

## Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) of EU-Financed Projects: Why and How?

### *New CBA Guide 2014-2020*

Barcelona (ES), 24-26 April 2017



[www.eipa.eu](http://www.eipa.eu)



#### What is this course about?

This practical seminar will cover all **essential aspects of CBA in 2014-2020, in line with the European Commission Guide on CBA** published in December 2014, presented by the **representatives of the European Commission and expert from JASPERS - the lead author of the New CBA Guide.**

It explains why Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) continues to be one of the most important tools in the programming period 2014-2020, not only for beneficiaries of EU funds, but also for national and regional administrations as the managing authorities and intermediate bodies of EU co-financed programmes in their decision-making process regarding investment projects. It gives also reply to the question how to prepare the best CBA, how to assess CBA and **how European Court of Auditors audits CBA.**

**The seminar will also cover the closure of major projects and the so-called 'phased projects',** for which a first stage is financed from 2007-2013, and the second stage to be financed in 2014-2020 could benefit from a simplified approval procedure provided certain conditions are met.

#### How will it help you?

By the end of the seminar, you will have improved your theoretical and practical knowledge regarding elaboration and assessment of CBAs prepared for EU Structural and Cohesion Fund investment projects, conforming to the DG Regio requirements, including the new guide to Cost-Benefit Analysis and general and implementing regulations. **You will practice all elements during workshops in small working groups with the direct involvement of EC, ECA and JASPERS experts.**

#### Who will benefit most?

Beneficiaries eligible for Structural Funds, Cohesion Fund and IPA II (national, regional and local administrations, NGOs, agencies, SMEs, associations, etc.), managing authorities, certifying authorities, consulting companies and other actors involved in EU funding programmes and projects.

# Programme

## MONDAY 24 APRIL 2017

08.40 Registration and distribution of seminar material

09.00 Opening of the seminar: introduction to the programme, objectives and methodology

*Iwona Karwot*, Senior Lecturer and Project Leader, EIPA Barcelona

09.15 Tour de table: presentation of participants to endorse networking

**I. Setting the scene: what investment project can we finance and how? What are the rules to apply in 2014-2020?**

09.30 Cohesion Policy and investment projects co-financed by EU Funds in the programming period 2014-2020: regulations and implementing acts

*Iwona Karwot*

10.15 Coffee break

**II. Cost-Benefit Analysis and EU co-financed investment projects: CBA and economic analysis 2014-2020**

10.45 Economic evaluation of investment projects in the European Commission Guide to Cost-Benefit Analysis

Objectives, content and practical use of the Guide for CBA elaboration and assessment of EU-funded projects. What is the CBA and why do we need it? Why is the economic evaluation of projects important and how does the Guide solve the problem of selecting projects that are socially profitable?

*Ofelia Betancor*, Associate Professor in Economics at the Department of Applied Economics at the University of Las Palmas.

12.15 Q&A session

**III. Cost-Benefit Analysis and EU co-financed investment projects: European Commission perspective in the programming period 2014-2020**

12.30 The assessment of project applications by the EU Commission and the importance of CBA analysis in the decision-making process (part 1)

*Witold Willak*, Deputy Head of Unit F.1 Competence Centre Closure and Major Projects, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

13.30 Joint lunch in the restaurant

15.00 The assessment of project applications by the EU Commission and the importance of CBA analysis in the decision-making process (part 2)

*Witold Willak*

**IV. EU Commission Guide to Cost-Benefit Analysis and EU co-financed investment projects: Jaspers and expert's perspective in the programming period 2014-2020**

16.15 New European Commission Guide to CBA: New methodological approach and its contents in 2014-2020

*Davide Sartori*, CBA specialist, European Investment Bank, JASPERS – Networking and Competence Centre. Lead Author of the 2014 European Commission Guide to Cost Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects

17:30 Experts panel

*Witold Willak and Davide Sartori*

17.45 End of the first day

18.00 Walking sightseeing tour of the city (2 hours approx.)

20.15 Welcome dinner

## TUESDAY 25 APRIL 2017

09.15 Best practices regarding CBA in Member States in the programming period 2014-2020

*Witold Willak*

10.15 Q&A session

10.30 Coffee break

11.00 Jaspers approach to CBA: seven steps for a good appraisal of projects co-financed by EU Funds 2014-2020

*Davide Sartori*

12.30 Q&A session

**V. Cost-Benefit Analysis and Revenue-generating projects in the programming period 2014-2020**

12.45 Revenue-generating projects: grant amount modulation in the programming period 2014-2020 (part 1)

Main requirements of the EU Commission for the programming period 2014-2020 and their practical consequences

