Transport, Environment and Health: a pocket guidebook to working in partnership with the European Union

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On the 26 January 2005 The European Commission published a document COM(2005) 12 final which established the STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2005 – 2009 Europe 2010: A Partnership for European Renewal in which the following principles were defined:

- Prosperity
- Solidarity
- Security and freedom
- Europe as international partner

Prosperity aims at giving a response to the lack of growth and to foster the job creation in order to safeguard the standard of living and social protection in Europe.

Solidarity aims at working for sustainable development to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations.

Security and Freedom

Protection of the life and the property of citizens is a core task of European institutions. Security also means the ability of citizens to run their daily life on a secure basis which can be put at risk by natural disasters, environmental or health crises and transport and energy threats. The Union has a role to play at all stages: risk prevention, early warning, crisis management, and acting in solidarity with the victims of disasters.
Stronger EU presence on the world scene
Possibilities of future EU enlargement with Croatia, Turkey and Former Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and to prepare the South-Eastern countries to future accession
Enforcement of Neighbourhood policy for exchange activities, to regulate immigration and to develop network and services
Development of partnership with Asian countries (China and India) but also with Brasil and Latin America
Development of international solidarity to promote the European values and for a stronger human rights protection
Promotion of a sustainable development through the decrease of poverty and to integrate the Developing countries in the world economy
EU has created three different financial tools

- Indirect Funding
- Direct Funding
- EU External Assistance Programmes
Direct management: EU Programmes

In the direct funding the European Union, through the different General Directorates of the European Commission, manage directly the EU budget in the different sectors (research, education, environment, transport etc.)

The funds are transferred directly from the European Commission to the beneficiaries who use the budget to implement the awarded projects.
In the indirect funding, (the Structural Funds) the Community budget, is spent through a system of shared responsibility between the European Commission and Member State authorities:

- The Commission negotiates and approves the development programmes proposed by the Member States, and allocates resources.
- The Member States and their regions manage the programmes, implement them by selecting projects, control and assess them.
- The Commission is involved in programme monitoring, commits and pays out approved expenditure and verifies the control systems.
Direct management

EU Programmes

External Assistance

Main tools

Specific tools

Indirect Management

Structural Funds

ERDF

ESF

Cohesion Fund

IPA

ENPI

DCI

Humanitarian Aids

EIDHR

Stability

Cooperation with Industrialised countries
Direct management

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Cohesion Fund
Indirect management: The 3 objectives of the Structural Funds 2007-2013

- Convergence: solidarity among the Regions
- Regional Competitiveness and Employment
- European Territorial Cooperation

Implement and carry out the local and regional policy of European Union

Encourages the cooperation among the European Regions
Objective 1 - Convergence

The Convergence objective covers regions whose GDP per capita is below 75% of the EU average and aims at accelerating their economic development.

Financed by the ERDF, ESF and Cohesion Fund, covers the following priorities:

- human and physical capital
- innovation
- knowledge society
- **environment**
- administrative efficiency.
Objective 2 - Regional Competitiveness and Employment

Covers all regions of the EU territory, except those already covered by the Convergence objective. It aims at reinforcing competitiveness, employment and attractiveness of these regions.

Financed by the ERDF and ESF, covers the following priorities:

- innovation
- environmental protection
- promotion of entrepreneurship
Objective 3 – European Territorial Cooperation

builds upon the Interreg initiatives of previous years, which were originally planned to be fully incorporated into the main objectives of the structural funds

Financed by the ERDF, it promotes cooperation between European regions, as well as the development of common solutions for issues such as:

- **Urban, rural and coastal development**
- Shared resource management
- **Improved transport links**
European Territorial Cooperation 3 strands

Cross Border Cooperation
(Formerly the Interreg IIIA) - aimed at neighboring border-regions

Transnational Cooperation
Aimed at the multilateral cooperation of minimum 3 regions divided into wider programme areas (e.g. Central Europe, Southeast Europe, Mediterranean, etc.)

Interregional Cooperation
Aimed at cooperation in the field of policy making, research and capacity building, encompassing programmes Interact II, ESPON, Interreg IVC and URBACT
European Territorial Cooperation
Cross Border Cooperation (CBC)

CBC deals mainly with "filling the gaps". It does so through agreed cross-border 'analysis and response' strategies. It includes 52 cross-border programmes.

