

DRAFT TEMPLATE AND GUIDELINES FOR THE CONTENT OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

Version 1 – 7 January 2013

This document is based on the most recent Presidency compromise text (from 19 December 2012), which has the agreement of the European Parliament as regards Articles 14, 15 and 87 CPR, and is a provisional text, without prejudice to the on-going negotiations (in line with the principle that "nothing is agreed until everything is agreed").

Adjustment of the template will be necessary for the operational programmes under the European Territorial Cooperation goal and for operational programmes devoted solely to technical assistance.

The headings in this document correspond to the elements set out in the Articles 24 and 87 of the Common Provisions Regulation. The text boxes provide guidelines on the drafting of the content of the Operational Programme.

It is recalled that the Operational Programmes will be directly introduced in the SFC.

In 2012 the Commission provided each Member State with a country position paper outlining the analysis of the Commission services of the main challenges and funding priorities relevant for the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) in the programming period 2014-2020. These position papers, and the ensuing dialogue with the Commission, should serve to guide the elaboration of both the Partnership Agreement and the operational programmes both in terms of their content, in particular in relation to the prioritisation of development needs and concentration of support, as well as in terms of the presentation of information.

It is recalled that when a Member State prepares a maximum of one operational programme for ERDF, ESF and Cohesion Fund, Art. 87(8) CPR allows that some elements of the operational programme are solely incorporated under the relevant provisions of the Partnership Agreement. These elements are identified with a ''. If a Member State wants to make use of this option, it is thus sufficient to include a reference to the relevant section of the Partnership Agreement.*

SECTION 1. PREPARATION OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME (OP) AND INVOLVEMENT OF PARTNERS (ART. 23(2) AND ART. 87(5)(C) CPR)

A summary of the preparation of the operational programme and the actions taken to involve relevant partners referred to in Article 5 in the preparation of the operational programme taking into account the requirements set out in the Code of Conduct for partnership.

[a maximum of x characters]

A short summary of the process of the preparation of the operational programme, with a specific focus on partnership, including:

- *the authority which has coordinated the preparation of the OP; and the public institutions directly involved in this exercise (such as, for example, the ministries); provide a short description of their role in the preparation;*
- *the key stages of the preparation process;*
- *a description of the involvement of the partners referred to in Art. 5 CPR in the preparation of the operational programme. This description should include:*
 - *how partners have been selected;*
 - *the list of the partners involved (annexed)*
 - *the actions taken to facilitate a wide involvement and an active participation of the partners, including in terms of accessibility;*
 - *the main contribution of partners to the elaboration of the operational programme inter alia in regard to:*
 - *the ex-ante evaluation, which analyses the challenges and needs to be addressed by the ESI Funds , in line with the Europe 2020 Strategy;*
 - *the determination of objectives and priorities;*
 - *the determination of the architecture and the governance of the programme;*
 - *the mechanisms of coordination and integration between the ESI Funds and with other EU policies and instruments;*
 - *the implementation of the horizontal principles as defined in Article 7 and 8 of the Regulation (EU) No [CPR]*
 - *an overview of main concerns, comments and recommendations put forward by partners and an explanation of how these have been taken into account in the OP;*
- *an overview of the organisation of the ex-ante evaluation process and how the*

results of this process have been taken into account;

- *where appropriate, an overview of the use of studies and expert groups.*

SECTION 2. STRATEGY FOR THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNION STRATEGY FOR SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH - ARTICLE 24 (1) AND ARTICLE 87(2) (A) CPR

2.1 Strategy for the operational programme's contribution to the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth

[a maximum of x characters]

- Description of the operational programme's strategy to contribute to the delivery of the Europe 2020 strategy.

The strategy of the operational programme for contributing to the Europe 2020 strategy, outlining:

- *the relevant¹¹ regional, and where appropriate, the national needs (depending, inter alia, on the territorial scope of the OP), including the needs to address the challenges identified in the relevant country specific Council recommendations (ex Art. 121(2) and Art. 148(4) TFEU);*
- *how the operational programme will address these needs and challenges and thereby contribute to the delivery of the Europe 2020 strategy, where appropriate with reference to existing national or regional strategies coherent with the Europe 2020 strategy, including the National Reform Programme, where relevant and the ex-ante evaluation;*

The operational programme's strategy should be consistent with the Common Strategic Framework, the Partnership Agreement and the relevant elements of the Commission services country position paper.

- * Justification for the selection of thematic objectives and corresponding investment priorities with based on the identification of national/regional needs set out above including those identified by the relevant Council recommendations, taking into account the ex-ante evaluation, and with reference to the Partnership Agreement, existing national or regional strategies coherent with the Europe 2020 strategy, including the National Reform Programme, where relevant (table).

¹¹ i.e. the needs that can be addressed by the Fund(s) of the OP.

*** Table 1: A synthetic overview of the justification for the selection of thematic objectives and investment priorities**

Selected thematic objective	Selected investment priority	Justification for selection [a maximum of x characters]
		<p><i>Examples:</i></p> <p><i>1) Country specific Council recommendation to improve energy efficiency in housing</i></p> <p><i>1bis) Country specific recommendation to increase participation (e.g. of older workers, vulnerable groups, youth)</i></p> <p><i>2) Ambitious national Europe 2020 targets set out in the National Reform Programme from baseline of x in 2010 to a target of y by 2020</i></p> <p><i>3) Severe bottlenecks in transport infrastructure due to a insufficient intermodal links between rail, road, air and water transport</i></p> <p><i>4) Serious territorial imbalances, needs or potential that need to be addressed to achieve a specific thematic objective (further explanation needed).</i></p> <p><i>5) Need to improve the quality of active labour market policies and increase the capacity of the Public Employment Service</i></p> <p><i>§) Skills mismatch and low responsiveness of the education system to labour market needs</i></p> <p><i>7) Low efficiency of the public administration</i></p>

2.2 * Relevant identified needs not addressed by the operational programme

Where applicable, an explanation of why important relevant national and regional needs, particularly those covered by relevant country specific Council recommendations, are not addressed by the operational programme.

