

Protocol

of the 3rd Monitoring Committee Meeting

for the Interreg V-A Slovakia-Hungary Cooperation Programme
30th of June 2016, Budapest

Chair of the Meeting:

Zsigmond Perényi / Nikoletta Horváth

I.

Approval of the Agenda, presentation of the purpose of the meeting

Presented by: Zsigmond Perényi

1. The Monitoring Committee

approves the Agenda

of the 3rd Monitoring Committee for the Interreg V-A Slovakia-Hungary Cooperation Programme 30th of June 2016 in Budapest with the following conditions:

- Agenda point 7 is to be discussed after the agenda point 4. Further on the Agenda continues as originally planned.

II.

Modification of the Rules of Procedure due to the change in the management structure

Related document(s): Rules of Procedure of the Monitoring Committee

Version number of the uploaded file: v2-00

Presented by: Nikoletta Horváth

- Representative of the European Commission confirmed that the request for amending Chapter 5 (Implementing provisions) of the Interreg V-A SKHU programme had been introduced via SFC system. After having analysed the proposed changes, EC concluded that the proposals for amendment go beyond the scope of notification and contain modifications which are subject to Commission decision. The European Commission will be sending observation within one month, if there is any.
- It was also confirmed that notification was submitted in line with ETC Regulation and the Managing Authority's Certifying Authority's and Audit Authority's functions were officially transferred to Hungary by 16th of June, 2016.
- The European Commission offered help in SFC process regarding the changes in management structure.

2. The Monitoring Committee

approves the Rules of procedures of the Monitoring Committee

as it is modified in the document presented on the MC plenary session and with the following conditions (*incorporated into document Rules_of_Procedure_of_the_MC_v2-03.doc*):

- Point 1 in Rule No. 7 will be modified as follows:

(1) The MC meets the quorum if *at least 50%* of each Member State's voting members and the representative of the National Authorities of both countries are present.

III.

Presentation of ruling documents of the Interreg V-A Cooperation Programme related to the first Call for Proposals

Presented by: Csilla Veres

The Monitoring Committee

approves the first Call for Proposals

as it is texted in the document *Call-for-Proposals_SKHU-1601_v4-09.docx* presented on the MC plenary session and with the following conditions (*incorporated into the document Call-for-Proposals_SKHU-1601_v4-11.docx*):

- MA/NA/JS has the right to make technical changes in the document(s) – not related to the conceptual segment – without prior approval of the Monitoring Committee.

3. The Monitoring Committee

approves the Applicant's manual

as it is texted in the document *Applicants-Manual_SKHU-1601_v5-09.docx* presented on the MC plenary session and with the following conditions (incorporated into the document *Applicants-Manual_SKHU-1601_v5-14.docx*):

- JS will include an overview table of obligatory annexes to the Application form indicating the relevancy for project partners and language requirements.
- The template for Declaration Natura 2000 and description of procedure to be followed by the Slovak project partners which was presented on the MC plenary session will be incorporated into the Applicant's package as Annex VI. to the Application form.
- Impartiality of members of Complaint Board responsible for examination of delivered complaints should be secured by the description of the Applicant's Manual (6. Complaint procedure) as follows: '*Impartiality of members of the Complaint Board towards the case under review has to be ensured. If this cannot*

be provided, the distinct member shall refrain from the distinct case's review and be replaced by another impartial member.'

- Referring to Commission's position on small-scale infrastructure (Ref. Ares(2015)481089 - 05/02/2015) the 5 million EUR threshold concerning the total cost for an infrastructure investment must be considered based on the types of activities of the projects, therefore each infrastructure investment part within a project should be restricted to 5 million EUR total budget but without the intention to make artificial split in infrastructure to avoid threshold (e.g. bridges cannot be separated artificially).

In addition the MA/NA/JS has the right to make technical changes in the document(s) – not related to the conceptual segment – without prior approval of the Monitoring Committee.

4. The Monitoring Committee

approves the Annexes to the Application form

as it is texted in the documents

- *Annex-I-A-SK_Declaration-PP_v1-01.docx*
- *Annex-I-B-HU_Declaration-PP_v1-02.docx*
- *Annex-II_Declaration-on-Partership_v1-09.docx*
- *Annex-IV_Declaration-EIA_v1-02.docx*
- *Annex-V_Sworn-statement-Natura_v1-03.docx (which contains comments from the Ministry of Environment sent to the SK National Authority before the Monitoring Committee meeting).*

- with the following conditions: The template for Declaration Natura 2000 and description of procedure to be followed by the Slovak project partners which was presented on the MC plenary session will be included among the annexes to the Application form as

Annex-VI_Declaration-Natura-2000_v1-03.docx

In addition the MA/NA/JS has the right to make technical changes in the document(s) – not related to the conceptual segment – without prior approval of the Monitoring Committee.