It deals with a wide range of issues:
- Encouraging entrepreneurship
- **Improving joint management of natural resources**
- **Supporting links between urban and rural areas**
- Improving access to transport and communication networks
- Developing **joint use of infrastructure**
- Administrative, employment and equal opportunities work.

CBC intends to address the challenges related to infrastructure (building bridges), markets and services (linking universities to business to clients) cultural or linguistic barriers.
European Territorial Cooperation
Trans-national Cooperation

It allows the regions from several EU Member States to work on matters such as
communication corridors, flood management, international business and research linkages,
and the development of more viable and sustainable markets.

Themes covered are:
- Innovation, especially networks of universities, research institutions, SMEs;
- **Environment**, especially water resources, rivers, lakes, sea;
- Accessibility, including telecommunications, and in particular the completion of networks;
- **Sustainable urban development**, especially polycentric development
There are currently 13 transnational co-operation programmes.

1. Northern Periphery
2. Baltic Sea
3. North West Europe
4. North Sea
5. Atlantic coast
6. Alpine Space
7. Central Europe
8. South West Europe
9. Mediterranean
10. South East Europe
11. Caribbean Area
12. Acores-Madeiras-Canarias
13. Indian Ocean area
INTERREG IVC enables EU regions to work together and is structured around two priorities:

- innovation and the knowledge economy
- **environment and risk prevention.**

**Priority 2** of the programme includes the following sub-themes:

- natural and technological risks (including climate change);
- water and waste management;
- biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage (including air quality);
- energy and sustainable transport;
- cultural heritage and landscape.
How to apply within Structural Funds

How to apply?

To apply for regional funding get in touch with the Managing Authority (MA) of the relevant Operational programme. That body evaluates your project and decides whether to grant funding.

Who can apply?

The following organizations can benefit from funding:
- public bodies, some private sector organizations (especially small businesses), universities, associations, NGOs and voluntary organizations.
- Foreign firms with a base in the region covered by the relevant operational programme
- candidates or potential candidates from Accession countries should under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA). etc.)
Direct management: European Programmes

The Community Programmes are financed from the general budget of the Community.

Main characteristics:
- They allow 27 EU Member States to work together
- All Acceding and Candidate countries have the opportunity to participate in the programmes, although, as a main condition of participation, an annual fee has to be paid to the budget
- In some programmes also Third countries are allowed to participate
- Community Programmes can be tied to almost every Community policy
- The submission, evaluation and settlement of the accounts along with the full administration belong to the Administration of the Directorate Generals (DGs) of the European Commission managing the specific programmes.
- Minimum requirement: participation of at least 2/3 Member States
- EU financing usually covers less than 75% of the total cost of a project. The rest has to come from national funds, private sponsors or even own resources, such as support staff and office resources.
Direct Management: European Programmes in the environmental sector
LIFE supports environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU, as well as in some candidate, acceding and neighbouring countries.

It has three components:
- LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity
- LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance
- LIFE+ Information and Communication.
LIFE+

It co-finances

- **best practice or demonstration** projects that contribute to the implementation of the **Birds and Habitats Directives** and the **Natura 2000 network**.
- **innovative or demonstration** projects that contribute to the implementation of the objectives of Commission Communication (COM (2006) 216 final) on "**Halting the loss of biodiversity**" by 2010 – and beyond".

LIFE+ Nature & Biodiversity

It co-finances

- **innovative or pilot projects** that contribute to the implementation of **European environmental policy** and the development of innovative policy ideas, technologies, methods and instruments.
- It also helps **monitor pressures** (including the long-term monitoring of forests and environmental interactions) on our environment.
LIFE+

It co-finances
➢ projects relating to communication and awareness raising campaigns on environmental, nature protection or biodiversity conservation issues, as well as projects related to forest fire prevention (awareness raising, special training).
LIFE+ is open to:
- public or private bodies
- actors or institutions registered in the European Union.
Project proposals can either be submitted by a single beneficiary or by a partnership which includes a coordinating beneficiary and one or several associated beneficiaries. They can be either national or transnational, but the actions must exclusively take place within the territory of the 27 Member States of the European Union.

