

21st

European Week of Regions and Cities

Thriving Regions, Stronger Europe



*Breaking barriers to
cross-border cooperation*

Interreg



Co-funded by
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IPA South Adriatic

**Focusing on concrete results,
instead of papers:
Empowering Interreg
in the simplification drive**

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Interreg IPA South Adriatic Joint Secretariat

#EURegionsWeek



REMINDER



- Your questions on slido, #23518
- Browse page "sli.do"
- Enter code: #23518

ADVANTAGES

for Programme Authorities and Beneficiaries



- **Focus on outputs and results.**
- **Simplification and streamlining of processes** (*assessment and selection, implementation, management verification*).
- **Simpler audit trail.**
- **More correct use of the funds** (lower error rate) at Programme level.

ADVANTAGES

for Programme Authorities and Beneficiaries



- **Less workload on project proposal and preparation**
- Facilitate access of small beneficiaries.
- Reduction of administrative burden.
- More flexible financial management within the consortium



PRACTICAL TIPS

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- **Initial Effort for Future Benefits:** SCOs require extra work initially, the pay-offs come later.
- **Plan SCOs Strategically:** Choose which SCOs are best suited for your Programme.
- **Early Team Set-up:** Set up a dedicated team well in advance.
- **Collaborative Approach:** Cooperate closely with all involved institutions, including **controllers, audit authorities, and beneficiaries.**

PRACTICAL TIPS

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- **Holistic Thinking:** Consider all processes and their potential for utilising SCOs.
- **Adapt Methodologies:** Be open to adjustments in your methodologies as needed.
- **Clear Communication:** Dedicate ample time to explaining and communicating SCOs to institutions and beneficiaries.

SCOs in 2014-20 & 2021-27

- LS Action Plan
- SSUC Targeted trainings
- SSUC Accompanying Actions
- SSUC Travel & Accomodation
- FR Control costs
- SSUC Staff costs



- LS Preparation & Closure cost
- LS Meetings, seminars, conferences
- LS B2B & Incoming missions

South Adriatic
2021-2027

IT-AL-ME
2014-2020



LONETA

Local Opportunities for Negative Emission Technologies and their Applications



ENEA

ENergy Efficiency living 1Ab

Transforming buildings, empowering efficiency: A cross-border collaboration.



CAVES

Speleological Tourism Development in the Southern Adriatic Area

Beneath the surface: Fostering sustainable exploration in the Adriatic region.



SkEye

Strengthening Key aerospace technology for smart transport monitoring systems

Beyond horizons: Uniting minds for the future of aerospace technology.



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Where we are

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- **Development of methodologies: Completed.**
- ✓ Collection of historical data of 2014-2020 projects by eMS (LM Action Plan), historical data from FLC (SSUC Staff Cost & FLC cost)....others, as required by EGESIF guidance.
- ✓ Assessment of the relevance and the quality of the data (certified data).
- ✓ Statistical processing of the data and correction, if any.
- ✓ Description of the calculation method, including key steps of the calculation.
- ✓ Formulation of the management verifications.

Where we are

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- **Adaptation of Methodologies: Completed.**
- ✓ Update amounts through the calculation of the converting coefficients (CC) for the Consumer Price index (CPI) for Italy, Albania and Montenegro
- **Collaborative Approach: Completed.**
- ✓ Calculation methodologies discussed and verified with AA of the Programme. Checklists issued.
- ✓ Appendices 1 informally discussed and verified with AA of the Commission.
- **Update of the Programme on SFC: On going.**
- ✓ Formal submission of the Programme modifications.

Where we are: Example

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- **Lump Sum for Joint Action Plan / Model/Methods (ApMM)**
- ✓ Typical activities: joint models, joint models of management, procedures, innovative applications/tools, decision-making, strategic plans, feasibility studies, agreements, etc. or a combination of these
- ✓ Collection of statistical historical data related to similar activities amounts as reported and **certified** in 25 out of 32 projects of the 2014-20 1st Call for Standard Projects.
- ✓ The data was collected from 2018 to the early 2021, therefore, an ex-ante one-time indexation has been calculated and applied, at the end.

Where we are: Example

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➤ Key steps for the calculation:

- ✓ For each project, identification of the database with historical data of the costs related to the development of ApMM by dividing the costs according to the country of origin of the beneficiaries.
- ✓ Calculation of the average costs by country and the related standard deviations.
- ✓ Removal of outliers from the sample based on the averages and standard deviations:

$$x > \text{average} + \text{st.dev.} * 1 \quad \text{AND} \quad x < \text{average} - \text{st.dev.} * 1$$

- ✓ The average amounts per country were finally calculated using the new interval of data, and the statistical variation coefficient (CV) verified to be well below 50%.

