



Transnational Network of ERDF/CF SCO practitioners

4th meeting of the Transnational Network (TN) of ERDF/CF SCO practitioners

26th - 27th September 2019 – Malta

Agenda

Day 1: Thursday, 26 th September	
9:30 – 10:00	Registration and welcome coffee
10:00 – 10:10	<p>Welcome by the host Member State</p> <p><i>Jonathan Vassallo (Director General, Planning and Priorities Coordination Division - Ministry for European Affairs and Equality)</i></p>
10:10 – 10:20	<p>Introduction to the meeting</p> <p>Introducing the agenda of the meeting: objectives and activities.</p> <p><i>Charlie Grant (Head of Unit, EC-DG REGIO Unit 02 - Better Implementation)</i> <i>Luca Santin (Thematic Expert of the TN)</i></p>
SESSION I – Audit and partnership between Managing Authorities and Audit Authorities	
10:20 – 11:30	<p>I.1 – Case reports on good practices of collaboration between MA & AA</p> <p>The draft case reports prepared by the Member States representing the good practices of ‘collaboration between Managing Authorities and Audit Authorities’ will be briefly presented and peer reviewed by TN members.</p> <p><i>Presentations by TN members and peer review in groups</i></p>
11:30 – 11:45	Coffee
11:45 – 12:15	I.1 - Case reports on good practices of collaboration between MA & AA (cont.)
12:15 – 13:00	<p>I.2 – Involving the Audit Authorities in the TN</p> <p>On the basis of the feedback collected at the 3rd TN meeting as well as on the examples and indications provided by the good practices, this session aims to pave the way for the involvement on national Audit Authorities in the TN.</p> <p><i>All participants – joint discussion</i></p>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
SESSION II – Peer-to-peer training and support	
14:00 – 14:15	<p>II.1 - TN survey on ‘peer-to-peer training and support’</p> <p>Analysis of the key outcomes from the TN survey on ‘peer-to-peer training and support’ and introduction to the matching exercise.</p> <p><i>Luca Santin (Thematic Expert of the TN)</i></p>
14:15 – 15:30	II.2 – Coordinating ‘peer-to-peer’ actions: matching needs and expertise

	<p>This session aims capitalise on and develop the discussion on the opportunities offered by the REGIO 'Peer-2-peer' platform - presented at the 3rd TN meeting - by identifying and coordinating concrete needs for training and support around SCOs as well as expertise and actions that could be involved.</p> <p><i>Working groups</i></p>
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee
SESSION III – Expert judgement	
15:45 – 16:15	<p>III.1 – Pilot experiences on 'expert judgement'</p> <p>This part aims to present the experiences developed by frontrunners on the use of 'expert judgement' to design and calculate SCOs.</p> <p><i>Presentations by TN members</i></p>
16:15 – 17:00	<p>III.2 – 'Expert judgement' in practice</p> <p>A practical exercise on the use of 'expert judgement' will be proposed to TN members, to identify and discuss the potential issues and recommendations around the use of this calculation method.</p> <p><i>Group exercise</i></p>
19:30	TN Dinner

Day 2: Friday, 27th September	
SESSION IV – State Aid	
9:15 – 9:30	<p>IV.1 - TN survey on 'State Aid'</p> <p>Analysis of the key outcomes from the TN survey on 'State Aid'.</p> <p><i>Luca Santin (Thematic Expert of the TN)</i></p>
9:30 – 10:00	<p>IV.2 – Key issues and proposals on 'State Aid & SCOs'</p> <p>On the basis of the outcomes of the TN survey and with the contribution of Croatian representatives (whose experience has been briefly presented at the 3rd meeting) this session aims to identify key issues and proposals around the harmonisation of SCO and State Aid provisions.</p> <p><i>All participants – joint discussion</i></p>
SESSION V – Future of SCOs and TN	
10:00 – 10:45	<p>V.1 – Use of Delegated Acts and legal assurance on SCOs under ERDF/CF</p> <p>This session aims to introduce the discussion on legal assurance around SCOs under ERDF/CF by presenting the proposal for a Delegated Act developed by Malta and addressing questions from TN members.</p> <p><i>Presentation by the host Member State – joint discussion</i></p>
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee
11:00 – 12:00	<p>V.2 – Planning future support actions and initiatives by the European Commission</p> <p>Enhancing the support provided by the European Commission to the Member States has been identified, since the 1st meeting of the TN, as a key solution for achieving the objective of wider and better use of SCOs in ERDF/CF Operational Programmes. Taking into account this recommendation, the rationale of this session is to collect information and proposals from the Member States on the design and implementation of the support actions and initiatives that will be carried out by the Commission. In particular, the following points</p>

	<p>would be addressed within the session: (i) types of initiatives to be carried out (e.g. technical seminars, road shows, meetings ...) (ii) what exact topics should be addressed (iii) how such initiatives should be organised, in the view of the Member States, what operational procedures should be implemented</p> <p><i>All participants - working groups</i></p>
12:00 – 12:50	<p>V.3 – Proposals and priorities for the 2nd year of the TN (and beyond)</p> <p>The session aims to pave the way for the organisation of meetings and activities for the 2nd year of the TN (and beyond). The draft structure of the Case Reports on SCO practices will be presented, together with other topics and actions that could be developed by the TN in the coming months.</p> <p>All TN Members will be invited to contribute to the discussion, presenting ideas and proposals on additional topics and practices (on SCOs and simplification) to be addressed by the network.</p> <p><i>All participants – joint discussion and planning</i></p>
12:50 – 13:00	<p>V.4 – Updating the Work Plan & planning the next meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Recap of the main decisions, ideas and proposals</i> • <i>Planning the next meeting and activities</i> • <i>Updating the TN's Work Plan</i> <p><i>Charlie Grant (Head of Unit, EC-DG REGIO Unit 02 - Better Implementation)</i> <i>Luca Santin (Thematic Expert of the TN)</i></p>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch