

## Monitoring Committee for Operational Programme I

*Investing in Competitiveness for a Better Quality of Life  
(2007-2013)*

### ERDF Technical Assistance

12 May 2009

Planning and Priorities Co-ordination Division  
Office of the Prime Minister



### Priority Axis 7: Technical Assistance

#### Overall Objective

- To facilitate the overall implementation of the 2007- 2013 Programme and to reinforce the administrative capacity of the public administrations

#### Main Operational Objectives

- To support implementation optimising Programme quality and efficiency
- To ensure effective application of Regulations and applications
- To support the Programme's Communication Plan, Evaluation Plan and Training Strategy

#### Financial allocation

- The total funding for this PA amounts to €12,327,095.29 - 85 % financed by ERDF; 15 % financed by National Funding

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## Criteria for approvals

The criteria, together with what is stated in PA 7 are necessary in order to assess whether requests for TA can be considered eligible

Criteria for approving operations under TA were presented and approved during the Monitoring Committee of 22 May 2008



## Justification for changes

- To maximise the utilisation of TA funds, amendments to the criteria are being proposed
- The amendments will:
  - Ensure the inclusion of all the foreseen activities necessary to guarantee the efficient and effective implementation of Cohesion Policy in Malta
  - Add clarity and remove redundant wording from existing text





## Proposed Amended Criteria

### Current Criteria

Each request must fulfill **ALL** of the following criteria in order to be considered eligible **and subject to further assessment**:

- A completed request for approval form must be presented and should be filled in with all relevant details **and documentation** (including estimated **quotations**, full details of items/ services requested).
- The request must be in line with one of the components outlined in the TA **action** plan.

### Proposed Criteria

Each request must fulfill the following criteria in order to be considered eligible **for Technical Assistance Funding**:

- A completed request for approval form must be presented and should be filled in with all relevant details (including estimates, full details of items/ services requested).
- The request must be in line with one of the components outlined in the TA **indicative** plan.



## Proposed Amended Criteria

### Current Criteria

- The request must address the implementation of one or more aspects of **the relevant Operational Programme**

No footnote

### Proposed Criteria

- The request must address the implementation of one or more aspects of **Cohesion Policy<sup>[1]</sup>**.

<sup>[1]</sup>The term Cohesion Policy includes, amongst others, additional activities re 2004-2006 (in the case of OPI where eligible), Regulatory Activities including those related to simplification exercises and relating to policy including Future of Cohesion Policy, Territorial Cohesion as well as the implementation of Territorial Agenda (in the case of the latter as relevant to Cohesion Policy).



## Proposed Amended Criteria

Current Criteria	Proposed Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The applicant must be one of the horizontal stakeholders or be directly involved in the implementation of the relevant OP.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Applicant organisation must be one of the horizontal stakeholders involved in Cohesion Policy and/or involved in the implementation of the relevant Operational Programme.</li> </ul>



## Proposed Amended Criteria

Current Criteria	Proposed Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For all requests for capacity building, such as training, the applicant must provide a description so as to highlight that the training to be attended is clearly linked to the job in question.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For all requests for capacity building [2], the Applicant must provide a description so as to highlight that the event to be attended is clearly linked to his/her role in the implementation of the OP/Cohesion Policy where applicable.</li> </ul>
<p>No footnote</p>	<p>[2] The component Capacity Building includes, amongst others, training, participation in conferences and meetings including technical meetings, as well as network activities.</p>



## Proposed Amended Criteria

Current Criteria	Proposed Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The request should be in compliance with the horizontal priorities of equal opportunities and environmental sustainability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The request should be in compliance with the horizontal priorities of equal opportunities and/or environmental sustainability <i>where applicable</i>.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests should contribute to the achievement of the concerned priority objectives [in terms of capacity, timely implementation and regularity of operations].</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests should contribute to the achievement of the concerned priority objectives of Cohesion Policy [in terms of capacity, regulatory issues, timely implementation and/or regularity of operations].</li> </ul>



## TA Indicative *Financial* Plan

During the Monitoring Committee of 5 December 2007 an indicative *financial* plan, highlighting the total allocation per component, was presented and approved

It is being proposed that only the text of the indicative *financial* plan is amended to maximise the use of TA funds

The budget of each component and overall financial allocation remains unchanged



### Proposed amended Indicative *Financial Plan*

	TOTAL	ERDF	MT
<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>12327095</b>	<b>10,478,031</b>	<b>1,849,064</b>
A. Furniture and Equipment *	1,500,000	1,275,000	225,000
B. Implementation of Cohesion Policy (including amongst others, salaries, expert advice, support services**)	5,027,095	4,273,031	754,064
C. Information and Publicity	2,500,000	2,125,000	375,000
D. Evaluation	2,000,000	1,700,000	300,000
E. Capacity Building (including amongst others, training, participation in conferences and meetings including technical meetings, as well as network activities)	1,300,000	1,105,000	195,000

\* Amounts to 10% of community funding for the Technical Assistance PA.  
 \*\* Support services include amongst others, software services, studies, SFD-related expenses, etc

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## Thank you!



Operational Programme I and II – Cohesion Policy 2007-2013  
*Investing in Competitiveness for a Better Quality of Life*  
*Empowering People for More Jobs and a Better Quality of Life*  
 Event part-financed by the European Union  
 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)  
 Cohesion Fund



European Social Fund (ESF)  
 Co-financing rate: 85% (70% ERDF, 30% ESF) EU Funds; 15% National Funds

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