JRC – DG-REGIO Peer-review workshop
for integrated territorial development strategies
under the PO5 specific objectives 2 in Art. 3, e (ii) Reg (EU) 2021/1058 (2021-2027)

Concept note

What the JRC – DG REGIO peer-reviews for integrated territorial development strategies in non-urban areas are?

Until now, you might have heard of or took part to a peer-review for Sustainable Urban Development (SUD) strategies. These will continue in the coming years and will be supported and animated by the European Urban Initiative.

JRC together with DG-REGIO, following the same line, are organizing Peer-reviews for integrated territorial development strategies **in areas other than urban areas**. Such strategies are promoted by cohesion policy under the PO5 specific objectives 2 (ITI, CLLD or other type of territorial tools in non-urban areas)) during the **2021-2027 programming period.** In the ERDF regulation such strategies are mentioned in Art.3, e, ii: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1058

In peer-reviews, strategies will be reviewed simultaneously by peers and experts from across the EU. The workshop generally lasts two days and takes place in one of the areas covered by a strategy under-review. The relevant local authorities of such strategy co-hosts the event together with the European Commission.

Peer-reviews offer an open and trustful learning environment for discussing in practical ways how to address **common challenges**. More specifically, they:
- allow strategies under-review to get involved into first-hand evaluation experience and use the peer-review outcomes to further **improve** them
- allow all participating authorities to **meet** their peers, experts from the European Commission academia and others, to discuss common issues and challenges related to their current work on strategies in other than urban territories

What the representatives of the strategies under-review will do?
Competent bodies of the strategy will:
1) Prepare a **background document** following a template provided by JRC, explaining the socio-economic, environmental and spatial background of the strategy and the institutional and policy context (3-5 pages)
2) Prepare a **Power-point presentation** following a template provided by JRC, describing the strategy and three main challenges (15-20 slides)
3) Fill in the **SAT4TER** self-assessment tool (will be publically available in July)
4) Join the peer-review in presence event (three representatives per tntegrated territorial strategy are invited).

What the host local authority will do?
The competent bodies hosting the peer-review workshop in their territory will:
1) **Organize**, together with the JRC, the two-day event within the area that the strategy covers
2) **Provide a venue** to host parallel sessions for discussion
3) Organize a **study visit** to projects planned by the 2021-2027 strategy or to projects implemented via a previous strategy funded by the cohesion policy.

Who the other participants are and what is expected from them?

	Who are they	What it is expected by them
Peers	Representatives of an integrated territorial development strategy in non-urban areas involved in its design and implementation..	They join the workshop and are asked to provide structured feedback (e.g. policy recommendations and examples) to strategies under-review. They learn from and exchange with the other participants.
Experts	Professionals in the field of strategic planning, experts in integrated territorial development strategies and EC representatives.	They support in the preparatory phase of the peer-review the authorities representing the strategy under-review, join the event and finally draft a **feedback report**.

The expenses to attend the workshop for representatives of the strategies under-review and for experts are covered by the European Commission.

The JRC KCTP (*Joint Research Centre – Knowledge Centre of Territorial Policies*)
in collaboration with DG REGIO

European Commission

For further clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact JRC-KCTP@ec.europa.eu