The rate of the Union financial support shall be a maximum of 50% of the eligible costs.
Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)

It supports innovation activities (including eco-innovation), provides better access to finance and delivers business support services in the regions.

It encourages a better take-up and use of information and communication technologies (ICT) and helps to develop the information society. It also promotes the increased use of renewable energies and energy efficiency.

It is divided in 3 Operational programmes:
- the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP)
- the Information Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme (ICT-PSP)
- the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme (IEE)
Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP)

It supports innovation SMEs in the EU, focusing on access to finance for SMEs through "CIP financial instruments" which target SMEs in different phases of their lifecycle.

- It support investments in:
  - technological development,
  - innovation and eco-innovation,
  - technology transfer and
  - the cross border expansion of business activities
Information and Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme (ICT-PSP)

ICT-PSP aims at stimulating a wider uptake of innovative ICT based services and the exploitation of digital content across Europe by citizens, governments and businesses, in particular SMEs.

Funding goes mainly to pilot actions, involving both public and private organisations, for validating in real settings, innovative and interoperable ICT based services in areas such as:

- ICT for health, ageing and inclusion
- Digital Libraries
- ICT for improved public services
- ICT for energy efficiency and smart mobility
- Multilingual web and Internet evolution
Intelligent Energy Europe Programme (IEE)

The IEE programme aims at giving a boost to clean and sustainable solutions

The projects help to further the three main objectives:

- Promoting **energy efficiency** and encouraging the rational use of energy sources (**SAVE**);
- Increasing the **use of new and renewable energy** sources as well as encouraging energy diversification (**ALTENER**);
- Stimulating **energy efficiency and renewable** in the field of transport (**STEER**).
Who can apply

The Programme is open to the participation of EU-27 SMEs, financial institutions, business organizations.

The following non-EU-member countries are participating in the three specific CIP programmes:

- **EIP**: Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Turkey and Serbia. Israel and Albania participate in certain parts.
- **IEE**: Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Croatia.
- **ICT-PSP**: Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Croatia, Turkey and Serbia.

Funding

It depends on the funding line but the rate of the Union financial support is about a maximum of 50% of the eligible costs.
Seventh Research Framework Programme (FP7)

- Theme Environment
  - promotes the sustainable management of both the man-made and the natural environment and its resources

- Theme Transport
  - aims at developing safer, greener and smarter transport systems for Europe that will benefit citizens, respect the environment, and increase the competitiveness of European industries in the global market.

Which themes are of relevance to THE PEP
Theme 6 – Environment promotes the sustainable management of both the man-made and the natural environment and its resources.

**Funded actions** focus on:
- predicting changes in climate, ecological conditions, earth and ocean systems;
- tools and technologies for monitoring, prevention and mitigation of environmental pressures and risks including health risks;
- sustainability of the natural and man-made environment.

Funding in this aims also at improving competitiveness and strengthen the position of European industries in world markets for environmental technologies.
Seventh Research Framework Programme (FP7)
Theme Transport (including aeronautics)

Theme Transport aims at developing safer, greener and smarter transport systems for Europe that will benefit citizens, respect the environment, and increase the competitiveness of European industries in the global market.

Emphasis is given to the following activities:
- Aeronautics and air transport
  - reduction of emissions, work on engines and alternative fuels
  - air traffic management, safety aspects of air transport
  - environmentally efficient aviation
- Sustainable surface transport - rail, road and waterborne
  - development of clean and efficient engines and power trains
  - reducing the impact of transport on climate change
  - inter-modal regional and national transport
- clean and safe vehicles
- infrastructure construction and maintenance, integrative architectures
Participation is open to:

- research groups at universities or research institutes
- companies intending to innovate
- small or medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
- SME associations or groupings
- public or governmental administration (local, regional or national)
- early-stage researchers (postgraduate students)
- experienced researchers
- institutions running research infrastructures of transnational interest
- organizations and researchers from third countries
- international organizations
- civil society organizations.
Different categories of country have varying eligibility for different specific and work programmes:

- **Member States** - The EU-27
- **The Associated countries** – with science and technology cooperation agreements that involved contributing to the framework programme budget
- **Candidate countries** – currently recognised as candidates for future accession
- **Third countries** - the participation of organisations or individuals established in countries that are not Member States, candidates or associated should also be justified in terms of the enhanced contribution to the objectives of FP7.
The standard reimbursement rate for research and technological development activities is 50%.
Direct Management: European Programmes in the Transport sector
TEN-T