Where we are: Example

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➤ Management verifications:

Proofs of the activities performed by each beneficiary (maximum one per eligible area) will be checked on the basis of at least four compulsory documents.

- 1) **Analysis**, aimed at assessing the context or starting situation (e.g. feasibility study, gap analysis, context analysis, data collection and assessment, etc.)
- 2) **The ApMM**, aimed at improving effectiveness of the analysed processes (e.g. management model, process, procedure, application, etc.).
- 3) **Testing of the ApMM**, aimed at ensuring that the process may be applied (e.g. web or practical testing, case study or use in a real situation).
- 4) **Partners' commitment to follow up on the ApMM**, aimed at confirming the intention to take-up or adopt the ApMM (agreement, MoU, joint commitment letter, etc.)

Where we are: 1st call for SSPs

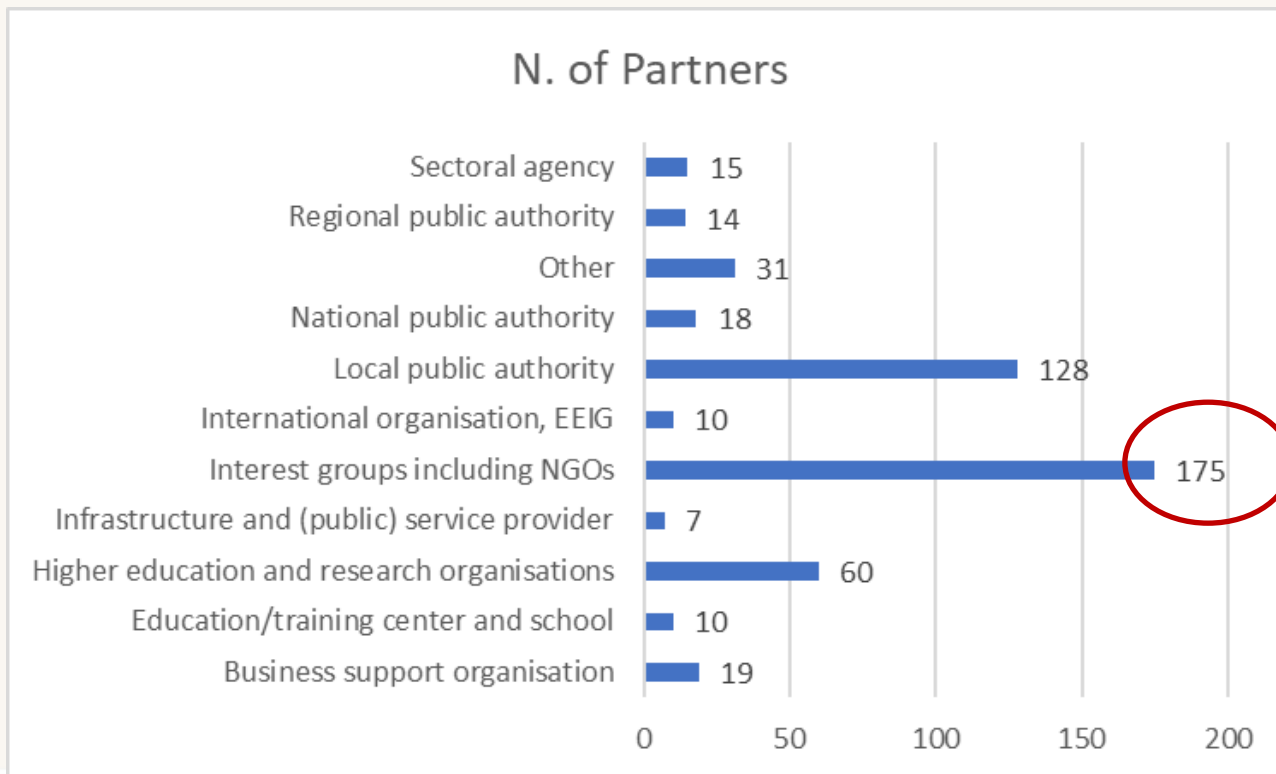
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- Projects funded by 8 SCO's
- No other costs allowed
- No reporting on real costs basis.
- Maximum 200,000€/project.
- Max duration: 12 months.

Where we are: Data 1st call for SSPs

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N. 128 project proposals

**New partners: $\approx 50\%$ of 496
59 out of 249 new beneficiaries**



Where we are: Critical issues

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- ✓ **Change of mindset** from standard planning to the one with simplified costs.
- ✓ **SCOs rules not fulfilled:**
 - ☹ not correct calculation of total amount for SSUC
 - ☹ not correct use of the travel&acc. SSUC
 - ☹ forced splitting of complex activities in different LS Action Plan
 - ☹ budget as real costs rather than SCOs

despite having held a large number of Open Days to inform beneficiaries.

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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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