





# Lead Partner Seminar Call Euro-MED05

September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Online meeting



**Agenda** 

9h30 – 09h40 Welcome and introduction from Joint Secretariat

Presentation of the Programme bodies and architecture

9h40 – 10h15 Presentation of each Mission scope and Activities

10h15 – 10h30 Implementing my project

Project management roles and principles

Precontracting phase, Contracting process, Project start-up

10' break

Introduction to the Reporting process

Partner reporting, Project reporting, Daily Monitoring

11h10 – 12h00 **Focus on finance** 

Financial flow, National Control

Key aspects of the declaration of expenditure and eligibility of costs

12h00 – 12h20 Communication and the different tools available

Presentation of the tools provided by the Programme: websites, Basecamp, dashboard, etc.

Branding and guidelines (logos, posters)
Communication objectives and activities

Communication monitoring

12h20 – 12h30 Conclusion and reminder on next steps









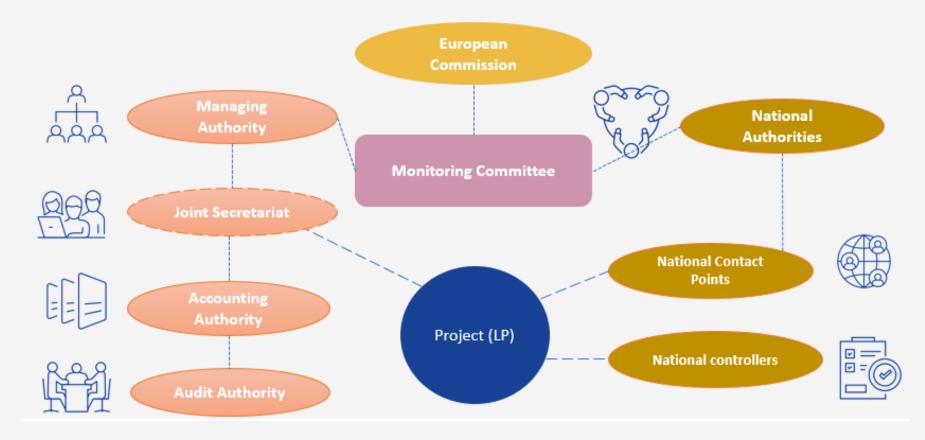


# Introduction

Presentation of the Programme bodies and architecture Presentation of Governance projects Overview of ongoing thematic projects



# **Programme Bodies**





## **Joint Secretariat staff**



Joint Secretariat Lyonel Sophie **Resources Coordination Unit Project Unit** Guillaume Isabelle Agathe Pascale Judith Axel Christoph Ludivine Massimo Zsofia James Giulia Grégoire































Céline



Thibaud

Florian





https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/team-js/

# **Programme Architecture**

# THE Interreg Euro-MED PROGRAMME

Supports and funds











project turns each mission's results into

policy-making.



#### MEDITERRANEAN AND EUROPEAN STAKEHOLDERS



Programmes: Interreg & more



Strategies and Initiatives



European Commission





# Update on Programme implementation

### **8 Governance Projects**

Calls 01 & 03

7-year projects - Started Jan. 2023

Community4Innovation



Dialogue4Innovation

Community4Nature



Dialogue4Nature

Community4LivingAreas



Dialogue4LivingAreas

Community4Tourism



Dialogue4Tourism

#### 88 Thematic projects

Calls 02 + 04 + 05

56 projects Call 02 - Started Jan. 2024

23 projects Call 04 – Started April 2025

9 projects Call 05 – Starting Sept. 2025









8 study

**57 Test** 

14 Transfer

9 STP







25



23

SO1.1: 15 SO2.6: 8

SO 2.4: 10

18

SO 2.4: 25 SO2.7: 8

22

SO1.1: 4 SO2.4: 7

SO2.6: 5

SO2.7: 6





# 8 Governance Projects (started Jan. 2023)

# **4 Thematic Community**



Community4Innovation



Community4Nature



Community4LivingAreas



Community4Tourism

The Thematic Community projects aim to build a community among thematic projects and facilitate resource transfers to stakeholders, focusing on technical and strategic content

# 4 Institutional Dialogue



Dialogue4Innovation



Dialogue4Nature



Dialogue4LivingAreas



Dialogue4Tourism

The Institutional Dialogue projects aim to amplify the transfer of policies by fostering focused dialogue among policymakers and their stakeholders, focusing on policy improvement and transformation





