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Basic Rules and Procedures of the First Call

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1. Programme basics



Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE is a transnational cooperation programme of the European Territorial Cooperation objective 2014-2020

Programme area: Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany (parts), Hungary, Italy (parts), Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia

Population: 146 Million people



Goal:



Cooperating beyond borders in central Europe to make our cities and regions better places to live and work.



€ 246 Million ERDF (European Regional Development Fund)

Managing authority: City of Vienna (AT)

1. Programme basics



CENTRAL EUROPE - Territorial needs

Cooperating beyond borders in central Europe to make our cities and regions better places to live and work

Priority axis 1
Cooperating on innovation to make CENTRAL EUROPE more competitive

Specific objective 1.1

To improve sustainable linkages among actors of the innovation systems for strengthening regional innovation capacity in central Europe

Specific objective 1.2

To improve skills and entrepreneurial competences for advancing economic and social innovation in central European regions

Priority axis 2
Cooperating on low-carbon strategies in CENTRAL EUROPE

Specific objective 2.1

To develop and implement solutions for increasing energy efficiency and renewable energy usage in public infrastructures

Specific objective 2.2

To improve territorially based low carbon energy planning strategies and policies supporting climate change mitigation

Specific objective 2.3

To improve capacities for mobility planning in functional urban areas to lower CO2 emissions

Priority axis 3
Cooperating on natural and cultural resources for sustainable growth in CENTRAL EUROPE

Specific objective 3.1

To improve integrated environmental management capacities for the protection and sustainable use of natural heritage and resources

Specific objective 3.2

To improve capacities for the sustainable use of cultural heritage and resources

Specific objective 3.3

To improve environmental management of functional urban areas to make them more liveable places

Priority axis 4
Cooperating on transport to better connect CENTRAL EUROPE

Specific objective 4.1

To improve planning and coordination of regional passenger transport systems for better connections to national and European transport networks

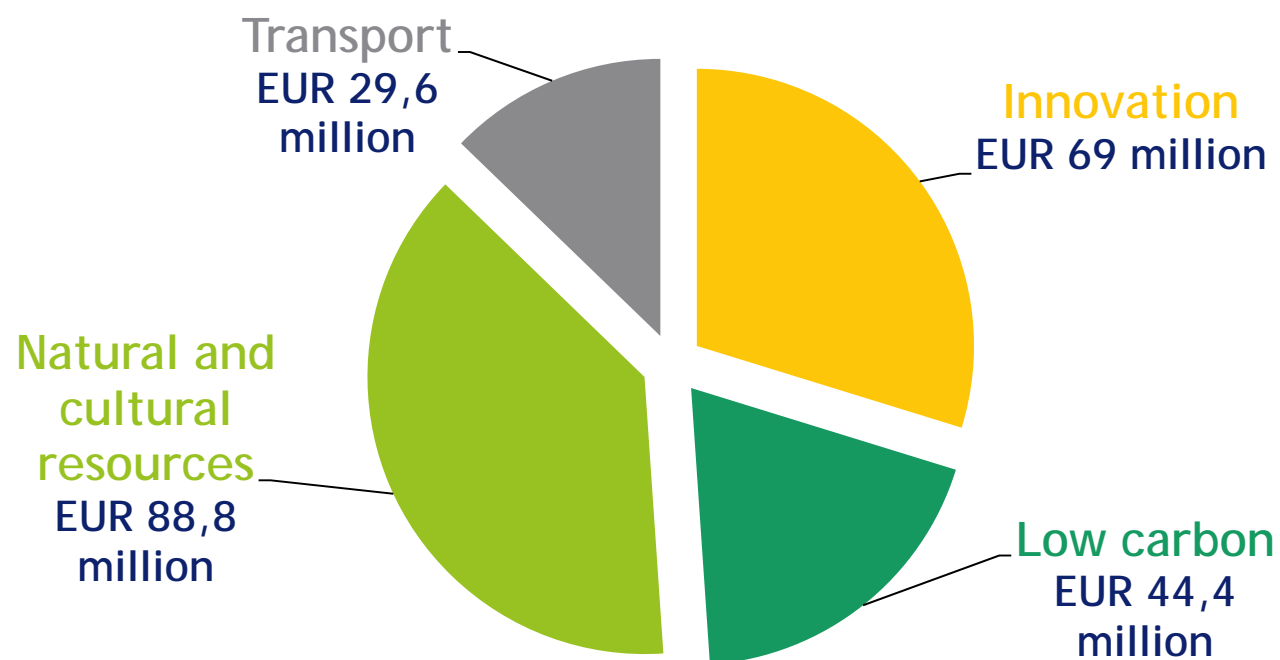
Specific objective 4.2

To improve coordination among freight transport stakeholders for increasing multimodal environment-friendly freight solutions

