

Implementing the European Structural and Investment Funds Regulations, 2014-2020

Please register in time!

Warsaw (PL), 23-24 March 2017



Erasmus+



European Institute of Public Administration
Institut européen d'administration publique

Venue

Hotel Mercure Warszawa Grand
28 Krucza Street
00-522 Warsaw, Poland

Introduction

Target group

The seminar is aimed at all economic actors in the Structural Funds /Cohesion Fund policy-making and implementation process, including Managing, Certifying, Audit authorities, Intermediate Bodies, and national, regional and local officials or representatives. It is also designed for project sponsors and applicants, as well as other implementing bodies, including agencies with an economic development role (such as regional development agencies), educational and training establishments, and other local partners, including consultants and NGOs.

Description

This 2-day seminar will be dedicated to looking at the key elements of the Structural and Cohesion Funds Regulations for the 2014-2020 period (and therefore much of the regulations affecting EAFRD and EMFF). It will examine practical challenges relating to the implementation of the new operational programmes. It will include detailed descriptions on how the rules have changed from the last programming period, under three headings: 1) programme finance and management 2) financial management and 3) financial control and audit.

The first part of the seminar considers the implications of the new result-orientation emphasis for programmes and projects, and the challenge of the new performance framework. We consider the impact of the new accounting year on financial planning, flows and management. There is a special session on how ESF has evolved and the new emphasis on simplification by using the simplified cost options. There will be a keynote intervention from a Polish Managing Authority, assessing the key issues, lessons and challenges for programme implementation in Poland.

This will include reference to simplification, the ex ante conditionalities, the use of new instruments, respecting horizontal priorities, targets to be achieved, the selection of operations, as well as financial management and control.

The second part of the seminar examines the new monitoring and evaluation requirements and considers how best to set targets and measure impact. A range of implementation issues will be discussed, including national rules and "gold-plating", versus simplification, achieving synergies with other funding sources, integrating horizontal priorities, and using new funding instruments. Numerous case studies will be introduced.

Learning methodology

The seminar will consist of a series of illustrated presentations given by senior national practitioners and expert consultants. Ample time will be available for question and answer sessions, discussions and exchanges of experience. There will be practical workshops and exercises on calculation of the grant, revenue-generating projects, options for using flat-rates and standardised unit costs, irregularities, and setting budgets and targets for the Performance Framework.

Objectives

By the end of the seminar, participants should have a clear understanding of the rules for the new programming period and how the challenges for implementation are being addressed. This includes reference to detailed management procedures and best practices for implementation, as well as the use of tools to measure the effects of interventions.

Programme

THURSDAY, 23 MARCH 2017

- 08.45 **Registration of participants**
- 09.00 **Opening of the seminar**
Marco Lopriore, Expert, EIPA
- 09.15 **The Structural and Investment Funds regulations 2014-2020: key implementation issues, part 1**
- programme intervention logic, result-orientation
 - programme management issues: concentration, new methods, measuring progress and success – quantifying programmes and the performance framework
 - programme finance, financial flows – commitments, advances, payments
 - the new accounting year, assurance on accounts, information
- Robin Smail, Consultant (UK) & Visiting Expert EIPA (former National Expert EC)*
- 10.45 Coffee break
- 11.15 **New and Ongoing Management Challenges for Member States: the Polish Perspective**
- lessons learned from the past Polish structural funds programmes
 - Polish programme challenges for the new programming period 2014-2020
 - feedback from the High level group on simplification for beneficiaries
- Pawel Chorazy, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Economic Development, Warsaw, Poland*
- 12.30 **Discussion of Member State issues**
- 13.00 Lunch
- 14.30 **The Structural and Investment Funds regulations 2014-2020: key implementation issues, part 1: workshop**
- changes to revenue-generating projects
 - exercise with calculation of the grant and revenue generating projects
- Robin Smail*
- 15.15 Coffee break
- 15.45 **New ESF priorities and mechanisms; simplified cost options**
- ESF in 2014-2020
 - increasing effectiveness
 - simplified costs options
- Marco Lopriore*
- 16.45 **Workshop: simplified cost options**
- exercises with standard scales and unit costs
- 17.30 **End of day one**
- 19.30 Dinner at Hotel Mercure Warszawa Grand