# Compulsory activities: Coordination with Governance Projects

#### At least ...



F2F meetings



Joint events



Training material
<a href="Interreg Euro-MED Academy">Interreg Euro-MED Academy</a>
<a href="(interreg-euro-med-academy.eu">(interreg-euro-med-academy.eu</a>)

Institutional Dialogue Projects



Thematic Projects



Thematic Community Projects







Reference documents:
Programme Manual
Terms of Reference





# 88 ongoing Thematic projects

Innovative Sustainable economy

Natural heritage

**Green Living Areas** 

Sustainable Tourism



#### CALL02

2B-Blue **AZA4ICE BLUE ECOSYSTEM CARBON FARMING MED CircleMED** 

Clepsydra

**eWAsTER** 

**GREENSMARTMED** OliveOilMedNet

**ProcuraMED** 

**REPper** 

**REVIVE** 

**SPOWIND** 

**VERDEINMED** 



**AquaBioNets BIOSTARS CirBioWaste SOLE MED** Reconnect

#### CALL05

**EcoMedIslands** IDRON **SHARE-MedWATER** Watervill



**ARTEMIS CARBON 4 SOIL QUALITY COASTRUST** 

**FRED** 

**Germ of Life** 

**GreenList4MMPAs** 

LocAll4Flood

MedSeaRise

**MPA4Change** 

StrategyMedFor

**TREASURE** 

**WE GO COOP** 

Wetland4Change

#### CALL04

**INCORE-MED MIRAMAR RENFORCE** 

RedeeM Wat[H]ER



**ArtMED BauNOW** 

**BAUHAUS4MED RE-ACT Schools** CO2 PACMAN

E-MED

**EnerCmed** 

**GARDEN** 

**GREENMO** 

**INFIRE** 

LOGREENER

**MED COLOURS** 

**NUDGES** 

**ProLIGHTmed** 

**RECINMED** 

**ReMED** 

**RENEWPORT** 

**RuralMED Mobility** 

**Streets for Citizens** 

**URWAN** 



#### CALL04

**Green B-LEAF HEATSAFE** 

RealUrbanGreen MAST

**UrbanGreenLeap MedDiet Go** 

#### CALL05

MED H2



#### CALL02

**COOL NOONS HERIT ADAPT** LIBECCIO

**MED-GIAHS** 

**MED-Routes** 

NaTour4CChange RECIRCLE MED

**SMITour** 

**TOURISMO** 

#### CALL04

**AQUAMAN** DarkSkyTour **ECO-SEAROUTES** 

**GreenSET** 

**INSPIRE** 

**MED4REGEN** 

**PortCREW** 

Regenera4MED

TO CARE MED



**LooP Zone WATERISE** 





# Innovative sustainable economy mission: 23 projects

15 under S.O.1.1 Research & Innovation 8 under S.O. 2.6 Circular economy

Marine resources

**Resources** valorisation

**Industrial Transition** 

Agri-food systems

2B-BLUE
Blue Ecosystem
SpoWind
AZA4Ice
AquaBioNets
Reconnect

eWAsTER
VERDEINMED
REPper
CIrBioWaste
EcoMedIslands
SHARE-MedWATER

GreenSmartMed
CircleMED
ProcuraMED
Revive
BIOSTARS
Sole MED
WATERVILL

Clepsydra
OliveOilMedNet
Carbon Farming Med
IDRON







# Natural Heritage mission: 16 projects

10 under S.O.2.4 Climate change 8 under S.O. 2.7 Nature & Biodiversity protection

Risk Management & Resilience

Coastal / sea environment

Wetlands

Climate Change adaptation

LocAll4Flood MedSeaRise FRED Germ of Life TREASURE RENFORCE Wat[H]ER

ARTEMIS
COASTRUST
GreenList4MMPAs
INCORE-MED

Wetland4Change WE GO COOP

MPA4Change MIRAMAR RedeeM

**Carbon removal** 

**Forests** 

CARBON 4 SOIL OUALITY

StrategyMedFor







# Green Living Areas mission 25 projects under S.O.2.4 Climate Change

**Mobility** 

**Energy** 

Urban planning & finance

Nature Based solutions & Water management

ArtMED
E-MED
GREENMO
GARDEN
RuralMED Mobility
MED COLOURS
Street for Citizens

RENEWPORT
NUDGES
ProLIGHTmed
EnerCmed
RECinMED
HEATSAFE

ReMED
INFIRE
BauNOW
LOGREENER
CO2 PACMAN
BAUHAUS4MED

URWAN
RE-ACT-Schools
UrbanGreenLeap
RealUrbanGreen
Green B-LEAF
MED H2







# Sustainable Tourism mission: 20 projects

4 under S.O.1.1 Research & Innovation; 7 under S.O. 2.4 Climate change 5 under S.O. 2.6 Circular economy; 6 under S.O. 2.7 Nature & biodiversity protection

