

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

## *CBA Guide programming period 2014-2020*

Barcelona (ES), 23-25 October 2017



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



This three-day highly practical seminar will cover all essential aspects of Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) in 2014-2020, in line with the European Commission GUIDE on CBA published in December 2014. It will be presented by representatives of the European Commission and expert from JASPERS - the lead author of the 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 (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. Moreover, this seminar looks at how those major projects could benefit from a simplified approval procedure.

### **What you gain**

You will improve your theoretical and practical knowledge of elaboration and assessment of CBAs prepared for EU Structural and Cohesion Fund investment projects. These projects will conform to the DG Regio requirements, including the 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, and others), managing authorities, certifying authorities, consulting companies and other actors involved in EU funding programmes and projects.

# Programme

**MONDAY 23 OCTOBER 2017**

08.30 **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?**

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

*Iwona Karwot*

10.30 Coffee break

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

11.00 **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?

*Ginés de Rus, Professor of Economics, University of Las Palmas. Research director of Infrastructure and Transport, FEDEA.*

12.30 Q&A session

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

12.45 **"NEW" European Commission Guide to CBA: the Guiding principles**

*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*

13:30 **Q&A session**

13.45 Joint lunch in the restaurant

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

15.15 **The assessment of project applications by the EU Commission and the importance of CBA analysis in the decision-making process**

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

17.15 **Q&A session**

17:30 **Experts panel**

*Witold Willak and Davide Sartori*

18.00 **End of the first day**

18.15 Walking sightseeing tour of the city (2 hrs approx.)

20.30 Welcome dinner



# Programme

## TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2017

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

*Davide Sartori*

10.30 Q&A session

10.45 Coffee break

11.15 **Best practices regarding CBA in Member States in the programming period 2014-2020.**

*Witold Willak, European Commission*

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

12.15 **'Revenue-generating projects': grant amount modulation in the programming period 2014-2020.**

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*

13.45 Q&A session

14.00 Joint lunch in the restaurant

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

15.30 **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 Aday Hernández, Professor of Economics, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and Professor of Transport Economics and Cost-Benefit Analysis, University of Carlos III of Madrid. Chief Economist in Muneris Economic Consulting. Adviser to the Government of Gran Canarias*

18.00 **End of the second day**

(groups may stay for longer if they wish)

## WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER 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**

*Bernard Witkos, Auditor in the ERDF/CF, Transport and Energy (ETE) Division at 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

*Bernard Witkos*

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

*Bernard Witkos*

### **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 from RDI sector : European Supercomputing Research Centre**

*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 Aday Hernández*

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 Aday Hernández*

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

*Iwona Karwot*

# Experts

(in alphabetical order)

## **Aday Hernández (ES)**

Professor of Economics, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and Professor of Transport Economics and Cost-Benefit Analysis, University of Carlos III of Madrid. Chief Economist in Muneris Economic Consulting.

## **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.

## **Ginés de Rus (ES)**

Ph.D. in Economics (ITS, Leeds University, U.K.). Professor of Economics, University of Las Palmas (Spain). Research director of Infrastructure and Transport, FEDEA. Prof. de Rus teaches Cost-Benefit Analysis for postgraduate students at the University Carlos III (Madrid). He has served as an external expert for the Guide to Cost-Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects adopted by the European Commission in 2008 and for the CBA Guidelines of the European Investment Bank. He is the director of the team responsible of the Guide to CBA of Transport Projects of the Inter-American Development Bank and external expert of the new CBA Guidelines of the Asian Development Bank.

## **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.

## **Bernard Witkos (PL)**

Auditor in the ERDF/CF, Transport and Energy (ETE) Division at the European Court of Auditors, where he is in charge of financial and compliance audits, mainly in Germany, Austria and Poland. Before joining the Court of Auditors he used to work as a financial manager in the field of European Territorial Cooperation. Bernard holds a Master in Economics."

## **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](http://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, 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](http://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 **9 October 2017**.

## Programme Organiser

Ms Miriam Escolà  
Tel: +34 93 24 51 206  
E-mail: [m.escola@eipa.eu](mailto:m.escola@eipa.eu)

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).

# European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)



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