[a maximum of x characters]

This explanation should be proportionate and reflect the total amount of programme resources. It should identify how the Member State will address the national and regional needs relevant to the operational programme in question, which not covered, e.g. with reference to national means, other EU instruments, regulatory interventions etc.

2.3 * Justification of the financial allocation

The justification of the financial allocation (i.e. the Union support) to each thematic objective and investment priority, in accordance with the thematic concentration requirements, taking into account the ex-ante evaluation.

[a maximum of x characters]

The justification is to be set out with reference to, where appropriate:

- distance from national Europe 2020 targets;*
- need to ensure compliance with EU acquis;*
- the funding priorities, with reference to the Commission services country position paper;*
- substantial complementary investments from other public or private sources;*
- etc.*

The justification should be presented in percentage and qualitative terms, based on the relative weight of the allocation to different thematic objectives and the operational programme. It should be brief and proportionate, reflecting the total amount of programme resources.

Table 2: Overview of the programme investment strategy

The purpose of this section is to demonstrate in a synthetic manner the consistency between the needs identified, the thematic objectives and the investment priorities selected, as well as the specific objectives and the financial allocation proposed. It also provides an overview of the contribution of the operational programme to the Europe2020 strategy. Where a priority axis covers more than one category of region, or investment priorities from different thematic objectives, this has to be taken into account in this table.

This table is generated automatically by the SFC based on information inserted under other sections of the operational programme.

Priority axis	Thematic objective	Investment priorities	Specific objectives corresponding to the investment priorities	Fund (specify the Fund: ERDF, Cohesion Fund, ESF)	Union support - EUR	Share of the total Union support to the operational programme (by Fund)			Justification for the selection of the thematic objectives and investment priorities with reference to section 2.1 (incl. references to national Europe 2020 targets, relevant country specific Council recommendations, where applicable).
						ERDF	ESF	CF	
1	1	1.1			€1,000,000,000	%	%	%	
2	2	2.1			€1,000,000,000				
		2.2							
TA	NA	NA			€500,000,000				

SECTION 3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PRIORITY AXES (ARTICLE 87(2)(B) AND (C) CPR)

Section 3.A. A description of the priority axes other than technical assistance (Article 87 (2) (b) CPR)

The description of the priority axis has to be provided for each priority axis and is, where indicated, broken down by investment priority. For each investment priority the corresponding specific objectives have to be set out (Article 87 (2) (b) CPR).

As a general rule programmes should set out priority axes which are mono-fund, cover only one thematic objective and a single category of region.

However, Article 87 (1) CPR sets out that:

- where appropriate, and in order to increase the impact and effectiveness in a thematically coherent integrated approach, it is possible to set up a priority axis covering more than one Fund and more than one categories of region;*
- in duly justified cases, it is also possible to set up priority axes combining complementary investment priorities from different thematic objectives in order to achieve their maximum contribution to priority axis.*
- for the ESF it is possible to combine investment priorities from different thematic objectives set out in Article 9(8), (9), (10) and (11) in order to facilitate their contribution to other priority axes, without need for further justification. In practical terms this means that where complementary support from the ESF is needed to complement actions supported under an operational programme funded predominantly from the ERDF or the Cohesion Fund, a single priority axis may be set up combining all ESF investment priorities, to ensure a proportionate approach.*

As a general rule, information included in the operational programme for such priority axes set up under Article 87 (1) should be broken down by Fund and by category of region. Exceptions can be made for cases where:

- A joint priority axis is set up for the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund supporting the same investment priorities. In such cases data on output indicators and on categories of interventions should be broken down by Fund (due to the close link with the financial allocation to each Fund). The breakdown (by Fund) of other information included in the description of the priority axis is not required, but may be provided.*
- A priority axis is set up which covers more than one category of region and the same investment priorities for all categories of regions concerned. In such a case information on all output indicators (for all Funds) and categories of intervention should be broken down by category of region (due to the close link with the financial allocation of each category of region). The result indicators for the ESF must also be broken down by category of region in all cases due to their close link with output indicators. Information on ERDF and Cohesion Fund result indicators should be broken down, where appropriate. However, the breakdown (by category of region) of other information included in the description of the priority axis is not required, but*

may be provided.

PRIORITY AXIS 1: (title)

3.A.0. Where applicable, an explanation for the establishment of a priority axis covering more than one category of region or more than one thematic objective or more than one Fund (Article 87 (1) CPR)

[a maximum of x characters]

This section is required only in case the operational programme uses the possibility provided by Article 87 (1) CPR to set up a priority axis covering more than one category of region, more than one thematic objective or more than one Fund.

The aim of this section is to explain and substantiate how the chosen set-up of the priority axis contributes to an increase in the impact and the effectiveness of cohesion policy to contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy and why a simpler set-up of an axis or axes covering a single category of region, a single thematic objective or a single Fund would constitute a less effective choice.

In the case, where a priority covers more than one thematic objective, this section should justify how this will lead to the maximum contribution of the investment priorities concerned to the priority axis.

INVESTMENT PRIORITY 1 of priority axis 1: (title) (Article 87 (2) (b) (i))

3.A.1. Specific objectives corresponding to the investment priority and expected results (Article 87 (2) (b) (i)-(ii))

[a maximum of x characters]

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 1: *(specific objective as defined by the Member State/region)*

[a maximum of x characters]

- A description of the reference (baseline) situation in the programme area linked to the specific objective, with reference to the development needs outlined in section 2, where appropriate.
- The results, which the Member State seeks to achieve with EU support.