*Krzysztof Kasprzyk*, Policy Officer, Better Implementation Unit, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

13:30 Joint lunch in the restaurant

# Programme

14.45 **Revenue-generating projects: grant amount modulation in the programming period 2014-2020** (part 2)

Main requirements of the EU Commission for the programming period 2014-2020 and their practical consequences

*Krzysztof Kasprzyk*

15.45 Q&A session

**VI. Practical workshops in small working groups on CBA: How to effectively prepare CBA for EU co-financed investment projects – From the beneficiary perspective**

16.00 **Division of participants into small parallel working groups during workshops foreseen for the second and the third day of the seminar**

Case study: How to successfully prepare a CBA to get the best project implemented and maximise its impact? The CBA as a tool used to ensure proper structure, scope, maturity and assessment of risks for a project and to provide evidence of the project impact and the need for EU co-financing.

*Davide Sartori, Krzysztof Kasprzyk and François Levarlet (FR)*, Consultant and Partner of t33 Srl. Economist with a background in economic analysis and policy evaluation. Collaborator to the second cost-benefits guidance from DG Regio

18.15 **End of the second day**

(groups may stay for longer if they wish)

**WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL 2017**

**VII. CBA from the European Court of Auditors' perspective**

09.00 **The ECA's approach to the audit of Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) for Cohesion projects**

*Viorel Cirje*, Financial auditor in the ERDF, Transport and Energy (ETE) - Financial Audit Unit of the European Court of Auditors

10.30 Q&A session

10.45 Coffee break

11.00 **Case studies: where are the errors?**

Practical examples in working groups

*Viorel Cirje*

12.00 **Plenary session: group presentations – evaluation of workshop results, including debates on problems faced by the participants during the exercises and possible solutions**

*Viorel Cirje*

**VIII. Practical workshops on CBA: How to effectively assess CBA for EU co-financed investment projects. From the Managing Authority perspective**

12.30 **Cost-Benefit Analysis and appraisal criteria for EU co-financed investment projects: case study (public-private partnership, waste water treatment plant)**

*Davide Sartori*

13.30 Q&A session

13.45 Joint lunch in the restaurant

15.00 **Case study: How to be efficient in the project assessment process?**

Assessment of detailed Cost-Benefit Analysis of three different types of EU co-financed investment projects. How should managing authorities assess CBA to find all possible mistakes and take the right decision regarding the level of co-financing?

*Davide Sartori, Krzysztof Kasprzyk and François Levarlet*

17.30 **Final panel of experts: evaluation of workshop results, including debates on problems faced by the participants during the exercises and possible solutions**

*Iwona Karwot, Davide Sartori, Krzysztof Kasprzyk and François Levarlet*

17.45 **Closure and issuing of EIPA seminar certificates to participants**

*Iwona Karwot*

# Experts

(in alphabetical order)

## **Ofelia Betancor (ES)**

Associate professor of Economics at the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (ULPGC), and currently the Head of the Department of Applied Economic Analysis. Holds two doctorate degrees in Economics (University of Leeds, 2011, and University of Las Palmas, 1998). She has been teaching at ULPGC since 1989, and at the University Carlos III in Madrid where she collaborates in the Master in Industrial Economics and Markets since 2006. She has also taken part in many research projects at national and international level. Currently she is Vice-Chair of COST Action TU1408 Air Transport and Regional Development. She has also collaborated with the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, having participated in several missions in Latin America and the Caribbean as specialist in air transport and project evaluation. She is a co-author of the IADB Manual for the assessment of transport projects and has intensively collaborated in the preparation of the Spanish Guidelines on economic evaluation of transport projects.

## **Viorel Cirje (RO)**

Financial auditor in the ERDF, Transport and Energy (ETE) - Financial Audit Unit of the European Court of Auditors. Previously, he was a director of one of the Big Four accounting firms. His work experience includes five years in the United States where he was a Certified Public Accountant and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

## **Iwona Karwot (PL)**

Senior Lecturer and Project Leader at EIPA Barcelona. Doctor in EU Regional Policy. Specialised in EU funds, with a main focus on European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and pre-accession funds (now IPA II). She has working experience as an EU expert, trainer, manager and adviser in the framework of Institutional Building and Technical Assistance EU projects in the field of regional development in Poland, France, Slovakia, Romania, Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia, Albania, Germany, Spain, Luxembourg etc.