FRIDAY, 24 MARCH 2017

- 09.00 **Measuring performance and success: evaluation and monitoring requirements for new Operational Programmes**
- new requirements for monitoring, reporting and evaluation
 - the Annual Implementation Report
 - indicators for investment priorities and the new performance framework
 - exercise with budgets and targets for priorities
 - overview of the evaluation/monitoring cycle
 - the essentials of evaluations during the programming period; assessing impacts
- Robin Smail*
- 10.30 Coffee break
- 11.00 **Implementation Issues in practice for ESI Funds and Programmes**
- simplification; national rules; reducing administrative burden
 - changes to the eligibility of expenditure rules
 - synergies with other EU Funds – Horizon 2020, framework programmes for research and development; working with the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)
 - case studies: (new) funding instruments – global grants, vouchers, financial instruments, integrated territorial investments (ITI)
 - administrative capacity building
- Marco Lopriore*
- 12.45 Lunch
- 14.00 **The Structural and Investment Funds regulations 2014-2020: key implementation issues, part 2**
- financial control and audit changes
 - designation and changes to roles of authorities
 - audit of systems and operations
 - programme closure
- Robin Smail*
- 14.45 Coffee break
- 15.00 **Future challenges for 2014-2020 and beyond**
- sound economic governance
 - horizontal principles: sustainable development, gender equality, non-discrimination
 - compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights
 - Exercise: national rules and gold-plating in ESI funds, errors and irregularities
- Marco Lopriore*
- 16.00 **Feedback, evaluation, conclusion of the seminar**
- 16.15 **Close of seminar**

General Information

Programme

The programme will commence on Thursday at 08.45 and will finish on Friday at 16.15.

Seminar venue

[Hotel Mercure Warszawa Grand](#)

28 Krucza Street

00-522 Warsaw, Poland

Tel.: +48 22 697 39 99

Language

The seminar will be conducted in English.

Fee

EIPA members' fee*: €995

Regular fee: €1100

The participation fee includes documentation, two lunches, one dinner and refreshments. Accommodation and travel costs are at the expense of the participants or their administration. Note that reductions cannot be accumulated. For more information, please visit EIPA's website: <http://seminar.eipa.eu> (FAQ - special discounts)

* EIPA Members can take advantage of a reduced fee; this is available to all civil servants working for one of EIPA's member countries (i.e. AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, SE, UK), and civil servants working for an EU institution, body or agency.

Meals

Lunches and dinner will be served at the Hotel Mercure Warszawa Grand. Should you require a special menu (e.g. vegetarian, diabetic), please inform the Programme Organiser so that this can be arranged.

Registration

Kindly complete the online registration form which can be found on EIPA's website <http://seminars.eipa.eu> before **10 February 2017**.

Your name and address will be part of EIPA's database for our mailing purpose only. If you do not want to be included in our mailing database, please tick the box on the registration form.

Confirmation

Confirmation of registration will be forwarded to participants on receipt of the completed registration form.

Payment

Prior payment is a condition for participation. Please indicate the method of payment on the registration form. For cancellations received within 15 days before the activity begins, we will have to charge an administration fee of €150 unless a replacement participant is found.

Cancellation policy

EIPA reserves the right to cancel the seminar up to two weeks before the starting date. EIPA accepts no responsibility for any costs incurred (travel, hotel, etc.). For EIPA's cancellation policy, please visit our website <http://seminars.eipa.eu> (FAQ - legal notice)

Registration Form

Implementing the European Structural and Investment Funds Regulations, 2014-2020
Warsaw (PL), 23-24 March 2017

Surname: Title: M/F
First name:
Organisation:
Department: Current position:
Work address:
Postal code & Town: Country:
Telephone number: Fax number:
E-mail address:

Invoice information

Organisation:
Department:
Address:
Postal code & Town: Country:
VAT number: Your reference number:
E-mail address:

Payment - 1730201

The fee includes participation in the seminar, documentation,
two lunches, one dinner and refreshments.

- €995** (EIPA members' fee)
 €1100 (Regular fee)

Method of payment

Bank transfer

Credit card

American Express card Eurocard/Mastercard Visa card

Card number: Expiry date: /

Name card holder: (in case this differs from above)

Address card holder: (in case this differs from above)

Postal code: Country: (in case this differs from above)

Card Validation Code: (the last three digits on the back of your card)

Exempt from VAT by virtue of Article 11, Para. 1 (o), Sub-para. 2 of the Dutch Law on VAT of 1968

Meals

Vegetarian → Fish allowed → Other dietary requirement:

Kindly complete the online registration form at <http://seminars.eipa.eu> before 10 February 2017

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Please tick if you do not want to be included in our mailing database.