Table 3: Programme Specific Result indicators for ERDF/CF (by Specific Objective) - Article 87.2(b)(ii)

One (if possible) and no more than two result indicators should be used for each specific objective.

ID	Indicator	Measurement Unit	Baseline Value	Baseline Year	Target Value ² (2022)	Source of Data	Frequency of reporting
	<i>Programme Specific Result Indicator S.1, with qualitative target e.g. SME productivity as GVA per worker</i>	<i>Euro/worker</i>	<i>20,000</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>Increase by 10-15%</i>	<i>National Statistical Office</i>	<i>Once a year.</i>
	<i>Programme Specific Result Indicator S.2 with a qualitative target e.g. Perception of safety in selected urban areas</i>	<i>Safety perception by population, expressed on a scale from 1 to – 10, 1 being very safe</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>2-3</i>	<i>Survey</i>	<i>Every two years</i>

² For ERDF and Cohesion Fund the target values can be qualitative or quantitative.

Table 4: Common and Programme Specific Result indicators for ESF (by Investment Priority or by Specific Objective) - Article 87.2(b)(ii)

<i>ID</i>	<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Measurement Unit for Indicator</i>	<i>Common output indicator used as basis</i>	<i>Baseline Value</i>	<i>Measurement Unit for Baseline and Target</i>	<i>Baseline Year</i>	<i>Target Value³ (2022),</i>	<i>Source of Data</i>	<i>Frequency of reporting</i>
	<i>Programme Specific Result Indicator S.1 with quantitative target</i> <i>e.g. No of participants aged 16-24 in education or training upon leaving</i>	<i>No of participants</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>Monitoring</i>	<i>1/year</i>
	<i>Programme Specific Result Indicator S.2 with qualitative target</i> <i>e.g. National database for NEETs</i>	<i>No of database</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Monitoring</i>	<i>1/year</i>
	<i>Programme Specific Result Indicator S.3 without target</i> <i>e.g. No of participants aged 16-24 starting an apprenticeship</i>	<i>No of participants</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>Monitoring</i>	<i>1/year</i>
	<i>Common Result Indicator C.1 with quantitative target</i> <i>e.g. No of participants in employment upon leaving</i>	<i>No of participants</i>	<i>Below 25 years</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>Monitoring</i>	<i>1/year</i>

³ This list includes those common result indicators for which a target value has been set and all programme specific result indicators. The target values for common result indicators have to be quantified and for programme specific result indicators they can be qualitative or quantitative.

3.A.2. Actions to be supported under the investment priority (by investment priority)

3.A.2.1 A description of the type and examples of actions to be financed and their expected contribution to the corresponding specific objectives, including, where appropriate:

- the identification of the main target groups;
- specific territories targeted;
- types of beneficiaries.

[a maximum of x characters]

(Article 87 (2) (b) (iii) CPR)

Where appropriate, this description should also include steps to be taken to take into account the principles of equality between men and women, non-discrimination and sustainable development.

NB: Where appropriate, this description should include an indication that the entire priority axis is dedicated solely to community-led local development in the meaning of Article 28 of the CPR (which allows an increase in the EU co-financing rate by 10% as set out in Article 110 (5) of the CPR).

3.A.2.2. The guiding principles for the selection of operations (Article 87 (2) (b) (iii) CPR)

[a maximum of x characters]

This section should include a brief description of:

- *The types of procedures and other mechanisms envisaged to ensure the selection of quality operations contributing to the delivery of the specific objectives and achievement of the results;*
- *How the horizontal principles of equality between men and women, non-discrimination, accessibility and sustainable development are taken into account in project selection.*

3.A.2.3 The planned use of financial instruments (Article 87 (2) (b) (iii) CPR)

[a maximum of x characters]

Where it is envisaged to use financial instruments, this section should include a description of the planned financial instruments, including indicative amounts planned to be used through these instruments, where appropriate.

NB: Where appropriate, this section should indicate that the entire priority axis will be implemented solely:

- *through financial instruments within the meaning of Article 32 (which allows an increase in the EU co-financing rate of the EU co-financing rate by 10% as set out in Article 110 (5) of the CPR), or*
- *through financial instruments set up at Union level and referred to in Article 33(1)a (which allows increasing the EU co-financing rate up to 100%).*

3.A.2.4 The planned use of major projects (Article 87 (2) (b) (iii) CPR)

[a maximum of x characters]

A description of how the major projects to be supported will contribute to the specific objectives corresponding to this investment priority.

NB: Each operational programme will include a list of major projects planned to be implemented. This section will require associating appropriate major projects included in this list (end of template) with the investment priority and priority axis.

3.A.2.5 Output indicators (by investment priority, (Tables 5a and 5b) (Article 87 (2) (b) (iv) CPR)

[a maximum of x characters]

Table 5a: Common output indicators for the ERDF, the ESF and the CF

ID	Indicator (name of indicator)	Measurement unit	Target value (2022) ⁴	Source of data
			(values)	

⁴ For the ESF, this list includes those common output indicators for which a target value has been set.

Table 5b: Programme specific output indicators for the ERDF, the ESF and the CF (by investment priority)

ID	Indicator (name of indicator)	Measurement unit	Target value (2022)	Source of data
			(values)	

3.A.3. Specific provisions for the ESF⁵, where applicable (by priority axis, broken down by category of region)

[a maximum of x characters]

Description of the contribution of the planned actions of the priority axis to:

- the thematic objectives of Article 9(1) to (7) of the Common Provisions Regulation;
- social innovation (if not covered by a dedicated priority axis);
- transnational cooperation (if not covered by a dedicated priority axis).