5. The Monitoring Committee

approves the Assessment grids

as it is texted in the documents

- *Administrative-AG_SKHU-1601_v2-01.docx*
- *Eligibility-AG_SKHU-1601_v2-01.docx*
- *Quality-AG_SKHU-1601_v2-02.xlsx*

with the following conditions:

- In case of PA SO21 the quality assessments grids must include the relevancy of road constructions to TEN-T networks as condition which must be evaluated by independent assessors.
- Three measures¹ concerning the horizontal principles are mandatory for all projects. These requirements have to be respected in each project that contains activities concerned. In case these requirements are not respected, the project will be rejected without any possibility for further completion. The Applicant's Manual will be modified accordingly.

In addition MA/NA/JS has the right to make technical changes in the document(s) – not related to the conceptual segment – without prior approval of the Monitoring Committee.

6. The Monitoring Committee

approves the Subsidy contract template

as it is texted in the document *SKHU_Subsidy_Contract_v1-08.doc* with the following conditions:

- Detailed procedures related to changes in the projects will be described in Beneficiary's Manual.

In addition MA/NA/JS has the right to make technical changes in the document(s) – not related to the conceptual segment – without prior approval of the Monitoring Committee.

7. The Monitoring Committee

approves the Partnership agreement template

as it is texted in the document *SKHU_Model_Partnership_Agreement_v-1-07.doc* with the following conditions (incorporated into the document):

- Copyrights of project outputs among project partners can be defined in the Partnership Agreement in line with Visibility guide. Moreover the template can be freely formulated.

¹ 1. Investments negatively affecting nature, fauna and flora, and biodiversity, have to be accompanied by compensatory measures and damage mitigation. / 2. Projects including construction and/or renovation works have to choose climate-friendly architectural solutions and cost-optimal levels of energy performance according to the Directive 2010/31/EU. / 3 In case of investments to inland waterways and/or infrastructure, projects have to be implemented in accordance with Art. 4 of the Directive 2000/60/EC and the river basin management have to be respected.

In addition MA/NA/JS has the right to make technical changes in the document(s) – not related to the conceptual segment – without prior approval of the Monitoring Committee.

8. The Monitoring Committee

approves the Guide on eligible expenditures

as it is texted in the document *Guide_on_eligible_expenditures_v1-05.docx* with the following conditions (incorporated into the document *Guide_on_eligible_expenditures_v1-10*):

- Košice region recommends to MA to consider once more the possibility for the flat rate simplification tool in the expenditure category Staff costs.
- MA examines the possibility for the flat rate simplification tool in the expenditure category Staff costs based on the procedures set by the EC and technical possibilities of the information system (IMIS).
- MA informs that the justification of market price will be further discussed with Audit Authority and the final conclusion will be included accordingly.

In addition the MA/NA/JS has the right to make technical changes in the document(s) – not related to the conceptual segment – without prior approval of the Monitoring Committee.

9. The Monitoring Committee

approves the Visibility guide for projects

as it is texted in the document *Visibility guide for projects_v1-05.docx* presented on the MC plenary session and with the following conditions (incorporated into the document *Visibility guide for projects_v1-08.docx*):

- Common e-mail address for JS and Info points will be created to which the project partners will have the obligation to send any media appearance related to project implementation.

In addition to the above MA/NA/JS has the right to make technical changes in the document(s) – not related to the conceptual segment – without prior approval of the Monitoring Committee.

IV.

Communication plan for launching the 1st Call for proposals and brief information on actions taken for increasing publicity of Interreg V-A SK-HU website

Related document(s): Communication plan for the 1st Call for Proposals

Version number of the uploaded file: v1-02

Presented by: Nikoletta Horváth

1. The Monitoring Committee

acknowledges the Communication plan for the 1st Call for Proposals as it is texted in the document *Comm_plan_for_the_1CfP_v1-06.docx*.

