



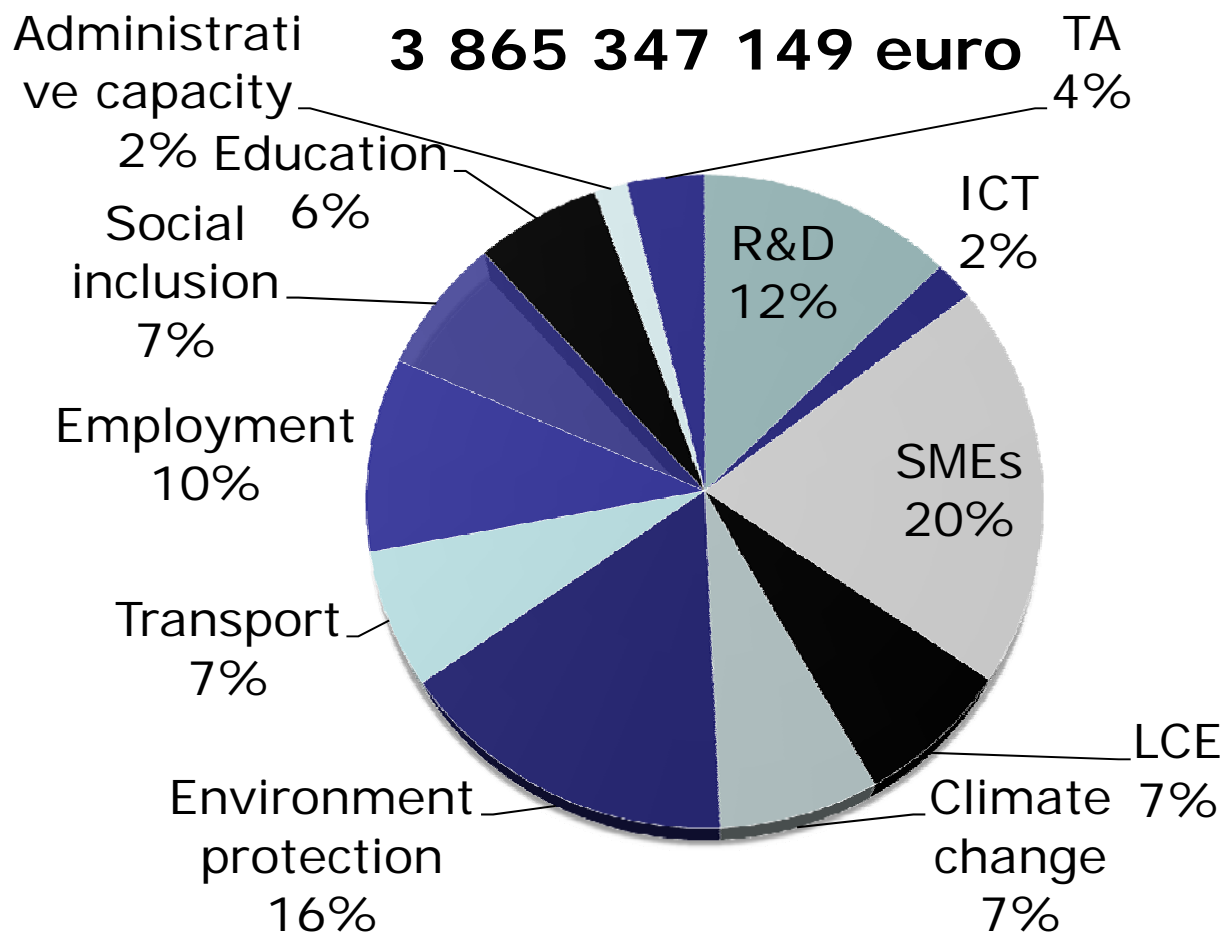
Cohesion policy and ex-ante conditionalities: why EIA/SEA assessment is important?