Identification of:

- *the thematic objectives of Art. 9(1) to (7) CPR to which the envisaged actions within the priority axis will provide a contribution and an explanation of how this will be achieved. There is no need to include quantitative data in this section as they are to be included in table 8 below.*
- *the themes for social innovation⁶, in particular with the aim of testing and scaling up innovative solutions to address social needs.*
- *a non-exhaustive list of themes for transnational cooperation including the planned actions and the stakeholders to be involved.*

3.A.4. Performance framework (Article 87 (2) (b) (v))

An identification of implementation steps and financial and output and, where appropriate, results indicators to act as milestones and targets for the performance framework in accordance with Article 19(1) and Annex (xx) (Table 6) – by priority axis, broken down by Fund and category of region, where a priority axis covers more than one Fund or category of region.

⁵ In accordance with Art. 11 (3) (a) and (b) of the ESF Regulation.

⁶ In accordance with Art. 9 ESF Regulation.

Table 6: The performance framework of the priority axis

Implementation step, financial, output or result indicator	Measurement unit, where appropriate	Milestone for 2018	Final target (2022)	Source of data	Justification for the representativeness of the indicator

In addition qualitative information on the set-up of the performance framework may be added. [a maximum of x characters]

3.A.5. Categories of intervention (Article 87 (2) (b) (vi))

Categories of intervention corresponding to the investment priorities and the types of actions, based on a nomenclature adopted by the Commission, and an indicative breakdown of the Union support (Tables 7, 8, 9 and 10)

Tables 7-10: Categories of intervention

Table 7: Dimension 1 Intervention field		Table 8: Dimension 2 Form of finance		Table 9: Dimension 3 Territory		Table 10: Dimension 6 ESF secondary theme ⁷ (ESF only)	
Code	€ amount	Code	€ amount	Code	€ amount	Code	€ amount

For the remaining dimensions of categorisation, data is requested for information purposes through electronic data exchange system during implementation.

⁷ This aims, inter alia, at obtaining quantified information on the contribution of the ESF to the thematic objectives referred to in Art. 9(1) to (7) CPR.

3.A.6. Where appropriate, a summary of the planned use of technical assistance including, where necessary, actions to reinforce the administrative capacity of authorities and beneficiaries (by priority axis) (Article 87 (2) (b) (vii))

[a maximum of x characters]

This section should be included in the description of the priority axis, where appropriate, to identify specific gaps in the administrative capacity of concrete authorities or specific beneficiaries who implement this priority axis. It should set out specific actions to be supported from technical assistance to reinforce the administrative capacity of authorities and beneficiaries to ensure an effective implementation of the priority axis as well as the level of the available resources.

This section should not overlap in content with the description of the priority axis for technical assistance or the specific operational programme for technical assistance.

Section 3.B. A description of the priority axes for technical assistance (Article 87 (2) (c) CPR)

The following information should be provided by priority axis and, where indicated, broken down by specific objective (Article 87 (2) (c)) There are no corresponding thematic objectives or investment priorities for technical assistance.

Technical assistance priority axes are mono-fund and as a general rule should cover a single category of region. Where this is the case, information included in this section does not need to be broken down beyond the level of the priority axis.

However, Article 87 (1) CPR sets out that, where appropriate, and in order to increase the impact and effectiveness in a thematically coherent integrated approach, it is possible to set up a priority axis covering more than one category of regions.

In such a case information on all output indicators (for all Funds) and categories of intervention should be broken down by category of region (due to the close link with the financial allocation of each category of region). The result indicators for the ESF must also be broken down by category of region in all cases. Information on ERDF and Cohesion Fund result indicators should be broken down, where appropriate. However, the breakdown (by category of region) of other information included in the description of the priority axis is not always necessary.

PRIORITY AXES: (TITLE)

3.B.0. Where applicable, an explanation for the establishment of a priority axis covering more than one category of region (Article 87 (1) CPR)

[a maximum of x characters]

This is required only in case the operational programme uses the possibility provided by Article 87 (1) CPR to set up a priority axis covering more than one category of region. The aim of this section is to explain and substantiate how the chosen set-up of the priority axis contributes to an increase in the impact and the effectiveness of cohesion policy to contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy and why a simpler set-up of an axis or axes covering a single category of region, would constitute a less effective choice.

Article 109 of the CPR sets out that technical assistance priority axes are mono-fund. However, technical assistance from any of the Funds can be used to support activities related to any other of the Funds, within limits set out in Article 109 of the CPR.

3.B.1. Specific objectives and expected results (Article 87 (2) (c) (i) –(ii))**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE:** *(specific objective as defined by the Member State/region)*

- A description of the baseline situation in the programme area linked to the specific objective and
- the results which the Member State seeks to achieve with EU support.

[a maximum of x characters]

The description of the baseline value and expected results is required only where the Union support to the priority axis or axes for technical assistance in an operational programme exceeds EUR 15 million.

3.B.2. The list of result indicators (only where the Union support to technical assistance in the operational programme exceeds EUR 15 million)**Table 11: Programme specific result indicators for ERDF/CF/ESF (by specific objective) - Article 87.2(c)(ii)**

ID	Indicator	Measurement Unit	Baseline Value	Baseline Year	Target Value ⁸ (2022)	Source of Data	Frequency of reporting

⁸ The target values can be qualitative or quantitative.

3.B.3. Actions to be supported and their expected contribution to the specific objectives (by priority axis) (Article 87 (2) (c) (i) –(ii) CPR)

3.B.3.1. A description of actions to be supported and their expected contribution to the specific objectives (Article 87 (2) (c) (iii) CPR)

[a maximum of x characters]

This section should include a description of actions to be supported and describe the link between the outputs generated by these actions and the specific objectives/ results sought.

