

How do we communicate SCOs?

8 September 2022 | Online, Zoom

Welcome!



Arkam



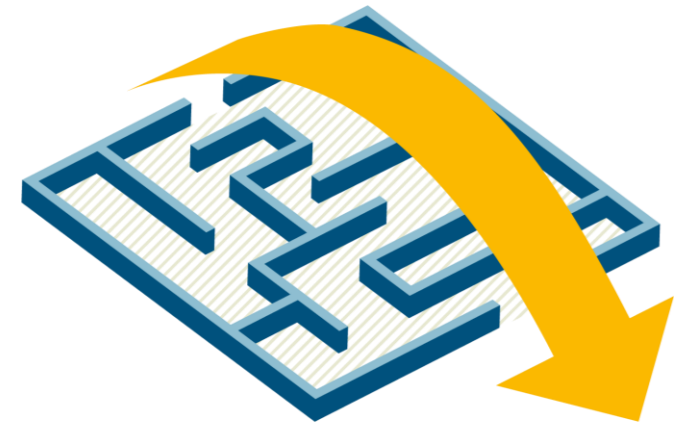
Iuliia



Bernhard



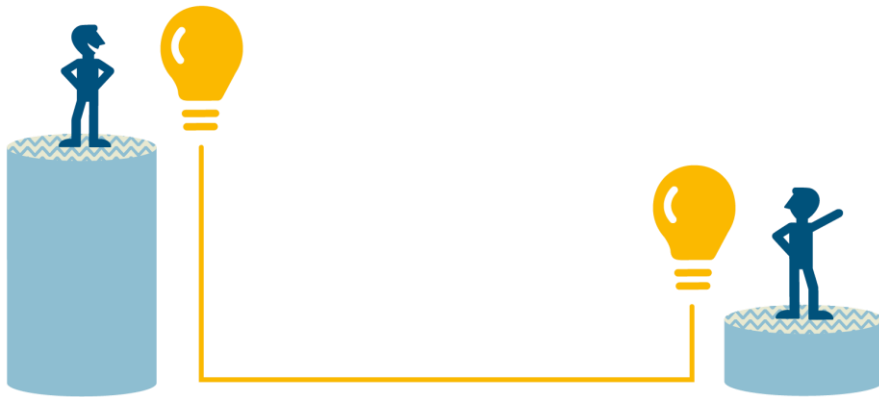
Grzegorz



Why?

Objectives

- to illustrate principles and good practices of good communication;
- to learn and exchange tips and hints on how to communicate SCO's in an effective way;
- to share reflections on communicating SCO's to different target groups;
- to exchange on good/ and not-so-good practices.