Ljubljana, 29 September 2015

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ESI Funds' allocation for Slovenia





Operational programmes

In 2014-2020 period there will be three programmes covering all 5 above mentioned funds:

- ***The Operational Programme for the Implementation of the European Cohesion Policy*** will include eleven thematic objectives (ERDF, ESF, CF). The OP will cover both regions, namely the Eastern Slovenia (as less developed region) and the Western Slovenia (as more developed region), and will also include a specific priority axis for the Youth Employment Initiative; **(2 832 291 166 euro + 179 608 602 euro performance reserve)**
- ***Rural Development Programme*** will include eight thematic objectives (thematic objectives 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10); **(837 849 803 euro)**
- ***Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EMFF*** will include four thematic objectives (thematic objectives 3, 4, 6 and 8). **(24 809 114 euro)**





Support for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth

Europe 2020

smart

sustainable

inclusive

1. Research and innovation
2. Information and Communication Technologies
3. Competitiveness of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SME)
4. Shift to a low-carbon economy
5. Climate change adaptation and risk management & prevention
6. Environmental protection and resource efficiency
7. Sustainable transport
8. Employment and support for labour mobility
9. Social inclusion and poverty reduction
10. Education, skills and lifelong learning
11. Increased institutional capacity and effectiveness of public administration



New approach for 2014-2020

1. Strategic programming documents (PA and OP) and European Semester
2. Thematic concentration
3. Intervention logic and performance framework
4. Ex-ante conditionalities
5. Integrated approach





What are ex-ante conditionnalities (EAC)?

Key pre-conditions to ensure that all institutional and strategic policy arrangements are in place for effective investment

- Ex-ante conditionalities (Article 17 CPR) :
- **thematic**, related to a sector or policy (e.g. water, R&D, active inclusion) and
- **general** ex-ante conditionalities, which apply to all sectors and policies (e.g. EIA/SEA, public procurement etc.);



Assessment of the fulfilment

Self-assessment by MS

COM assessment of fulfilment

Possibility for suspension of interim payments

Non-fulfilment of ex-ante conditionalities may lead to the suspension of all or part of interim payments:

- at the time of the adoption of the OP in case of significant prejudice
- by the deadline for fulfilment

Applicable ex-ante conditionalities to be fulfilled before the start of the programming period.

If not fulfilled, to be fulfilled at the latest by 31.12.2016



Action plan



Reporting



Fulfilment notification



Environmental legislation (EIA/SEA) EAC

This conditionality is applicable in principle to all OPs involving infrastructure investments (e.g. buildings, roads, ports, airports, waste/water treatment facilities, networks etc.)

Ensure that at the start of the programming period and before projects start implementation on the ground there are effective arrangements for the application of environmental Union law linked to EIA/SEA



EIA/SEA EAC in Slovenia

Criteria

Arrangements for effective application of EIA/SEA Directives

Arrangements for training and dissemination of information in the implementation of the EIA/SEA Directive

Arrangements to ensure sufficient administrative capacity

Action Plan

Fulfilled

Preparation of a three years training programme for SEA/EIA related content

Implementation of the programme for the ministries, institutions and external contractors

Commission considers that Slovenia has partially fulfilled this ex-ante conditionality at the time of adoption of PA and OP



Slovenia's commitment related to EIA/SEA compliance

OP commitment:

"The projects to receive support from the ESI Fund will comply with the requirements of the EIA Directive and the relevant regulations adopted in the context of fulfilling the ex-ante conditionnalities for using ESI Funds. The ministry responsible for environment will draw up a three years action plan with actions to improve and build knowledge of all relevant stakeholders on SEA and EIA procedures and requirements. Support for capacity building will be provided in the scope of OP's technical assistance."





Three-years training programme on EIA/SEA

Fill in the gaps identified in the infringement procedure of EIA Directive

Identify and meet training needs of decision-makers and projects promoters on EIA/SEA

Ensure adequate administrative capacity of the bodies involved in the EIA/SEA procedures





Importance of compliant EIA/SEA for Cohesion policy projects

1. Avoid problems with EIA/SEA identified under 2007-2013 programming period:

- Splitting of projects (ex. EIA for WWTP and screening separate for sewage)
- Cumulative effects
- Sensitive areas not considered (i.e. Natura 2000)
- Ex-post screening or mitigating measures (EIA Working Group had to screen ex-post all co-financed projects for 2007-2013 to address issues under the infringement on EIA Slovene legislation)



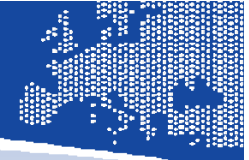


Importance of compliant EIA/SEA for Cohesion policy projects

2. Put a solid basis for the start of 2014-2020 programming period with sound projects pipeline

- Encourage beneficiaries to consider EIA procedures early in the preparation of the projects (especially for major projects)
- Pay attention to projects prepared before new national legislation in place but to be financed under 2014-2020 programming period
- Managing Authority to work closely with Ministry of Environment and ensure that at project level there is compliance with the EIA/SEA Directives





Many thanks for your attention