Where appropriate, this description should also include steps to be taken to implement the principles of equality between men and women, non-discrimination and sustainable development.

3.B.3.2 Output indicators expected to contribute to results (by priority axis)(Tables 13A and 13B) (Article 87 (2) (c) (iv) CPR)

Table 13A: Common output indicators for the ERDF, the ESF and CF (by priority axis)

ID	Indicator (name of indicator)	Measurement unit	Target value (2022) ⁹	Source of data
			(values)	

Table 13A: Programme specific output indicators for the ERDF, the ESF and the CF (by priority axis)

ID	Indicator (name of indicator)	Measurement unit	Target value (2022) ¹⁰	Source of data
			(values)	

⁹ For the ESF, this list includes those common output indicators for which a target value has been set.

¹⁰ For the ESF, this list includes programme specific output indicators with and without target.

3.B.4. Categories of intervention (Article 87 (2) (c) (v)) (by priority axis)

The corresponding categories of intervention based on a nomenclature adopted by the Commission, and an indicative breakdown of the Union support

Tables 14-16: Categories of intervention

Table 14: Dimension 1		Table 15: Dimension 2		Table 16: Dimension 3	
Intervention field		Form of finance		Territory	
Code	€ amount	Code	€ amount	Code	€ amount

For the remaining dimensions of categorisation data is requested for information purposes through electronic data exchange system during implementation

SECTION 4. THE FINANCING PLAN OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 87 (2) (D))

4.1. A table specifying for each year, in accordance with Articles 53, 110 and 111 of the CPR, the amount of the total financial appropriation envisaged for the support from each of the Funds (EUR) (Article 87 (d) (i) CPR)

Table 17

Category of region	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
ERDF								(1)
In less developed regions								
ERDF								(2)
In transition regions								
ERDF								(3)
In more developed regions								
<i>ERDF Total</i>								(4)
ESF In less developed regions								(5)
ESF								(6)
In transition regions								
ESF								(7)
In more developed regions								
<i>ESF Total</i>								(8)
Cohesion Fund								(9)
Total								(10)

4.2.A Financial plan of the operational programme specifying, for the whole programming period, for the operational programme and for each priority axis, the amount of the total financial appropriation of the support from each of the Funds and the national co-financing. (EUR) (Table 18) (Article 87 (d) (ii) CPR)

1. *The financial table should set out the financial plan of the operational programme by priority axis.*
2. *Where the priority axis covers more than one category of region, the data for the Union funding and the national counterpart should be broken down by category of region with a separate co-financing rate within the priority axis for each category of region.*
3. *The EIB contribution should be presented at the level of the priority axis.*

Table 18 a

	Fund	Category of region	Basis for the calculation of the Union support (Total eligible cost or public eligible cost)	Union support (a)	National counterpart (b) = (c) + (d)	Indicative breakdown of the national counterpart		Total funding (e) = (a) + (b)	Co-financing rate (f) = (a)/(e) (2)	For information
						National funding (c)	Public National private funding (1) (d)			EIB contributions
Priority axis 1	ERDF									
Priority axis 2	ESF									

Priority axes 3	CF	NA								
Total	ERDF	Less developed		Must equal total (1) in table 17						
Total	ERDF	Transition		Must equal total (2) in table 17						
Total	ERDF	More developed		Must equal total (3) in table 17						
Total	ESF	Less developed		Must equal total (5) in table 17						
Total	ESF	Transition		Must equal total (6) in table 17						
Total	ESF	More developed		Must equal total (7) in table 17						
Total	CF	NA		Must equal Total						
Grand total				Must equal total (10) in table 17						

(1) To be completed only when priority axes are expressed in total costs.

(2) This rate may be rounded to the nearest whole number in the table. The precise rate used to reimburse payments is the ratio (f).

4.2.B. Breakdown of the financial plan of the operational programme by priority axis, Fund and thematic objective for the ERDF, ESF and the Cohesion Fund (Table 18b) (Article 87 (d) (ii) CPR)

This breakdown is required in order to fulfil the requirement set out under Article 87 (2) (d) (ii) CPR to specify for priority axes, which combine investment priorities from different thematic objectives, the amount of total financial appropriation from the ERDF, ESF and CF and the national co-financing for each of the corresponding thematic objectives. Where each priority axes corresponds to a single thematic objective, this table will not require a breakdown below the level of a priority axis.

Table 18 b

Priority axis	Fund	Category of Region	Thematic objective	Union support	National counterpart	Total funding
Priority axis 1			Thematic objective 1			
			Thematic objective 2			
Priority axis 2			Thematic objective 3			
TOTAL						

Table 19: The indicative amount of support to be used for climate change objectives (Article 24 (5) CPR)

This table is generated automatically by SFC based on categorisation tables included under each of the priority axes.

The information provided in this table is based on a methodology adopted by the Commission based on Article 8 of the CPR.

Priority axis	The indicative amount of support to be used for climate change objectives (EUR)	Share of the total allocation to the operational programme (%)
1.		
Total		

SECTION 5. INTEGRATED APPROACH TO TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT - ARTICLE 87(3) CPR

A description of the integrated approach to territorial development, taking into account the content and objectives of the operational programme and having regard to the Partnership Agreement, and showing how it contributes to the accomplishment of the programme objectives and expected results.