Format

- 8 September, 09.00 – 12.30 CET
- N° participants <-> interactivity



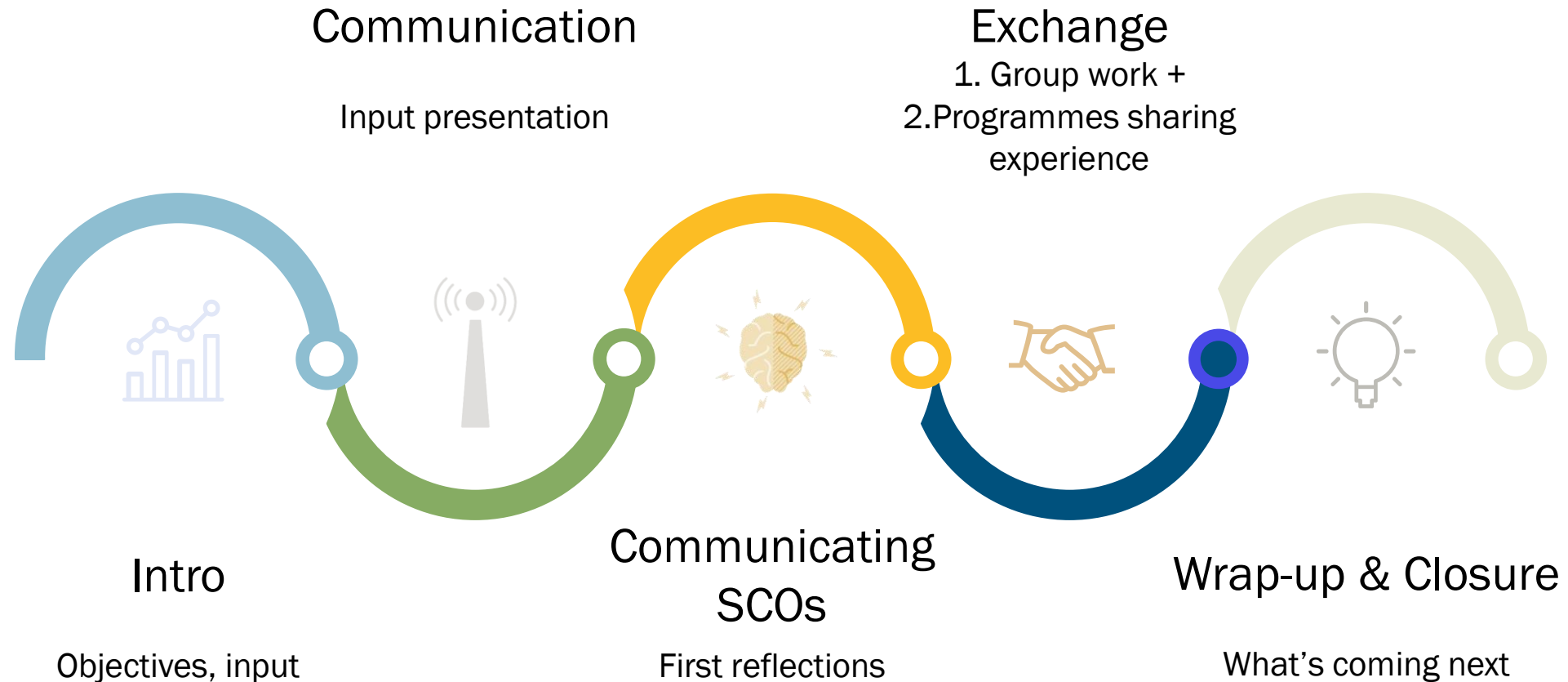
Code of conduct

- Stay 'muted' unless talking
- Interactivity - contribute & share (all ideas are welcome!)
- Be open (no recording, no notes of who-said-what)
- Be patient with others
- Questions/contributions in plenary: use Slido

slido

#SCOCOMM

What will we cover today?



Communication in the spotlight

Arkam Ograk, communication expert



Getting SCO through – reflections



SCOs are about **CHANGE OF MINDSET**



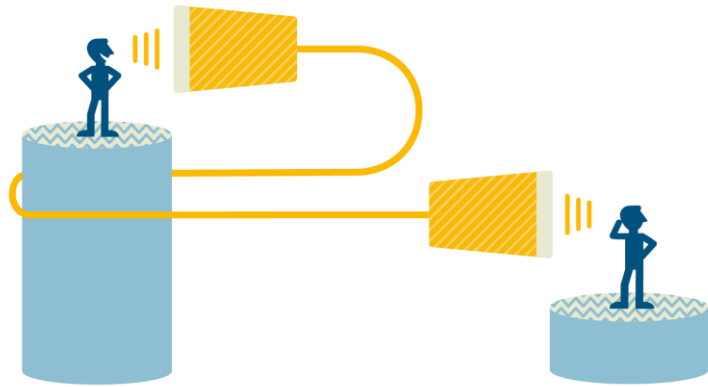
- Focus on activities and results (result-based financing)
- No tracing of every EUR of expenditure – real costs underlying the expenditure reported based on SCOs are not checked!



*SCOs do not cancel eligibility rules!
(EU, programme, national rules)*



SCOs are about ...



