

Programme Operator, Fund Operator and Donor Programme Partner workshop

‘Environment, Energy, Climate Change and Low-Carbon
Economy’ programmes

Brussels, 9-10 October 2018

Q&A session

Brussels, 9-10 October 2018

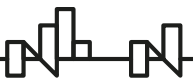
GrACE: info to be provided by PO/NFP

A lot of the same information provided through DoRIS would also be required in GrACE

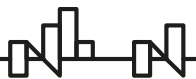
- Calls for proposals – call texts
- Project Level Information (PLIs)
- Financial information: Interim Financial Report (IFRs), Advance Payment Request
- Annual Programme Report (template provided), Final Programme Report
- Strategic Report (NFP)
- Contact information
- Irregularities
- PA/PIA amendments
- Etc, etc, etc.....

✓ Workflows to be processed/handled within GrACE

-- Information material to be provided --



CASE-BY-CASE



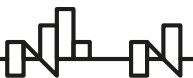
Questions

Identification of partners

Q: The new edition of the Grants implies new principles of identifying project partners in PDPs, as long as they are not state institutions (Reg. Art. 6.5/7.1). We have understood that donor partners should be identified through some form of competition. Could you please elaborate a bit on both principles and operational approach?

A: In general:

- Applies to both partners in the BS and to donor project partners
- Responsibility of the PP. PO to ensure. DPPs only assist in identification and contact
- Full/open tender not expected, but it is expected that the PP has contacted and assessed more than one potential partner
- Adhere to EU and EEA and Norway Grants principles on transparency, competition and equal treatment



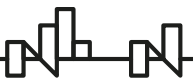
Questions cont.

Sustainability/durability of projects

Q: Could you please specify the conditions of the sustainability of projects (necessary conditions for the Project Promoters), incl. in connection with the monitoring of the projects after the dates of eligibility of expenditures (30/04/2024) and eventual management costs of the Program Operators?

A: In general:

- Durability
 - Art. 8.14 includes special provision for real estate/land and general provisions for other projects
 - Article 8.6, includes detailed provisions in the case of purchase and/or construction/reconstruction/renovation of buildings. Main focus is on prohibition on sale or mortgage within 5 years.
 - Also, on a case by case basis depending on the nature of the programme and the conditions in Annex I. These usually include buildings/real estate/land conditions as well as conditions on further use of equipment that has been exempted from the depreciation only rule.
- Sustainability
 - Avoidance of possible adverse effects for future generations/use
- For both:
 - Considerations have to be included in the call text and in the evaluation of applications



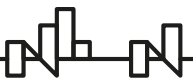
Questions cont.

Appraisal of pre-defined projects

Q: Could you provide us with some practical tips, recommendations or good practises regarding the appraisal of the pre-defined project in line with the Art. 6.5 (3) of the Regulations from the perspective of the FMO?

A: In general:

- Internal/external?
- Verify the information contained in the concept note and/or Supplementary information or later depending on provisions in the Programme Agreement (PA includes less info)
- 'Classics': Relevance, efficiency (feasibility/viability), cost-effectiveness, impact and sustainability + bilateral
- Additional: Release effect, innovation, financial security etc.



Questions cont.

Synergies:

Q: Will there be any guideline how to ensure, assess and evaluate synergies between particular programmes on the national level (where applicable)?

A: In general (within beneficiary state):

- Donor priority
- Provision in MoU and/or comment by the donors to the concept note →
- General, standard condition in PA: 'The Programme Operator shall seek to ensure synergies with the programme [XX-YYYY] implemented under the EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms 2014-2021 in the [beneficiary state].
- POs to familiarise themselves with potentially relevant programmes (Research, Innovation, Loc.Dev.) → assess commonalities
- Materialise as: joint CCMs, joint events, demarcation of TRL etc



Calls and selections

- Recommendations (CfP/SGS)
 - Discuss in CCMs as early as possible
 - Guidance document vs. individual call text
 - Check that minimum requirements are met
 - If many annexes, use cross-referencing by links
 - Try to put yourselves in the applicants position
- Selections (Art. 7.4):
 - More flexibility in the Regulations, but basic principles still to be adhered to
 - DPP involvement
 - Guidance document on Best practise