1. Programme basics



Programme budget



ERDF co-financing rates

- 85 % (CZ, HR, HU, PL, SK, SI)
- 80 % (AT, DE, IT)

1. Programme basics



Who we support

- Public institutions
- Private institutions
- International organisations

- Private bodies can be lead partners in **all programme priorities**
- Private lead applicants must fulfil **minimum financial capacity requirements** (self-assessment tool)



2. First call basics



Budget: Up to EUR 80 million (ERDF)



Themes: All programme priorities
All programme specific objectives



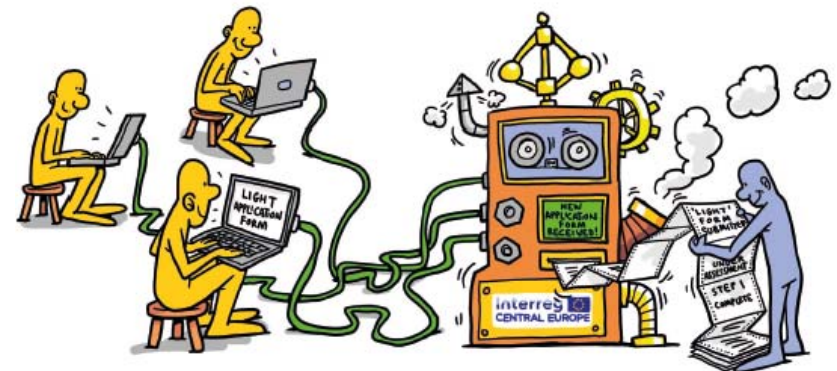
Procedure: Competitive two-step call



Submission: Online application form

Launch (step1): 12 February 2015

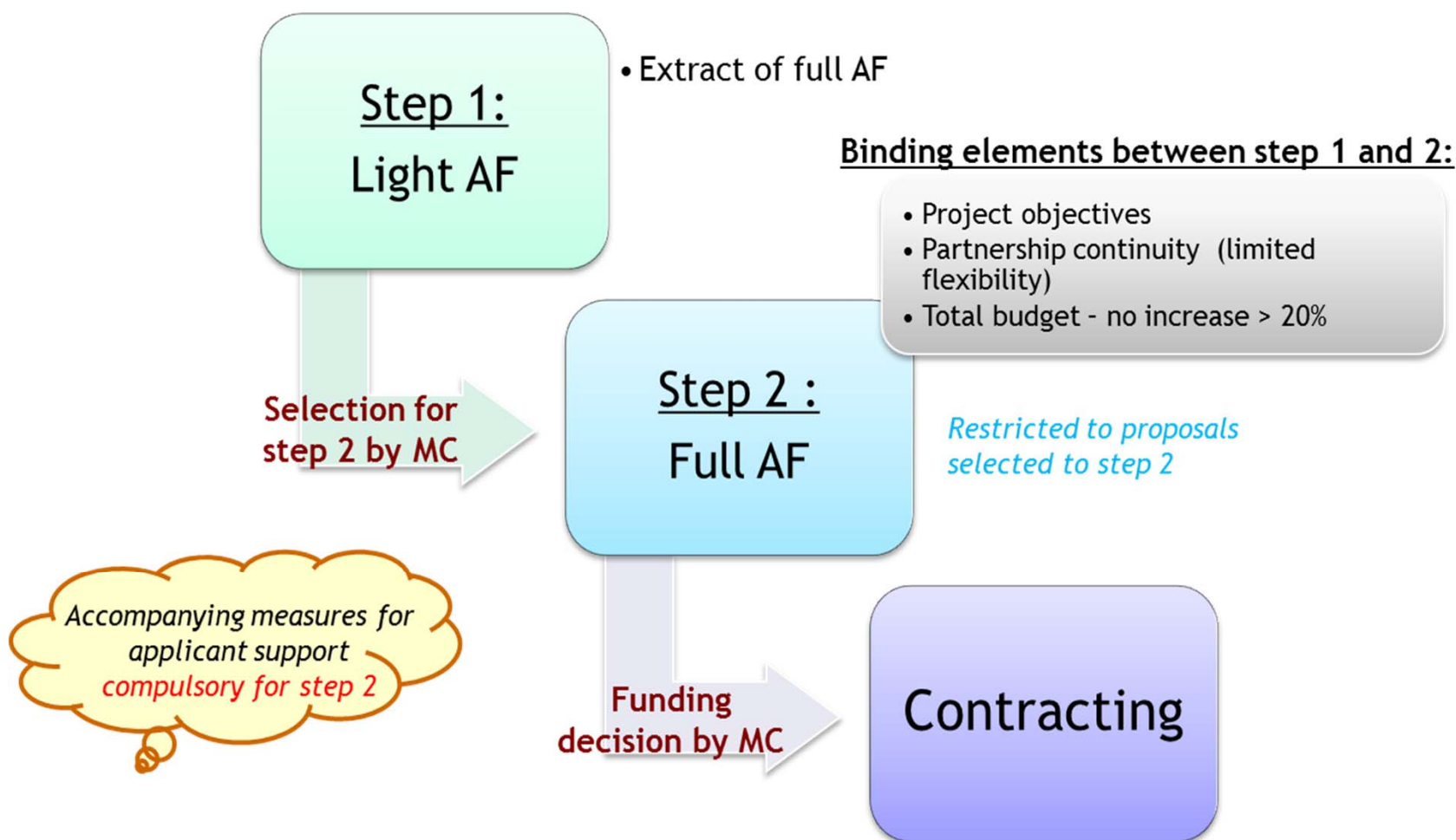
Closure (step 1): 13 April 2015



2. First call basics



The procedure



2. First call basics



Provisional timeline

Milestone	(Provisional) Timeline
Launch of first call (step 1)	12 February 2015
Closure of step 1	13 April 2015
Result of assessment of step 1 and launch of step 2	Possibly before summer break 2015 (depending on number of applications)
Closure of step 2	After 60 calendar days (autumn 2015)
Funding decision and contracting	Early 2016



2. First call basics



Project features



At least **three financing partners from three countries**:

at least two of them located in the programme area

Recommended **maximum size of partnership**:

up to 12 partners: reflecting project scope but remain manageable (larger partnerships not excluded if justified)



Recommended **financial size**:

EUR 1 to 5 million total project budget (smaller or larger projects acceptable in exceptional cases)



Recommended **project duration**:

30 to 36 months (up to maximum 48 months)

2. First call basics



How to submit

- Only through the CENTRAL EUROPE electronic Monitoring System (eMS)



<https://ems.interreg-central.eu>

No submission of hard copies

3. First call assessment



Formal/administrative requirements (step 1)

Minimum eligibility criteria	Checked when and by
Submission of the proposal before the deadline	Real-time (eMS)
Application form completed in all its parts	Real-time (eMS)
Application form filled-in in English language	After submission (JS)
Minimum partnership requirements (3 partners from 3 countries, at least 2 of them in CE regions)*	Real-time (eMS)*
Lead applicant cannot be in regions outside CE area*	Real-time (eMS)
Lead applicant cannot be an international organisation acting under international law	Real-time (eMS)