[a maximum of x characters]

A description of the approach to territorial development outlining:

- *The main territorial development needs and bottlenecks to be addressed, and main territorial development potentials, with reference to section 2, where appropriate;*
- *the means to achieve an integrated approach at regional and sub-regional level;*
- *the contribution of the territorial approach to the specific objectives and expected results of the operational programme.*

5.1. *Where appropriate, the approach to the use of community led local development instruments and the principles for identifying the areas where it will be implemented

[a maximum of x characters]

A description outlining:

- *Where the Member States plans to use the community-led local development approach, a description of:*
 - *the principles for the identification of the areas in which community led local development will be implemented in line with the Partnership Agreement;*
 - *a description of the selection, approval and funding arrangements of community-led local development strategies and local development groups under Article 29(2-5) of Regulation (EU) No [CPR];*
 - *the indicative ERDF allocation and the indicative ESF allocation for support to community-led local development, where not supported though a dedicated priority axis as set out in Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU) No [CPR].*

The description should focus on the role of community-led local development under the particular operational programme, avoiding duplication of information included in the Partnership Agreement.

- **5.2. Where appropriate, the arrangements for sustainable urban development (Article 87 (3(a) CPR and Article 7 (2) and (3) of Regulation (EU) No [ERDF]**

The indicative amount of the ERDF support for integrated actions for sustainable urban development, to be implemented in accordance with the provisions under Article 7(2) of Regulation (EU) No [ERDF] and the indicative allocation of ESF support for integrated action.

[a maximum of x characters]

Information on:

- *The approach to sustainable urban development to tackle economic, environmental, climate, demographic and social challenges affecting urban areas, taking into account the need to promote urban rural linkages;*
- *The arrangements for delegation of tasks in accordance with Article 7 of the ERDF Regulation, the approach taken to the management of sustainable urban development, including the use of ITIs and the indicative allocation, by category of region, of the ERDF support for sustainable urban integrated actions with the [participation of/ delegation to] cities under Article 7(2) of Regulation (EU) No [ERDF] and the indicative allocation of ESF support for integrated actions (Table 20).*
- *Where appropriate, the indicative financial allocation to each ITI from each priority axis (Table 21, multiple tables can be included).*

Table 20: The indicative allocation of the ERDF support for sustainable urban integrated actions under Article 7(2) of Regulation (EU) No [ERDF] and the indicative allocation of ESF support for integrated actions

1. Fund	2. Resources under Article 7(2) of Regulation (EU) No [ERDF]	2. Share of column 2 of the total allocation of the Fund to the operational programme
Total ERDF		
Total ESF		
TOTAL ERDF+ESF		

Table 21: The indicative financial allocation to each ITI set up under Article 7 (2) of the ERDF Regulation from each priority axis

Title of the ITI:		
Authority responsible for implementation of the ITI:		
Priority	Fund	Indicative financial allocation (Union support) (EUR)
Priority axis 1	ERDF	
Priority axis 2	ESF	
Total:		

5.3. *Where appropriate, the approach to the use of Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI) (as defined in Article 99 of the Common Provisions Regulation) other than urban development undertaken under Article 7 (2) of the ERDF Regulation and their indicative financial allocation from each priority axis.

[a maximum of x characters]

An indication of whether the Member State will apply the approach outlined in Article 99 of the Common Provisions Regulation to other areas in addition to sustainable urban development referred to in point 5.2 and where relevant;

- the areas where ITI will be used;*
- an indicative financial allocation to ITI other than those mentioned under point 5.2 (table 22);*
- the arrangements for the management and implementation of the ITI including the coordination between the managing authorities of the operational programmes contributing financially to the implementation of an ITI.*

Table 22: An indicative financial allocation to ITI other than those mentioned under point 5.2

Title of the ITI:		
Authority responsible for implementation of the ITI:		
Priority	Fund	Indicative financial allocation (Union support) (EUR)
Priority axis 1	ERDF	
Priority axis 2	ESF	
Total:		

5.4. *The mechanisms to ensure coordination with cooperation activities and macro-regional and sea-basin strategies

- **The arrangements for interregional and transnational actions, within the operational programme, with beneficiaries located in at least one other Member State.**

[a maximum of x characters]

- *An overview of circumstances where actions with beneficiaries located in at least one other Member State are planned under the operational programme in question, the expected contribution of such actions to the achievement of the programme's objectives and the expected benefit of such actions for the programme area. Where applicable, a description of arrangements ensuring audit trail and control.*
- *A description of arrangements to ensure coordination with relevant European Territorial Cooperation programmes.*

- **Where Member States and regions participate in macro-regional strategies and sea-basin strategies, subject to the needs of the programme area as identified by the Member State, the contribution of the planned interventions to such strategies.**

[a maximum of x characters]

Where appropriate, a description, of how the macro regional and sea basin strategies have been taken into account in the definition of specific objectives and elaboration of types of actions to be supported.

DRAFT

SECTION 6. *THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS MOST AFFECTED BY POVERTY OR TARGET GROUPS AT HIGHEST RISK OF DISCRIMINATION OR SOCIAL EXCLUSION (ARTICLE 87 (4) (A) CPR)

Where appropriate, the identification of whether and how the operational programme addresses the specific needs of geographical areas most affected by poverty or target groups at highest risk of discrimination or social exclusion, with special regard to marginalised communities, and persons with disabilities, and where relevant the contribution to the integrated approach set out in the Partnership Agreement (Article 87(4) CPR).

6.1. Geographical areas most affected by poverty/target groups at highest risk of discrimination

[a maximum of x characters]

A list of the geographical areas most affected by poverty preferably on the basis of poverty maps or of target groups at highest risk of discrimination (incl. educational and territorial segregation) covered by the operational programme, and a description of their specific needs .

6.2. The strategy of the operational programme to address the specific needs of geographical areas/target groups most affected by poverty

[a maximum of x characters]

The programme's strategy and funding compatible with the overall strategy to address these specific needs, including specific targets set, where appropriate. A description of how the operational programme in the implementation of the programme's strategy will contribute to addressing these specific needs, including the main elements included in table 23, as appropriate.