Innovation & technology capacitities

Climate change adaptation

**Circular Economy** 

Nature & Biodiversity

LIBECCIO MedDiet Go SMITour TOURISMO COOL NOONS
HERIT ADAPT
NaTour4CChange
MED4REGEN
AQUAMAN
Regenera4MED
WATERISE

MAST
MEDROUTES
RECIRCLE MED
GreenSET
Loop Zone

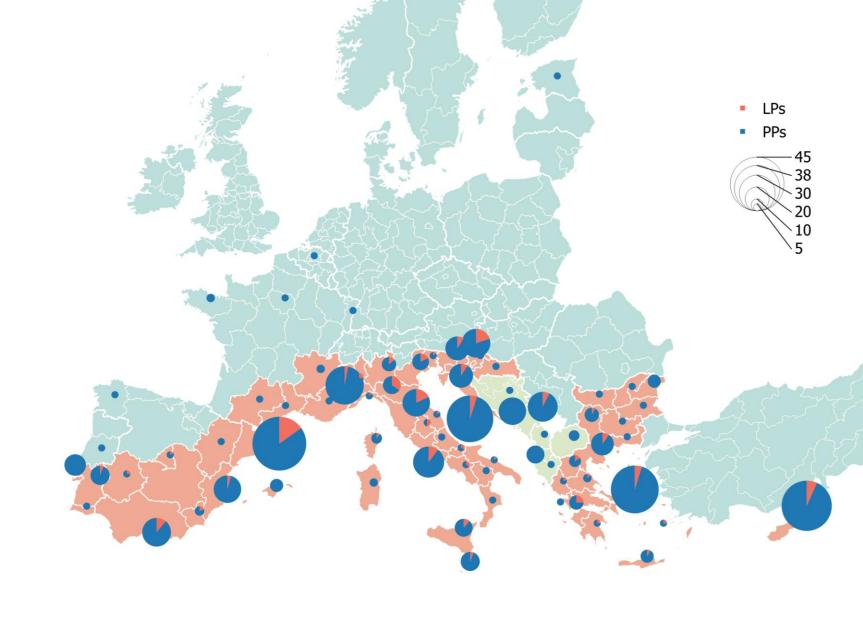
MED-GIAHS
INSPIRE
TO CARE MED
DarkSkyTour
PortCREW
ECO-SEAROUTES







# LPs and PPs per region in the 5 Calls







500

























# Implementing my project

Project management roles and principles
Precontracting phase, Contracting process, Project start-up



### Starting my project In a nutshell





# Project management team

#### Who are they?

#### **Lead Partner**

- **project coordinator** thematic coordination and mobilising the partnership
- financial manager financial monitoring and management of the project budget

#### **Project partner**

- project coordinator responsibility
- **contribution** to project activities and reports toward the LP





National Controller

#### Other key profiles

- **communication officer** project communication activities, collaboration with the thematic community
- **coordinator for result amplification -** actively participate in the activities of the thematic community, ensure transferability of project productions, RAS within the PPs
- coordinator for carbon footprint strategy for the reduction of the project's carbon footprint, ensures that project activities are designed to minimize emissions;, use of the calculation tool,
- Data Controller and Data Protection Officer legal obligation









#### LP duties

Operating an efficient and reliable **management** and **coordination** system including administrative and <u>financial management</u>

- efficient and participative decision-making process Steering Committee
- ensuring the respect of the sound financial management principle in the whole partnership
- ensuring the respect of European and National legislation and EU principles during and after the implementation of the project
- monitoring the financial performance of the project and managing the decommitment risk
- report all irregularity detected and operating an **anti-fraud system** in the project
- respect the **deadlines** of the reporting process
- check all expenditure's compliance to the project before their declaration to the JS
- consult and inform the JS in case of modification of the project





