



State of play of negotiations on MFF and legislation on Cohesion policy including the ESF 2014-2020

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Guiding political principles of the reform

- § Concentration on Europe 2020 Strategy
- § Focus on results
- § Better coordination and harmonisation between the funds
- § Simplification



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Budget for Cohesion Policy post 2013

Commission proposal

	billion EUR (2011 prices)
Cohesion Fund*	68.7
Less developed regions	162.6
Transition regions	39.0
More developed regions	53.1
Territorial Cooperation	11.7
Extra allocation for outermost and northern regions	0.9
TOTAL**	336.0
<i>Connecting Europe facility for transport, energy and ICT</i>	40.0
TOTAL	376.0

*Cohesion Fund will ring fence 10 billion EUR for the new Connecting Europe Facility

**Includes 2,5 billion EUR allocation for food for deprived persons

ESF - minimum shares

§ At least 25% of the Cohesion envelope for the ESF à €84 billion

§ (25% for the less developed regions, 40% for the transition regions and 52% for the more developed regions)

§ Why?

§ Important contribution to the Europe 2020 strategy and its headline targets

§ Key factor for medium term growth (OECD)

§ Expression of European solidarity

In 2010, 10 million people were reached out



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Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) negotiations

- § EU Member States did not reach a compromise on the MFF 2014-2020 at last summit (23 November 2012).
- § Some MS (like UK, NL) asked for greater cuts in the MFF; others (like Italy) wanted improvements especially on the Cohesion Budget. France was against any decrease of agricultural expenditure.
- § The next MFF Council is planned for early 2013 (no date at this stage).



Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) negotiations

- § This last version proposes a total amount for the MFF of **971.9 billion** (Commission proposal €1,047.7 billion), i.e. 7% or around €80 billion less.
- § But the last version of the MFF negotiating box clearly showed an improvement for Cohesion Policy.
- § Cohesion Policy represents in this compromise €320.1 billion, i.e. an increase of €10.6 billion compared to the cuts previously presented, but it is still a reduction of - €19 billion compared to the COM proposal.



Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) negotiations

	Cohesion Fund	Less developed	Transition regions	More developed	Special allocation for outermost and northern sparsely populated regions	Territorial Cooperation	Total		
MFF July	70,5	163,0	36,3	55,2	0,9	11,8	339,0		
HvR Nego box	65,9	156,1	29,2	47,5	0,9	9,8	309,5		
Nego box 22 night	66,3	161,4	31,4	50,9	1,4	8,7	320,1		
Changes 22 night to HvR	0,4	5,3	2,2	3,4	0,5	-1,1	10,7		
ESF	0%	25%	40%	52%	0%	0%			
MFF July	0,0	40,7	14,5	28,7	0,0	0,0	84,0		24,8%
EvR Nego box	0,0	39,0	11,7	24,7	0,0	0,0	75,4		24,4%
Nego box 22	0,0	40,4	12,6	26,5	0,0	0,0	79,4		24,8%



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Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) negotiations

- § ESF minimum shares are still absent.
- § Based on the proposed cuts in Cohesion Policy the minimum shares for the ESF (= 25%) would amount to 79.4 billion € (current period = 22%, i.e. 77.7 billion €).
- § Without the minimum shares it is more realistic to expect the share to remain stable at this 22%. This would mean an ESF budget of 70.4 billion € (or a cut of 9.4%).





Trilogues on CPR and ESF

- Informal trilogues ("informal", because EP has interrupted the 1st reading)
- Aim of the Parliament is to adopt in 1st reading texts which has been negotiated and finalised with the Council
- Adoption by Parliament (1st reading vote in the Plenary) in spring 2013



Informal Trilogue on CPR (1)

Composition

- § **Council** (CY presidency and Council Legal Service)
- § **European Parliament** (REGI Chair, Rapporteurs and shadow rapporteurs + EMPL committee rapporteur on the CPR)
- § **Commission** (REGIO, EMPL, AGRI, MARE, SG, BUDG)

Seven meetings already organised

- § 17th September: methodology and planning
- § Other meetings: Strategic approach and programming

Indicative calendar for 2012:

6th, 7th, 12th and 18th December.



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Informal Trilogue on CPR (2)

Bloc on the "Strategic approach and programming" includes

§ Subject and definitions (articles 1 and 2)

§ Scope and General Principles (articles 3 and 4)

§ Partnership (article 5)

§ Gender equality (article 7)

§ Common Strategic Framework (articles 10, 11 and 12)

§ Partnership contract (articles 13, 14 and 15)

§ Programming (articles 23, 24, 25 and 26)

§ Content and adoption of Operational Programms (art. 87)

§ Joint Action Plan (articles 93 to 98)



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Informal Trilogue on CPR (3)

Content of the discussions so far, as example:

§ Article 5 (partnership)

Rejection by the Council of the two level model of partnership set by EP

Disagreement on mentioning churches in the partners as proposed by the EP

Code of conduct: Strong opposition by the Council to a binding document, strong support by the EP which has detailed the fields where it wants the code of conduct to supplement the regulation.



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Informal Trilogue on CPR (4)

- § Presidency proposed a compromise text on the bloc "Strategic approach and programming" beginning of December in order to facilitate the discussion
- § Aim is to finalise the bloc until end of the year



Informal Trilogue on ESF (1)

Composition

- § Council (CY presidency and Council Legal Service)
- § European Parliament (EMPL Chair, Rapporteur and shadow rapporteurs)
- § Commission (EMPL, SG and REGIO)

Five meetings already organised

Focusing on "Methodology and planning", "Programming and thematic concentration" and the "Scope"

Indicative calendar for 2012:

13th and 18th December.



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Informal Trilogue on ESF (2)

Content of the discussions so far:

§ Article 6 (involvement of partners)

§ Article 7 (gender equality)

§ Article 8 (non-discrimination)



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Informal Trilogue on ESF (3)

Content of the discussions so far:

§Article 9 (social innovation)

§Article 10 (transnational cooperation)

§Article 11 (fund-specific provisions for OP)



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Informal Trilogue on ESF (4)

- § Presidency proposed a compromise text on the discussed articles beginning of December in order to facilitate the discussion
- § Aim is to finalise the discussed articles until end of the year



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Commission and MS - way ahead (1)

Commission Position Papers (CPPs)

§Objective of the CPPs is to set out the Commission services' views on the main funding priorities in the individual countries in the next programming period.

§Submission of the CPPs to the Member States is followed by launch meetings between the national authorities and representatives of the four CSF DGs.

§By the end of the year such meetings will have been taken place in all Member States.



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Commission and MS - way ahead (2)

Informal dialogue

§ Launch meetings start the informal dialogue phase on the partnership agreements and the operational programmes.

§ The informal phase ends with the formal submission of the Partnership Contracts and programmes (expected in the 2nd half of 2013).

§ The informal dialogue will be conducted by the CSF DGs.



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Commission and MS - way ahead (3)

Negotiation phase

§The formal negotiation phase starts summer 2013.

§The formal submission of the Partnership Contracts launches the phase of the official negotiations.

§The Commission will assess these documents on the basis of their coherence with the regulations and the position papers.



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Thank you very much



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