Funding

In general, TEN-T projects are nonetheless funded to a major extent by national governments. Trans-European transport networks are co-financed by the following Community instruments:

- Grants from the Trans-European transport budget (Funding rules)
- Grants from the Cohesion Fund budget;
- Grants from the ERDF, prioritarily on Convergence obj.
- TEN-T budget
- Loans and guarantees from international financial institutions (e.g. EIB) and private funding

Who can apply

TEN-T funding opportunities are open to all EU Member States or, with the agreement of the Member States concerned, international organizations, joint undertakings, or public/private undertakings or bodies. Funding in TEN-T grants can support studies or works which contribute to TEN-T programme objectives.
Part of the TEN-T Transport Initiative, it aims in making member States, regions and project proposers respect the environmental acquis for infrastructure related to any Community co-financing. For the TENs, the main concerns are related to potential negative impacts arising from TEN-T.

This means:

- promoting measures that are beneficial both for mitigation of and adaptation to climate change,
- avoiding adaptation measures that will make it more difficult to cope with future climate risks or exacerbate impacts in another region or cause the poorest groups or regions to be the worst hit,
- adopting adaptation measures that would pay off in the short term irrespective of uncertainties in the future forecasts ("no regret" measures),
- considering worst-case scenario measures, even if uncertainties are high, in cases where the costs or the magnitude of the impacts in such scenarios would be unacceptable.
The TEN-T programme consists of hundreds of projects – defined as studies or works – whose ultimate purpose is to ensure the cohesion, interconnection and interoperability of the trans-European transport network, as well as access to it.

TEN-T projects, which are located in every EU Member State, include all modes of transport:
- road
- rail
- maritime
- inland waterways
- air
- logistics
- co-modality
- innovation

30 Priority Projects (or Axes) and other horizontal priorities have also been established to concentrate on pan-European integration and development.
5 distinct types of action are supported:

1. **Modal shift actions**: these aim to shift as much freight as economically meaningful under current market conditions from road to short sea shipping, rail and inland waterways.

2. **Catalyst actions**: the goal here is to change the way non-road freight transport is conducted in the EU. Support will be provided to innovative proposals aimed at overcoming structural market barriers in European freight transport.

3. **Motorways of the sea actions**: it aims at shifting freight from long road distances to a combination of short sea shipping and other modes of transport.

4. **Traffic avoidance actions**: the objective is to integrate transport into production logistics. This should lead to a reduced freight transport demand by road with a direct impact on emissions.

5. **Common learning actions**: it aims at enhancing knowledge in the freight logistics sector and foster advanced methods and procedures of cooperation in the freight market.
Marco Polo

**Who can apply**

Companies operating in the transport sector.
- for applications made by a *single undertaking*, the undertaking needs to be established in an EU member State.
- for *consortia*, at least one undertaking needs to be established in an EU Member State.
- *Undertakings from "Close third countries"* can never be lead partners. “Close third countries”, are the Candidate States, EFTA Countries as well as others due to their Geographical proximity are eligible to participate in Marco Polo projects.

**Funding**

The community funding covers up to 35% of the total eligible costs for the first 4 actions and the 50% for the common learning actions.
Direct Management: European Programmes in the Health sector
The Health programme aims at achieving the following objectives:
- improve citizens’ health security;
- promote health to improve prosperity and solidarity;
- generate and disseminate health knowledge

This is mainly done through financing four types of different actions:
- projects
- conferences
- joint actions
- operation grants.

It is designed to complement, support and add value to Member States policy regarding Public Health and contribute to greater solidarity and prosperity in the EU, by protecting and promoting citizen’s health and safety.
Health Programme

Who can apply

Public or private legal persons in the field of health in the countries eligible to participate in the programme. To receive EU financial support for a project, i.e. to be a main beneficiary or associated partner, the organisation needs to be legally established in:
- one of the 27 EU member states
- an EFTA country party to European Economic Area
- Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Albania, Serbia and Montenegro

Organisations from other countries can only participate as subcontractors of the tenderer.