## **Krzysztof Kasprzyk (PL)**

Policy Officer, Better Implementation Unit, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission, where he is responsible for simplification and deals with interpretative questions. Before joining the Commission in September 2016, he was the member of the Polish delegation at the Structural Actions Working Party in the Council of the European Union, COESIF and EGESIF, he actively participated in all the negotiations of provisions of 2014-2020 and 2007-2013 regulations and the European Commission's guidelines concerning major projects and projects generating net revenues. In Poland he was for many years head of the Programming Unit in Managing Authority for Operational Programme "Infrastructure and Environment" in the Polish Ministry for Regional Development and the key expert in assessment of CBA for

ISPA and Cohesion Fund projects, and in the preparation of Polish guidelines in this field, in cooperation with JASPERS. Within the Managing Authority of the biggest ever Operational Programme in the European Union, he was responsible for ensuring proper application of EU rules concerning CBA and net revenue-generating projects in 6 sectors, including environment (waste-water treatment, solid waste management, energy efficiency), transport (roads, railways, public transport), energy, health, culture and higher education.

## **François Levarlet (FR)**

Consultant and Partner of t33 Srl. Economist with a background in economic analysis and policy evaluation. He collaborated to the second cost-benefits guidance from DG Regio. During the last 15 years, he has gained experience and operational skills in costs-benefits studies carried out in the field of infrastructures (waste water, industrial platforms) mostly in pre-adhesion countries (Croatia and Serbia). He has been working also on net-revenue generating investments in regional and DG Regio study contexts".

## **Davide Sartori (IT)**

CBA specialist, European Investment Bank, JASPERS – Networking and Competence Centre. He is an expert in appraisal of development projects and in financial, economic and risk analysis of infrastructure investments. As former senior Economist at CSIL, he is the lead author of the 2014 European Commission Guide to Cost Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects. In the last years, he was appointed by several International Financing Institutions (European Commission, World Bank, European Investment Bank and African Development Bank) to appraise and/or evaluate their projects. He has also been carrying out trainings on cost-benefit analysis targeting officials of the EU, national and regional institutions (in Italy, Romania, Lithuania, FYROM, etc.), as well as graduate students.

## **Witold Willak (PL)**

Deputy Head of Unit F.1 Competence Centre Closure and Major Projects, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission, where he is responsible for the appraisal of major projects submitted for ERDF/CF financing. He was responsible for coordinating all work related to the updated Cost-Benefit Guide 2014. Witold holds a Master of Economics with specialisation in regional and local policy.

## **European Institute of Public Administration EIPA Barcelona**

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### **Project Leader**

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# General Information

## Programme

The programme will commence on Monday at 09.00 and will finish on Wednesday at 18.00.

## Seminar venue

Gran Hotel Havana  
Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 647  
ES - 08010 Barcelona  
Tel. +34 93 3417000  
www.granhotelhavana.com

## Working language

The seminar will be conducted in English.

## Fee

EIPA members' fee\*: €999  
Regular fee: €1110

**In case you register for the two consecutive seminars on CBA Why and How and [CBA Advanced](#), you will be offered a reduction of €200 in total.**

The participation fee includes documentation, three lunches, one dinner, a walking sightseeing tour and refreshments. Accommodation and travel costs are at the expense of the participants or their administration. For more information, please visit EIPA's website: <http://seminars.eipa.eu> (Training courses - Discount policy)

\* 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.

## Hotel reservations

EIPA Barcelona will be pleased to make reservations for you at the same hotel where the seminar will take place, and where special rates apply for EIPA participants:

Gran Hotel Havana  
Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 647  
ES - 08010 Barcelona  
Tel. +34 93 3417000  
www.granhotelhavana.com

Rates of room with breakfast buffet and 10% VAT included:

- Single room: €134 + €1.21 tourist tax
- Double room: €148 + €2.42 tourist tax.

Should you wish to make use of this possibility, please indicate the dates of arrival and departure on the registration form as well as the type of room required. Payment is to be made directly and personally to the hotel upon checking out. Please note that if you register after the deadline, hotel reservations cannot be guaranteed.

## Meals

Lunches will be served at the hotel restaurant and dinner on the first evening will be at a restaurant in town. 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 April 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. Moreover, when it is confirmed that the seminar will take place, the participant will receive a confirmation letter by e-mail from the Programme Organiser, with some other details.

## 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 more information: <http://seminars.eipa.eu> (Training courses - Cancellation policy).

## Programme Organiser

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