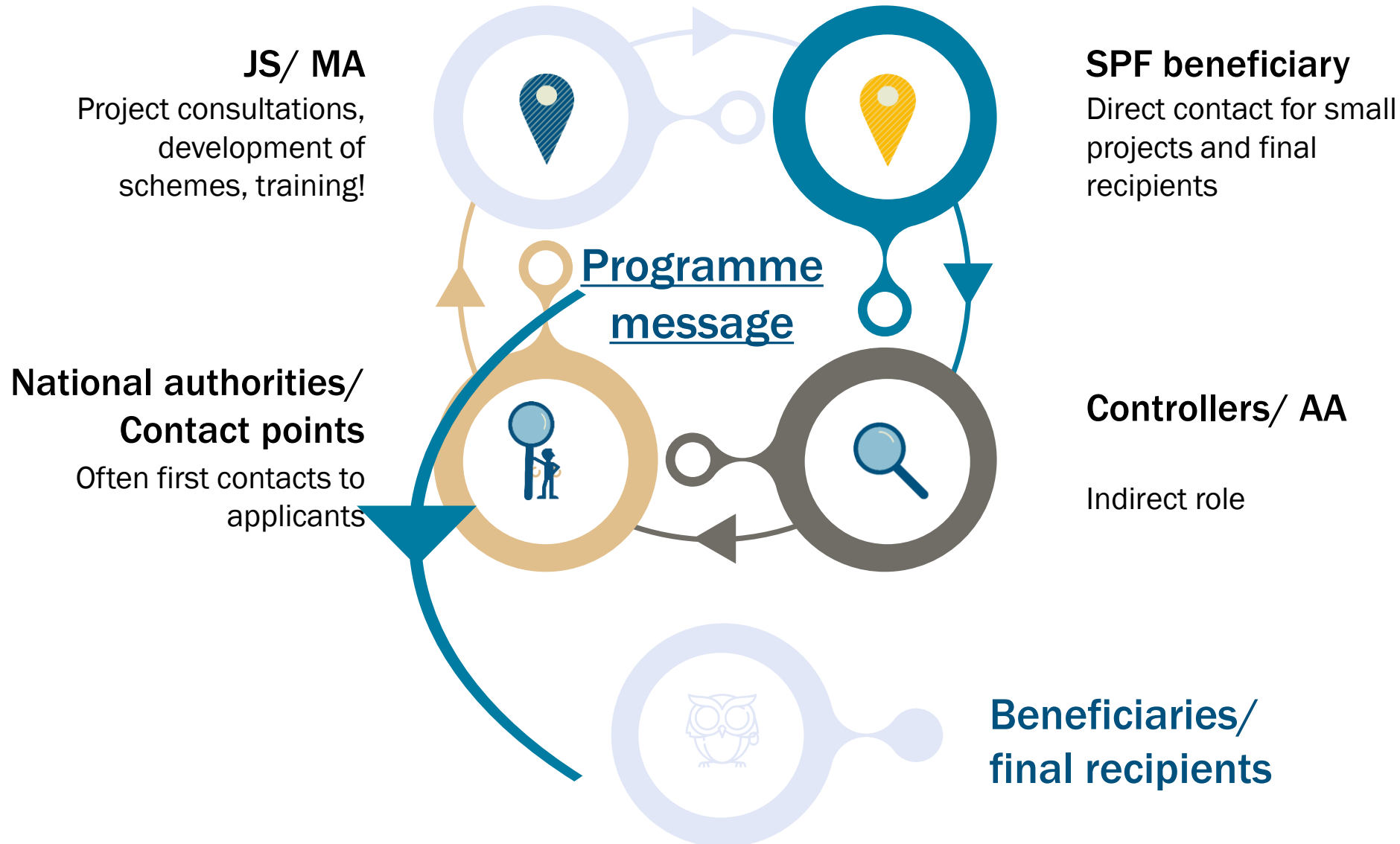
- Over-compensation/ under-compensation
 - Costs reported to the programme under SCOs will not match the actual expenditure registered in the bookkeeping system of the beneficiary!
1. *Actual amounts in the bookkeeping system of a beneficiary linked to an SCO are not relevant for the verification of the SCO!*
 2. *Beneficiary is not required to provide any evidence that the amount received for an SCO was actually spent on expenses covered by the SCO!*

Why is it important to communicate SCOs?