#### What should I not miss as LP?

- Clear objectives
- Mutual responsibility: Joint development & implementation
- Get informed and inform!
- Establish effective procedures for :
  - Coordination & decision-making
  - Financial management-reporting
- Clear and defined roles and responsibilities
- Contribute to Results Amplification Strategy
- Cooperate with Governance Projects







# **Project management**Project Partners duties

Operating an efficient and reliable management system including administrative and financial management

- participate in the decision making
- respect the sound financial management principle
- follow European and National legislation and EU principles during and after the implementation of the project
- notify the reception of funds
- hold a separate accounting system
- provide information to LP on activities and expenditures
- keep an adequate audit trail
- report all irregularity detected
- respect the **deadlines** of the reporting process
- consult and inform the LP in case of modification of the activities
- **be responsive** to all control





## **Key principles**

- Coordination
- Cooperation
- **Joint** development & implementation
- Co-decision and consensus/agreement among the partnership
- Effective and Smooth communication flow:
  - within the partnership
  - with your Project Officer!!!



- Legibility of actions and transparency
- Tracability (of activities, costs, etc...)
- Prevention of conflict of interests (RoP, external contracts awards, selection of third beneficiaries, etc...)
- Fight against fraud :
  - Programme commitment to Zero Tolerance
  - Whistle-blowing mechanisms
  - Whistleblowers protection



- Project contractual documents
- Partners awareness
- Use of EDES and ARACHNE
- « appropriate scepticism »







#### **Key documents**

- Consolidated Application Form + annexes for each PP
- Subsidy Contract signed by the LP and the MA + addendum
- Partnership Agreement signed by the LP and each PP + updated versions
- Payment claims validated by the LP on Jems + Control report and certificates
- Project reports
- Steering Committee Rules of procedures and Minutes/decisions
- Project material and key productions
- Audit trail related to costs + Task assignment templates

# Still have some doubts?

- Programme Manual
- Call Terms of Reference
- Guidelines for controller designation and control work
- Guidance on reporting process
- Basecamp User Manual
- WordPress User Manual
- Brandbook



#### **Key tools**

#### **JEMS - Monitoring tool**

- Workflows: application, contracting, reporting, project modification
- Support request to send to <u>support@interreg-euro-med.eu</u>
- Guidelines on the Programme website (NC/NA, PPs)





#### **BASECAMP - Cooperative work tool**

Support the daily work of partnership and JS

#### WEBSITE of the Programme (interreg-euro-med.eu)

List of contacts, Programme Manual, Guidelines, Templates, FAQ

#### **CARBON FOOTPRINT calculator (carbonfootprint.interreg-euro-med.eu)**

• Support the monitoring of the carbon footprint of the projects



# A cooperation project/Programme as a mindset!



Let's start!



# **Precontracting phase**

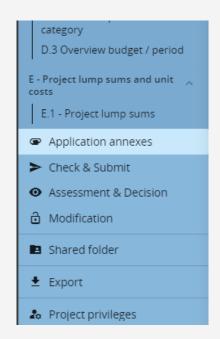
- Fulfillment of conditions determined by the Monitoring Committee
- Consolidation (clean-up) of the Application Form (key deliverables, indicators, budget adjustment, partner details, bank details, missing data on investments, clarification on potential state aid...)
- **Provision of updated/additional documentation** (partner declaration, international organisation declaration, partners outside the Programme area, statement of capacity and compliance with the principles for investment, assessment of expected impact of climate change... )

