



PROGRAMME MANUAL

PARTNERS CO-FINANCING AND LOCATION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

version 2,
approved by the Monitoring Committee on 16 January 2018

	Content of the modification	Approval date
V1	-	January 2017
V2	More detailed information about the definition of the "MED area" as well as on how to make the difference between costs inside/outside the programme area.	18 January 2018

Co-financing

The Interreg MED Programme is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and by the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA).

The ERDF/IPA co-financing rate for all partners and Lead Partners is **85%**.

The only exception applies for SMEs acting as partners under Article 20 of the General Block Exemption Regulation (Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014) for which the ERDF co-financing rate is **50%** of the total eligible budget.

The **share of expenditure** not covered by ERDF/IPA shall be guaranteed by each project Lead Partner and partner by means of national co-financing, which can be provided as follows:

- Own public contribution: public funding at national, regional or local level, provided directly with own funds by the partners having a public status.
- Automatic public contribution: public funding at national, regional or local level, obtained via specific co-financing schemes set up by the Member States.
- Other public contribution: public funding at national, regional or local level, provided by institutions having a public status but not participating in the partnership.
- Own private contribution: private funding provided directly with own funds by the partners having a private status.
- Other private contribution: private funding provided by institutions having a private status but not participating in the partnership.

The contribution of each Lead Partner and project partner, be it a public or private institution, must be confirmed by the Lead Partner in the Application Form and by every single partner by filling-in the relevant partner declaration (the latter has to be compulsory annexed to the Application Form, please refer to the application procedure).

Location of activities

In line with the requirements for the geographical location of partners, and as a basic principle, the Interreg MED Programme supports project activities taking place in the Programme area.

The **Programme cooperation area** of the Interreg MED Programme, hereafter “MED area”, is composed by the EU and IPA regions covered by the Interreg MED Programme, according to the last version of the Cooperation Programme document approved by the EC. For more information, see <http://interreg-med.eu/explore/the-cooperation-area/>.

All the others EU regions not covered by the MED area are considered as « regions outside of the MED area ».

All activities implemented by ERDF partners in EU regions outside the MED area – including the organisation and participation in missions, study visits and events – can be accepted only in exceptional and duly justified cases.

The following requirements must be respected:

- They are for the benefit of the regions of the MED area;
- They are essential for the implementation of the project;
- They are explicitly foreseen in the Application Form or, if not, have been previously authorized by the MA/JS.

All projects are invited to foresee in the Application Form a specific budget for travels outside of the MED area in order to participate in external events (not organised by the project itself). **However, it is warmly recommended to limit as much as possible the organisation of the project's meetings, events and seminars outside the MED area as the focus is the cooperation in the transnational MED area.**

Activities financed by IPA funds should be implemented, as a basic principle, in the IPA territories. Activities outside the IPA territories benefiting the IPA countries will be analysed on a case by case basis by the MA/JS.

For more information on the eligibility of project activities expenditure, please refer also to factsheet « ELIGIBILITY OF EXPENDITURE ».

According to article 20 of Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013 and to the Interreg MED Cooperation Programme, the MA/JS must closely monitor all activities located outside the Union part of the MED area, both at the application and at the implementation phase.

In that sense, in the framework of the reporting procedure in Synergie CTE, partners shall indicate for each expenditure if the activity to which it is related has been carried out inside or outside the MED area.

In the case of partners located in the MED area (ERDF and IPA partners), expenditure related to activities carried out outside the MED area are to be declared « Out of the EU zone of the Programme area or out of the Programme area » in Synergie CTE. Please note travel and accommodation costs, regardless of the locations of the activity, are to be declared always « inside the MED area » in Synergie CTE.

In the case of ERDF partners located outside of the MED area, the full budget of those partners is to be declared « Out of the EU zone of the Programme area or out of the Programme area » in Synergie CTE.

For more information on the reporting of the expenditure through Synergie CTE, please refer to the Synergie guide « How to enter an expenditure in Synergie CTE ».