- SCOs are still a *relatively* new concept in some programmes/for newcomers;
- Programme authorities should be on the same page when it comes to SCOs to make them work;
- If applicants don't understand SCOs and don't want to use them, there is no point for programmes to spend time developing SCOs methodologies;
- SCOs are *one* of the ways to foster and promote simplification and reduce the administrative burden of structural funds.



Who's involved?



Communicate SCO through...

Training, seminars,
workshops, webinars
(F2F, online)

Programme
documents
(manuals, videos, mock-
up examples, brochures...)

Programme website
(+ FAQ, Q&As threads)

Social media to
promote SCOs

Central Baltic, Guidance videos



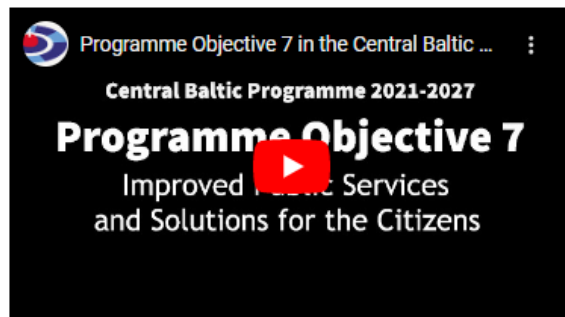
Programme Objectives 3-5

- 3. Joint circular economy solutions
- 4. Improved coastal and marine environment
- 5. Decreased CO2 emissions



Programme Objective 6

- 6. Improved employment opportunities



Programme Objective 7

- 7. Improved public services



Simplified Cost Options - what are they?

FAQ

MED

- Jems 10
- Missions and objectives 9
- Partnership 33
- Project budget 24**

Regarding travel budget, why does Jems add automatically 22% of staff costs to the flat rate? When it is for EU locations the system indicates 15%. So is it possible for Jems user to change in this case 22% to 15%?

Are there specific thresholds related to specific budget lines/categories (ie 15% for equipment, 30% for external expertise and services etc.)?

The « External expertise and services » budget heading is recommended not to exceed 50% of the partner total eligible budget. Please, also note that travel and accommodation costs of associated partners should be reported in this heading.

For cost categories using simplified costs option, the thresholds are the following: lump sum of 37.000€ for preparation costs, Flat rate of 15% of eligible costs for the calculation of office and administrative expenditure, Flat rate of 15% (for EU partners) or 22% (for partners from IPA countries) of eligible staff costs for the calculation of travel and accommodation, when the flat rate option is chosen for this cost category.

ASP



About us ▾ For project applicants ▾ For project partners ▾ Our results ▾

News & Events ▾

Simplified costs options (flat rates and lump sum)

WHAT IF I FORGOT BY MISTAKE TO TICK E.G. THE FLAT RATE FOR "OFFICE AND ADMINISTRATION" OR FOR "TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS" IN THE AF. CAN THIS BE CHANGED/CORRECTED LATER (AFTER APPROVAL)? ▾

WILL THE 40% FLAT RATE ALSO COVER THE "OFFICE AND ADMINISTRATION COSTS" OR ARE THEY IN ADDITION? ▾

CAN ONE PARTNER USE DIFFERENT COST COMBINATION OPTIONS FOR DIFFERENT PROJECTS? ▾

IS THE BUDGET SIMULATOR PROVIDED ON PROGRAMME LEVEL AN OBLIGATORY TOOL? ▾

Belgium – the Netherlands, SCOs Compass

Kostenrubriek	Vul in: geplande kosten
Personeelskosten	10.00
Externe kosten	10.00

Kostenrubriek	Vul in: ja of neen
Optie overheadforfait	ja
Optie reis- en verblijfskostenforfait	ja