Table 23: An outline of the contribution of the operational programme to addressing the specific needs of geographical areas/target groups most affected by poverty¹¹

Target group/geographical area	Planned actions	Priority axis	Investment priority	Indicator (name of indicator)	Measurement unit	Target value for 2022	Fund (in case of multi-fund OPs)

¹¹ If the operational programme covers different category of regions, the table should be broken down by category of region where appropriate.

**SECTION 7. *SPECIFIC NEEDS OF GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WHICH SUFFER FROM
SEVERE AND PERMANENT NATURAL OR DEMOGRAPHIC
HANDICAPS (ARTICLE 87 (4) (B) CPR)**

[a maximum of x characters]

Where appropriate, the identification of whether and how the operational programmes addresses demographic challenges of regions or specific needs of geographical areas which suffer by severe and permanent natural or demographic handicaps, as defined in Article 174 of the Treaty and the contribution to the integrated approach set out in the Partnership Agreement to this end.

This section should identify, where appropriate, whether and how the operational programme the addresses demographic challenges of regions, with reference to the CSF.

Where the Member State has highlighted in section 2 specific development needs in regions which suffer from severe and permanent natural or demographic handicaps such as the northernmost regions with very low population density and island, cross-border and mountain regions, it should provide a brief summary of how the operational programme will be used to tackle the specific development needs of these regions, insofar as the approach is specific to these regions.

Where the operational programme is implemented solely in these regions, the general strategy of the programme and the description of the priority axes should provide for these elements, and this specific section is in most cases not necessary.

SECTION 8. AUTHORITIES AND BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGEMENT, CONTROL AND AUDIT AND THE ROLE OF PARTNERS (ARTICLE 87 (5) CPR)

8.1 Identification of the relevant authorities and bodies (Article 87 (5) (a) and (b) CPR)

Table 24: Identification of and contact details for the relevant authorities and bodies

Authority/body	Name of the authority/body	Head of the authority/body	Address	Telephone	e-mail address
Managing authority					
Certifying authority, where applicable					
Audit authority					
Body to whom payments will be made by the Commission					

8.2. Involvement of partners (Article 87 (5) (c) CPR)

8.2.1. Role of the partners in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the operational programme.

[a maximum of x characters]

A description of how the partners referred in Article 5 will be involved in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the operational programme taking into account the requirements set out in the Code of Conduct.

8.2.2. For ESF: Global grants (Article 6 (1) ESF)

If applicable, the identification of the part of the programme concerned by global grants to social partners and other stakeholders, in particular social partners and NGOs, including an indicative financial allocation from each priority axis to it.

[a maximum of x characters]

8.2.3. For ESF where appropriate: Earmarking for capacity building

For operational programmes covering a less developed region or a Member State that is eligible for the Cohesion Fund:

- identification of an appropriate allocation of ESF resources to capacity-building activities for social partners, in the form of training, networking measures, and strengthening of the social dialogue, and to activities jointly undertaken by the social partners.
- identification of appropriate allocation of ESF resources for capacity-building for non-governmental organisations.

[a maximum of x characters]

DRAFT

SECTION 9. *COORDINATION - ARTICLE 87(6) (A) CPR

The mechanisms that ensure coordination between the Funds, the EAFRD, the EMFF and other Union and national funding instruments, and with the EIB taking into account the relevant provisions laid down in the CSF as set out in Annex I of the CPR

[a maximum of x characters]

A description how coordination will be ensured:

- *with the other ESI Funds (ERDF, ESF, Cohesion Fund, EAFRD, EMFF);*
- *with other Union instruments (Horizon 2020, LIFE +, the Connecting Europe Facility, COSME, Erasmus for All, Asylum and Migration Fund, Programme for Social Change and Innovation etc.);*
- *with national funding instruments;*
- *with the EIB.*

This should include:

- *An identification of the areas where support under the operational programme can be used in a complementary manner with the funding sources listed above to achieve the thematic objectives selected;*
- *An explanation of how synergies and complementarities will be exploited to ensure effectiveness, including e.g. by combining support from different instruments to support individual operations;*
- *A description of coordination mechanisms for each of the relevant funding sources listed above identifying the bodies responsible for coordination in these areas and outlining the structures or arrangements (e.g. committees, consultation procedures) used for this purpose.*

The content of the Partnership Agreement should be taken into account. The description of coordination mechanisms in the operational programme should complete and complement the Partnership Agreement, avoiding repetition.

SECTION 10. * EX-ANTE CONDITIONALITIES (ARTICLE 87(6) (B) CPR)

For each ex ante conditionality, established in accordance with Article 17 and Annex (xx), which is applicable to the operational programme an assessment of whether the ex-ante conditionality is fulfilled at the date of submission of the Partnership Agreement and operational programme, and where ex-ante conditionalities are not fulfilled, a description of the actions to fulfil the ex-ante conditionality, the responsible bodies and a timetable for such actions in accordance with the summary submitted in the Partnership Agreement.

In accordance with Article 17 of the CPR, the Member States should provide the Commission with information on the applicability of ex-ante conditionalities and on the fulfilment of applicable ex ante conditionalities. Information on this regard may be provided within separate explanatory documents submitted with the operational programme. However, it may also be included under this section of the operational programme in order to complement the information set out in table 25.

Where necessary, explanations or additional information to complement the tables below can be added here [a maximum of x characters]

10.1 Identification of applicable ex-ante conditionalities and assessment of their fulfilment (table 25).

This table sets out all applicable general and thematic ex-ante conditionalities for the operational programme, including those which have been included in the Partnership Agreement, but which are applicable to the priorities of the programme in question and the fulfilment or non-fulfilment of which therefore affects the implementation of the programme. It is necessary to identify, for each applicable ex-ante conditionality, the priorities to which it applies and to indicate, and where necessary, explain, which criteria are fulfilled or unfulfilled.

