



# **Major Projects of the 2014-2020 programming period financed by the European Regional Fund for Development or the Cohesion Fund**

**Unit F.1 Closure and Major Projects  
DG Regional and Urban Policy**

# What is a major project?

## *Major projects*

### *Article 100*

#### **Content**

As part of an operational programme or operational programmes, which have been subject to a Commission decision under Article 96(10) of this Regulation or under Article 8(12) of the ETC Regulation, the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund may support an operation comprising a series of works, activities or services intended in itself to accomplish an indivisible task of a precise economic or technical nature which has clearly identified goals and for which the total eligible cost exceeds EUR 50 000 000 and in the case of operations contributing to the thematic objective under point (7) of the first paragraph of Article 9 where the total eligible cost exceeds EUR 75 000 000 (the 'major project'). Financial instruments shall not be considered to be major projects.

# The policy context of major projects

- ☐ Compulsory list of major projects in the operational programmes
- ☐ Stronger role of independent experts: JASPERS
- ☐ Less major projects: higher thresholds and based on total eligible cost
- ☐ Stronger focus on realisation of major projects: all decisions are conditional
- ☐ Simplified rules for Cost Benefit Analysis and grant calculations: "flat rates", updated CBA aiming at simplification while keeping essentials
- ☐ Certification of expenditure possible only when the project is submitted to the Commission or sent to JASPERS for Independent Quality Review
- ☐ No N+3 rule exceptions (deductions) due to major projects
- ☐ No financing of completed projects

**Thematic objective**



**Investment priority**



**Specific objective(s)  
(results)**



**Actions (outputs)**



**Key principles for  
selecting operations**



**Major projects**

**Major projects  
in the Operational  
Programme 2014-2020:  
they have to be in line with  
the intervention logic**

# The legal context of major projects

- Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 (Art. 100-103)
- Delegated Regulation (EU) 480/2014: Chapter III (Art. 22-23) and Annexes I & II
- Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/207: Art. 1 & 2 and Annexes II & III
- Regulation (EU) No 1011/2014 Art. 1 and Annex I.

# The Member States and the European Commission responsibilities related to major projects

- 1. Member States and the European Commission work in shared management mode*
- 2. Member States are responsible for preparing and sending major projects to the European Commission*
- 3. The European Commission performs a decision-making procedure on the major projects*

**Member State is responsible for preparing & submitting a major project**

**Two channels for applying for the EU co-financing**

**Notification**

**Submission**



**Notification with IQR\*  
(art. 102.1)**

**Submission of all documents  
(art. 102.2)**

**Notification without IQR  
(art. 103 – for phased projects  
only)**

**\* Independent Quality Review**



# Tool - System for Fund management in the European Community = SFC 2014

*SFC2014 application is a shared management tool:*


- **Platform used by EC and MS for EU funds management**
- **Period: 2014-2020**
- **Electronic data exchange**

*Used by 5 EC Directorate General:*


- **EMPL - Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion**
- **REGIO - Regional Policy**
- **AGRI - Agriculture and Rural Development**
- **MARE - Maritime Affairs and Fisheries**
- **HOME - Home Affairs**

To access SFC2014 go to the SFC Portal:  
<https://ec.europa.eu/sfc/>

About Europa site | Europa site legal notice | IT security terms and conditions | English (en) ▼







SFC SUPPORT PORTAL  
System for Fund Management in the European Union



2014 - 2020 Period

2007 - 2013 Period

 SFC2014 Application	 SFC2014 Support Portal	 SFC2007 Application	 SFC2007 Support Portal
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## All project's documentation goes through the following steps during the EC decision-making procedure

Quality checks in  
DG REGIO

Consultation with  
other DGs

Decision on project  
Yes/**Interrupted\***/No

**EC major projects related decision-making procedure**

**Duration for the Commission decision making procedure is 3 months (two procedures without the possibility of interruption and one (**art. 102.2**) with the possibility of interruption)**

## Article 102(1) procedure

Member State  
prepares major  
project  
documents

Member State  
requests  
independent  
quality review of  
major project  
**(obligatory)**

Member State  
submits  
Notification  
documents to the  
Commission

With the help of  
JASPERS  
Advisory Section  
(voluntary MS  
choice)

With the help of  
JASPERS IQR  
Section

**Possible only if  
Independent  
Quality Review  
result is positive**

# State of play of major project submissions is now published in Open Data Platform:

*Chart on submitted major projects:*

<https://cohesiondata.ec.europa.eu/2014-2020/Major-projects-2014-2020-submitted-chart/r9y2-kdsg>

*Chart on approved major projects per thematic objectives:*

<https://cohesiondata.ec.europa.eu/2014-2020/MP-2014-2020-by-TO/ffqk-pz6h>

## European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) - explore our data

EU LEVEL

THEME

COUNTRY

FUND

The European Structural Investment Fund budget 2014-2020

Investment of EUR 647 billion – EUR 461 billion from EU Budget

EU finances Overview

# Recurring questions affecting timely decision-making

- ❖ *Is the data consistent throughout the documents?*
- ❖ *Is the demand analysis reliable?*
- ❖ *Why that specific investment option was selected?*
- ❖ *How reliable is the environmental profile of the project if the project demand analysis is unreliable? (for transport projects)*
- ❖ *Has the EIA covered the necessary area?*
- ❖ *Was population consulted?*
- ❖ *How the outcome from public consultation was taken into consideration in the environmental permit?*

# Recurring questions affecting timely decision-making

- ❖ *Is the environmental permit still valid?*
- ❖ *How the protection of drinking water sources is ensured?*
- ❖ *How noise protection is ensured?*
- ❖ *How Natura 2000 site(s) is/are protected/not endangered?*
- ❖ *Where there construction changes? Was there a new screening?*
- ❖ *What about the protection of migration corridors for wild life?*

## Further information sources:

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/projects/major/](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/projects/major/)

[https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/sources/docgener/studies/pdf/cba\\_guide.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/studies/pdf/cba_guide.pdf)

[https://ec.europa.eu/clima/sites/clima/files/docs/major\\_projects\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/sites/clima/files/docs/major_projects_en.pdf)

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/home.htm>

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/eia-support.htm>

Q&A: [REGIO-MAJOR-PROJECTS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:REGIO-MAJOR-PROJECTS@ec.europa.eu)



# Thank you for your attention!

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