Kostenrubriek	Vul in: geplande voorbereidingskosten
Voorbereidingskosten	10.00

Financiële impact

	Personeel Plus40	Hybride	Extern Plus7	Extern Plus20
Voorbereidingskosten <i>zie programmareglement 4.6.a.</i>	voorbereidingskost 10.00			
Personeelskosten <i>zie programmareglement 4.6.b.</i>	Standaard uurtarief, vast uurtarief 10.00			20% forfait 10.00
Reis- en verblijfskosten <i>zie programmareglement 4.6.d.</i>		1,5% forfait 10.00		
Overhead <i>zie programmareglement 4.6.c.</i>		15% forfait 10.00	7% forfait 10.00	15% forfait 10.00
Externe kosten <i>zie programmareglement 4.6.e.</i>	40% forfait 10.00	reëel 10.00		
Totaal budget	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

Administratieve voor- en nadelen

	Personeel Plus40	Hybride	Extern Plus7	Extern Plus20
Administratie voor personeelskosten (o.m. urenregistratie)	Bewijslast vereist			Geen bewijslast nodig
Administratie voor externe kosten (o.m. facturen, aanbestedingsdossiers, marktoormiteit van prijs aantonen)	Geen bewijslast nodig	Bewijslast vereist		
Controledruk	Relatief laag	Relatief hoog		Gemiddeld
Risico op verwerpingen (wegens aard van de kosten)	Relatief laag	Relatief hoog		Gemiddeld
Betalingstermijn (indicatief)	Maximaal 45 dagen	Maximaal 80 dagen		
Op maat van welk type project	Werkingsprojecten met relatief weinig externe kosten	Reële kosten waarvan relatief veel personeelskosten	Reële kosten waarvan relatief veel externe kosten	Investeringsprojecten met relatief weinig personeelskosten
Samenvatting	Grote administratieve vereenvoudiging	Administratieve onderbouwing nodig van de meeste kosten	Administratieve onderbouwing nodig van de meeste kosten	Administratieve vereenvoudiging

When to communicate SCOs?

Before

Design

Approval

Promoti-
on and
dissemin
ation

Application
asesment
and
approval

Implement
ation,
control,
getting
paid

After

Feedback from applicants

Group work

Let's put theory into practice!



Group work – 30 mins

Case: you organised training about SCO's for lead partners.

Instructions

- Work in groups (switch on your camera and mic!);
- appoint a rapporteur;
- select 2 SCO's;
- discuss and note for each SCO (putting into practice what you heard today):
 - selling points;
 - points of attention;
 - tricky parts.
- Report in the plenary: Arkam – your lead partner.



Group work - RESULTS



Find selling points, points of attention, risks for different types of SCO's and how to communicate them to applicants [in this file](#) (groups work results combined).

Experiences with communicating SCO's

Let's learn from each other!



Programmes sharing experience

1. [ASP](#) – lessons learned from the feedback collection on SCOs (from beneficiaries and controllers) and simplification measures when preparing a new programme
2. [Pille Laaksonen](#) (CB) – lessons learned from cooperation with AA when developing SCOs
3. [Peter Racz](#) (NSR) – Communication of SCOs to applicants in the 1st call for proposals
4. [Jean-Philippe Odeurs](#) (EMR) – Guiding applicants on SCOs
5. [Johanna Bähn](#) (BE national authority) – What if stakeholders resist taking up an SCO?



Wrap-up and Closure

What's coming?



Recommendations

Online Learning Platform (OLP) – Course Catalogue – Soft skills

3 courses



**Introduction to
designing
presentations**

Estimated Time: 45
minutes



**Introduction to
facilitation skills**

Estimated Time: 45
minutes



**Making your writing
work**

Estimated Time: 1 hour

New course on SCOs is out!

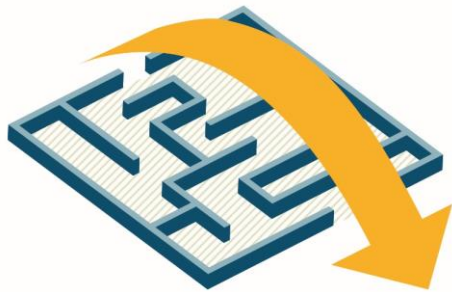
All you need to know about SCOs in 2021-2027



- Learn about novelties in SCOs in 2021-2027;
- find out about different ways to establish SCOs;
- learn from the programme's experience of working with SCOs;
- learn how to verify and audit each type of SCOs;
- discover where to find more information on the particular topics of SCOs.