V.**B-Light project**

Related document(s): Call for proposals for the selection of B-Light project holder

Version number of the uploaded file: v1-04

General information on B-Light Scheme is presented by: Zoltán Barna-Lázár

1. The Monitoring Committee

approves the Call for proposal for the selection of B-Light project holder as it is texted in the document *Call-for-Proposals_SKHU-BLight-1601_v1-04.docx* presented at the MC plenary session and with the following conditions (incorporated into the document *Call-for-Proposals_SKHU-BLight-1601_v1-07.docx*):

- Strategy for implementation of the B-Light Scheme is to be completed with the following requirements:
Proposals shall contain the scope of territorial coverage, the method of ensuring the interest and involvement of SMEs; description of the quality assessment of separate projects, and the selection procedure, the description of the involvement of the regions in the selection process of the SMEs, concrete types of activities of SMEs to be supported and their possible connections to the projects financed within PA1 Call for Proposals.
- Steering Committee (SC) for the B-Light Scheme entitled to select the proposals of the SMEs is to be set up by the MC (considering the principles of partnership), and the corresponding rules of procedures is to be elaborated, with ensuring the flow of information between MC and SC.

In addition to the above MA/NA/JS has the right to make technical changes in the document(s) – not related to the conceptual segment – without prior approval of the Monitoring Committee.

VI.**Modification of Technical Assistance projects**

Presented by: Nikoletta Horváth

1. The Monitoring Committee

approves the Amended framework of the Technical Assistance

as it is texted in the document *TA revision_v2-01.xls with the following condition (incorporated into the document) that the amount for national co-financing will be clarified between the two Member States.*

2. The Monitoring Committee

approves the revised TA Manual and its Annexes

as it is texted in the documents

- *TA_Manual_v2-08.docx (with proposed modifications from Technical Meeting between MA, NA and JS)*
- *Annex 1_TA_data_sheet_v2-04.xlsx*
- *Annex2_Template_for_Project_Report_v0-03.doc*

with the following conditions:

- TA data sheets which have been already submitted will be forwarded to the MC members for approval via written procedure together with the protocol from the 3rd MC plenary session.
- MA informs that the justification of market price will be further discussed with Audit Authority and the final conclusion will be included accordingly.

In addition the MA/NA/JS has the right to make technical changes in the document(s) – not related to the conceptual segment – without prior approval of the Monitoring Committee.

VII.**Programme evaluation**

Presented by: Nikoletta Horváth

1. The Monitoring Committee

does not approve the Evaluation plan of the Interreg V-A SK-HU programme as it is texted in the document *SKHU_Evaluation plan_v1-05.docx*.

- Document will be revised based on the comments submitted by the EC, afterwards the document will be sent to the EC for pre-check and finally submitted to MC members for approval via written procedure.

2. The Monitoring Committee

approves the Interreg V-A SK-HU ex-ante evaluation

as it is texted in the document *SKHU_EAE_SEA_ver9.1.docx*.

VIII.**Introduction of Priority Axis 3 concept**

Related document(s): Territorial Action Plans for Priority Axis 3

Version number of the uploaded file: v1-03

Presented by: Nikoletta Horváth

The Monitoring Committee

acknowledges the initial concept for Territorial Action Plans for Priority Axis 3 as it is texted in the document *Brief overview_TAPE_v1-04.docx* with the following conditions:

- Each Action Plan shall consist of a short analyses of the area in which the action plan is to be implemented, justify the relevancy/coherence or complementary character of the proposed activities to the selected area reflecting the CP objectives and the national plans and strategies focused for employment increase in order to ensure synergies, and to avoid overlaps with the existing investments.
- Having in view the bottom-up approach in the implementation of the PA, based on the European Commission's initiative the Monitoring Committee members are kindly requested to facilitate the procedure of preparation of action plans, feedback on these steps should be provided for the next MC meeting.

IX.

Any other business

Small Project Fund

- Technical meeting with participation of MA, NA, JS and relevant regions and EGTCs dedicated for SPF will be organized on 28th July 2016 in Budapest

Launch of the 1st CfP

- 1st Call for proposals is planned to be launched on 29th July 2016

Opening Conference

- Opening conference will be foreseeable organized on 13th September 2016 in Slovakia

Documents to be published on the programme website

- The Cooperation Programme (current version with clause), Ex-ante evaluation and Citizens summary will be published on programme website

Voting:

After agenda point IV. the voting member of Borsod Abaúj-Zemplén county left and handed over its right to vote to the representative of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg county.