Lead applicant declaration is filled-in in the programme template without any modification	Availability: real-time (eMS) Contents: after submission (JS)
Lead applicant declaration is signed	After submission (JS)

** Exceptions apply*

3. First call assessment



Healing of formal/administrative mistakes

- Healing can be made on formal/administrative mistakes concerning issues other than the ones as in the previous slide (following desk-checks carried out by the JS)
- The JS launches the healing procedure by sending a written request to the lead applicant
- The lead applicant has 5 working days for providing correct documents through eMS upload
- If the lead applicant fails to upload on eMS the corrected documents within 5 working days, the proposal becomes non-eligible

3. First call assessment



Step 1 - quality assessment of strategic criteria only

RELEVANCE



- To programme intervention logic
- To challenges/ needs of programme area
- Transnational added value

PARTNERSHIP



- Partnership relevance and suitability
- Transnational cooperation character

3. First call assessment



Step 2 - quality assessment of strategic and operational criteria

Strategic assessment criteria



RELEVANCE

- To programme intervention logic
- To territorial challenges/ needs of participating regions
- Coherence with policies, horizontal principles
- Transnational added value and innovative character, synergies



PARTNERSHIP

- Partnership relevance and suitability
- Transnational cooperation character

Operational assessment criteria



IMPLEMENTATION

- Methodology
- Work plan: structure, consistency, transparency
- Sustainability and transferability
- Management
- Communication



BUDGET

- Value for money
- Coherence with work plan and partner involvement

4. Continuity requirements



Continuity requirements from step 1 to step 2

- Project (main and specific) objectives cannot be changed
- Changes of lead applicants are not allowed
- Changes of partners are limited:
 - Partnerships of 3-5 project partners (in step 1)
→ max 1 partner change allowed
 - Partnerships of 6-10 project partners (in step 1)
→ max 2 partner changes allowed
 - For partnerships of more than 10 project partners (in step 1)
→ max 3 partner changes allowed
- Limited flexibility of budget changes: increases of more than 20 % of the total budget as in step 1 are not allowed.

Contact



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