Manual on the draft budget method

Briefing note



- One-stop-shop for programme and applicants;
- draft budget method in the project life cycle;
- roles and responsibilities;
- overarching principles and reflections;
- practical recommendations.

Calendar for autumn – more on our [website](#)



- 12 September – Investments & ... Climate resilience (online)
- 22 September - Programme closure 2014-2020 (online)
- 3 November – 7th CBC finance network meeting (online)
- 8-9 November – Bi-annual SCO's event (Prague)
- 8 December – TN/INT finance network meeting (online)
- + Potential online peer-reviews of SCO's methodologies!

Interreg SCOs 2021-2027

End of August 2022 – only 26 programmes provided data

Interreg SCOs 2021-2027 - Collection

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Interreg SCOs 2021-2027						
2	version	May, 2022					
3	For each SCO, please use a separate row!						
4	Interreg programme	Contact person	Type of SCO	Describe an SCO/ amount/ %	Level of application	Type of projects covered	Use
5	<i>Choose from the drop-down list (order: CBC, TN, INT, IPA CBC, ENI CBC)</i>	<i>Indicate a contact person (and email) for SCOs in your programme</i>	<i>Choose from the drop-down list. 'OTS' = off-the-shelf SCO IR = Interreg Regulation</i>	<i>also, specify if 'Other SCO' was selected in the previous column. e.g., EUR 10 000 lump sum for preparation costs, 5% flat rate for travel and accommodation costs for all partners</i>	<i>EU - programme SCO - new level in 2021-2027 (SCO should be described in the Annex to an Interreg programme) Programme - beneficiary level - "usual" use of SCOs</i>	<i>Please indicate type(s) of projects covered by an SCO (e.g., all, regular projects, small projects of SPF, small-scale projects, etc.)</i>	<i>Mandatory or optional (also specify, if different for different types of projects)</i>
6							
7	(Interreg VI-A) Germany/Mecklenburg Western Pomerania/BrandenburgPoland ▾	Björn Gabler (b.gabler@wm.mv-regierung.de)	Programme-specific SCO based on fair, equitable and verifiable method, Article 53(3)(a) CPR ▾	13.200€ lump sum for preparation costs (per project / only LP)	Programme - beneficiary SCO, Article 53 CPR ▾	regular projects ▾	Project can choose to take it or to not take it. In the latter case projects are not allowed to report preparation costs
8	(Interreg VI-A) Germany/Mecklenburg Western Pomerania/BrandenburgPoland ▾	Björn Gabler (b.gabler@wm.mv-regierung.de)	Flat rate - up to 40% of direct staff costs to cover the remaining eligible costs, Article 56(1) CPR (OTS) ▾		Programme - beneficiary SCO, Article 53 CPR ▾	regular projects ▾	optional
9	(Interreg VI-A) Germany/Mecklenburg Western Pomerania/BrandenburgPoland ▾	Björn Gabler (b.gabler@wm.mv-regierung.de)	Flat rate travel and accommodation - up to 15 % of the direct staff costs, Article 41(5) IR (OTS) ▾	4% flat rate for German project partners and 6% flat rate for Polish project partners	Programme - beneficiary SCO, Article 53 CPR ▾	regular projects ▾	optional
10	(Interreg VI-A) Germany/Mecklenburg Western Pomerania/BrandenburgPoland ▾	Björn Gabler (b.gabler@wm.mv-regierung.de)	Flat rate for staff costs - up to 20 % of the direct costs other than the direct staff costs, Article 39(3)(c) IR (OTS) ▾	10% for partners with costs for infrastructure and works (CC6) and 20% for partners without costs for infrastructure and works (CC6).	Programme - beneficiary SCO, Article 53 CPR ▾	regular projects ▾	optional

Stay in touch!



Please fill in our evaluation survey – link in chat!

Thank you in advance for taking the time!



Join our e-Interreg SCOs community

sco@interact-eu.net

Cooperation works

All materials will be available on:

[**www.interact-eu.net**](http://www.interact-eu.net)