Funding

Normally up to 60 percent of the eligible costs of the project can be covered by the EU contribution.
Direct management

EU Programmes

External Assistance

Main tools

Specific tools

IPA
ENPI
DCI

Humanitarian Aids
EIDHR
Stability

Cooperation with Industrialised countries

Indirect Management

Structural Funds

ERDF
ESF
Cohesion Fund
Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)

It aims at providing targeted assistance to countries which are candidates and potential candidates for membership to the EU.

Its main objectives are:
- Strengthening democratic institutions
- Promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and enhanced respect for minority rights
- Development of civil society
- Regional and cross-border cooperation

In accordance with its objectives, IPA comprises five components:
- Assistance for transition and institution building;
- Cross-border cooperation (with EU Member States and other countries eligible for IPA);
- **Regional development (transport, environment, regional and economic development)**;
- Human resources (strengthening human capital and combating exclusion);
- Rural development.
Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)

Who can apply

Any natural or legal person based in the eligible countries can apply for funding under IPA.

The IPA beneficiary countries are divided into two categories:
1. **EU candidate countries** - Croatia, Turkey and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro are eligible for all five components of IPA.
2. **Potential Candidate Countries** – Albania, Serbia, Kosovo, and Bosnia and Herzegovina

Funding

assistance under IPA includes finance investments, procurement contracts, grants, including interest rate subsidies, special loans, loan guarantees and financial assistance, budgetary support, and other specific forms of budgetary aid, and the contribution to the capital of international financial institutions or the regional development banks.
Its main **strategic objectives** are:

- supporting democratic transition and promoting human rights
- the transition towards the market economy
- the **promotion of sustainable development**; and policies of common interests (antiterrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, conflict resolution, the rule of international law, etc.).

The ENPI **finances actions** in the various sectors, including:

- more equitable development;
- regulatory trade and reforms;
- the liberalisation of certain sectors;
- justice and home affairs;
- **energy**;
- **transport**;
- information society;
- **environmental sustainability**;
- research and innovation.
European Neighbourhood & Partnership Instrument (ENPI)

Who can apply

The entities which are eligible for funding are:
- decentralised institutions and entities in partner countries and regions,
- mixed organisations,
- international and regional organisations,
- international financial institutions,
- European institutions and agencies to a certain extent,
- non-governmental players.

The following countries are involved:
**MEDA countries**: Algeria, Egypt, Gaza/West Bank (Palestine Authority), Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria,* Tunisia, Libya,* Turkey
**NIS countries**: Ukraine, Belarus*, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kirghizistan, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia

Funding

This component will be co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
The Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) aims to reduce poverty, strive for sustainable economic and social development as well as a gradual integration of developing countries into the world economy.

The instrument is implemented through geographic and thematic programmes. Its overall objective, to eliminate poverty in partner countries and regions, should be achieved through cooperation aiming to:

- support democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, good governance, gender equality and related instruments of international law
- foster the **sustainable development** by all aspects; political, economic, social and **environmental**
- promote partner countries smooth and gradual integration into world economy
- help develop international measures to preserve and **improve the quality of the environment and the sustainable management of global natural resources**, in order to ensure sustainable development
- reinforce the relationship between the Community and partner countries and regions
Of the total budget of 16.897 million euro, the Geographical Programmes have been allocated 10.057 million euro, the Thematic programmes 5.596 million euro and the support to the Sugar Protocol countries amounts to 1.244 million euro.

Who can apply

partner countries and regions, and their institutions, decentralised bodies in the partner countries (municipalities, provinces, departments and regions), joint bodies set up by the partner countries and regions with the Community, Non State Actors, international organisations, EU agencies.

The countries involved are:
- 18 countries in Latin America,
- 29 in Asia,
- 5 in Central Asia,
- 5 in the Middle East and South Africa
Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)

To strengthen the common approach in Central Asia, EU Members States and the European Commission have committed to collaborate closely in the seven thematics identified by the Strategy:
1. Human rights, rule of law, good governance and democratization
2. Investing in the future: youth and education
3. Economic development, trade and investment
4. Strengthening energy and transport links
5. Environmental sustainability and water
6. Combating common threats and challenges
7. Building bridges: intercultural dialogue

Countries involved:
Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan
Thanks for your attention

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