> MC meeting.</p> <p>The MC acknowledges the programme updates.</p> <p>The MC agrees that the next 2021-27 MC meeting shall take place in Albania on 9-10 April 2025, as well as commits not to change the date, except for cases of force majeure.</p> <p>The MC agrees that MC meetings may include an item for information on the 2014-20 closure.</p>
<b>WP 10</b>	6/12/24	<p>The MC approves the major project changes of project SA-0100128 - HERALD, related to withdrawal of Montenegrin partner and reallocation of its budget.</p>