Table 25: Identification of applicable ex-ante conditionalities and assessment of their fulfilment

Applicable ex-ante conditionality	Priority axis or axes to which the conditionality applies	Ex-ante conditionality fulfilled: Yes/No/Partially	Criteria	Criteria fulfilled Yes/no	Reference (reference to the strategies, legal act or other relevant documents, incl. references to relevant sections, articles or paragraphs, accompanied by weblinks or access to full text)	Explanations

10.2 A description of the actions to be undertaken to fulfil the applicable general and thematic ex ante conditionalities not fulfilled at the date of submission of the operational programme, the responsible bodies and the corresponding timetable for such actions (tables 26 and 27)

These tables cover only applicable general and thematic ex-ante conditionalities which are completely unfilled or partially fulfilled (as set out in table 25 above) at the time of submission of the operational programme.

Table 26: Actions to be undertaken to fulfil applicable general ex-ante conditionalities

Applicable general ex-ante conditionalities which are completely unfilled or partially fulfilled	Criteria not fulfilled	Action to be taken	Deadline (date)	Bodies responsible for fulfilment
1. X		Action 1	Deadline for action 1	
		Action 2	Deadline for action 2	

Table 27: Actions to be undertaken to fulfil applicable thematic ex-ante conditionalities

Applicable thematic ex-ante conditionalities which are completely unfulfilled or partially fulfilled	Criteria not fulfilled	Action to be taken	Deadline (date)	Bodies responsible for fulfilment
1. X		Action 1	Deadline for action 1	
		Action 2	Deadline for action 2	

SECTION 11. *REDUCTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN FOR BENEFICIARIES - ARTICLE 87 (6) (C) CPR

A summary of the assessment of the administrative burden for beneficiaries and, where necessary, the actions planned accompanied by an indicative timeframe to reduce administrative burden [a maximum of x characters]

A summary assessment of the administrative burden and actions to planned to achieve a reduction including:

- *An assessment of the administrative burden of beneficiaries, including the identification of main sources of administrative burden in the period 2007-2013, the main actions already taken to reduce that burden for the period 2014-2020, and potential scope for further reduction, referring to statistical data, and results of evaluations and studies, where possible;*
- *Main (not all – only a summary is required) actions planned to achieve a reduction in administrative burden with an indicative timeframe and expected results in qualitative and/or quantitative terms (Table 28), including the use of simplified costs, where appropriate.*

Table 28: Main actions planned to achieve a reduction in administrative burden with an indicative timeframe and expected results

Main action planned	Expected results	Indicative timeframe (start and end date)	

SECTION 12. HORIZONTAL PRINCIPLES - ARTICLE 87(7) CPR

12.1. Sustainable development

A description of specific actions to take into account environmental protection requirements, resource efficiency, climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster resilience and risk prevention and management, in the selection of operations.

[a maximum of x characters]

A description of how the aspects listed above are taken into account in project selection.

This section should cover arrangements which extend to the entire operational programme or multiple priority axes. Arrangements specific to a priority axis or an investment priority should be included under the description of that axis ("principles for selection of operations").

If the Member State considers that the horizontal principle is not relevant for the operational programme concerned, this section should provide a justification for such an assessment.

12.2. Equal opportunities and anti-discrimination

[a maximum of x characters]

A description of the specific actions to promote equal opportunities and prevent any discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation during the preparation, design and implementation of the operational programme and in particular in relation to access to funding taking account of the needs of the various target groups at risk of such discrimination and in particular the requirements of ensuring accessibility for persons with disability.

A description covering, but not limited to:

- Actions to be taken to promote equal opportunities and prevent discrimination; including to ensure access to the programme by marginalised groups;*
- Identification of particular targets groups, which may have a reduced access to support or are at risk of discrimination and identification of the measures to mitigate these risks;*
- Any initiatives aimed at mainstreaming these principles in project selection and implementation e.g. uniform requirements for accessibility for new or reconstructed public buildings.*
- Any specific monitoring and evaluation measures envisaged to ensure the follow-up of the implementation of these principles and how these results of*

monitoring and evaluation will be taken into account.

If the Member State considers that the horizontal principle is not relevant for the operational programme concerned, this section should provide a justification for such an assessment.

12.3. Equality between men and women

A description of the contribution to the promotion of equality between men and women and, where appropriate, the arrangements to ensure the integration of the gender perspective at operational programme and operation level.

[a maximum of x characters]

A description covering, but not limited to:

- *The contribution of the operational programme to the promotion of equality between men and women, with reference to specific challenges faced in this area, as appropriate;*
- *The actions planned to ensure the integration of the gender perspective at operational level including any initiatives aimed at mainstreaming this principle in project selection and implementation.*
- *Any specific monitoring and evaluation measures envisaged to ensure the follow-up of the implementation of this principle and how these results of monitoring and evaluation will be taken into account.*

If the Member State considers that the horizontal principle is not relevant for the operational programme concerned, this section should provide a justification for such an assessment.

SECTION 13. SEPARATE ELEMENTS - PRESENTED AS ANNEXES IN PRINTED DOCUMENT VERSION

13.1. A list of major projects for which the implementation is planned during the programming period (Article 87 (2) (e) CPR) (Table 29)

Table 29: A list of major projects

Title	Assessment by independent experts planned: Yes/No	Indicative time of notification/submission of the major project application to the Commission (year, quarter)	Indicative start of implementation (year, quarter)	Indicative completion date of implementation (year quarter)

13.2. The performance framework of the operational programme

The summary table is generated automatically by the SFC based on the tables outlined by priority axis.

Table 30: The performance framework of the operational programme

Priority axis (broken down by Fund and by category of region)	Implementation step, financial, output or result indicator	Measurement unit, where appropriate	Milestone for 2018	Final target (2022)