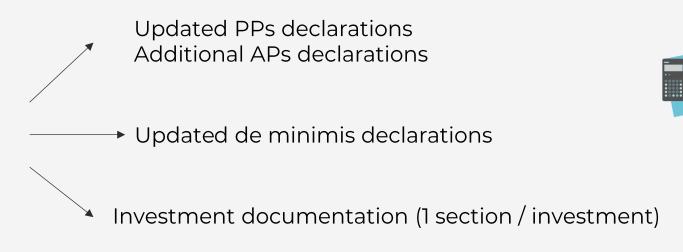




## **Precontracting phase**

#### LP must upload Key documents





Contracting ^

Contract monitoring

Contracts and key dates

Project managers

Project reporting schedule

Partner details

^

"Bank Account File (BAF)" filled in and signed

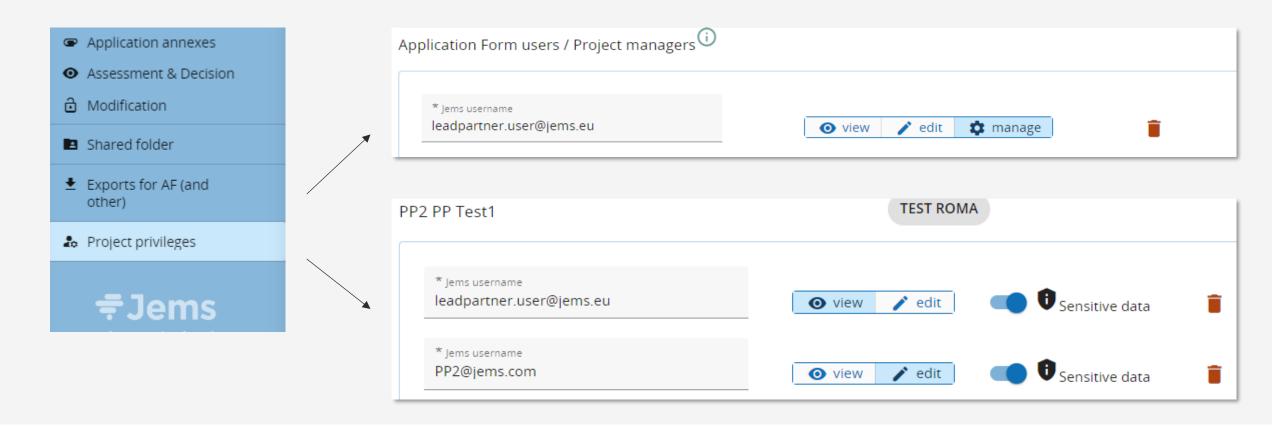




# **Precontracting phase**

### LP must grant « privileges »







## **Contracting phase**

#### Signature of contractual documents

- 1. <u>Partnership Agreement</u>: between LP and project partners
  - one page per partner
  - signed either by hand (wet ink) or electronically
  - must be uploaded by the LP on Jems
- 2. <u>Subsidy Contract</u>: between the LP and the Programme
  - in case of Electronic signature (with Adobe sign only): the JS sends it to the LP (no obligation for the LP to have a digital signature)
  - in case of wet ink signature: must be sent signed (in duplicate) to the JS by regular post
  - will be uploaded by the JS on Jems





## Project start up

#### **Preparation costs payment**

- No payment request needed. Automatically paid upon signature of the subsidy contract by both parties
- Total of 37.000 € project (29.600€ of Interreg Funds)

#### Selection of Controller Art. 74(1a) Reg (EU) 1060/2021 and 45(3) Reg (EU) 1059/2021

- **Centralised system :** Designated by National Authority. Partners must contact their NA to know their Controllers.
- **Decentralised system**: Partners must contact their National Authority <u>as soon as possible</u> to know how to designate and approve their Controllers.

#### **Project Steering Committee**

- 1st SC within 3 months after project start
- Upload the minutes on Basecamp

















# Introduction to the Reporting process

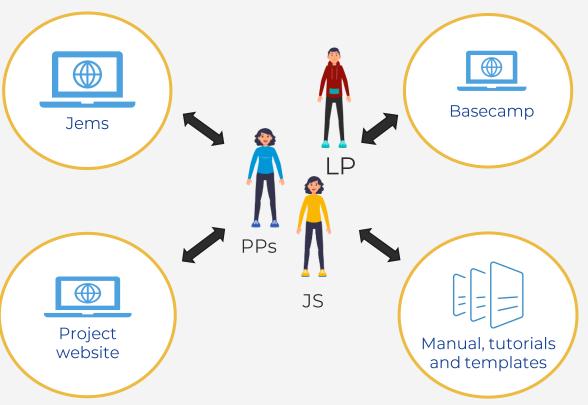
Partner reporting, Project reporting, Daily Monitoring

## Reporting procedure

### Tools and key's documents overview

#### **Activity and financial** reporting

- Partner Report
- Activity and Financial Reporting
- National Control Report and Certificate
- Submission of the Reporting Package
- JS Monitoring Coherence Check



#### Manual:

Section II. E Project reporting and Joint Secretariat monitoring

#### **Daily** monitoring

- Project exchanges
- Monitoring deliverables
- Main project management documents
- Carbon footprint reports
- Working documents
- Project interactions

#### **Guidance and standards** Communication

- key deliverables
- News, events, forms...
- Online questionnaire

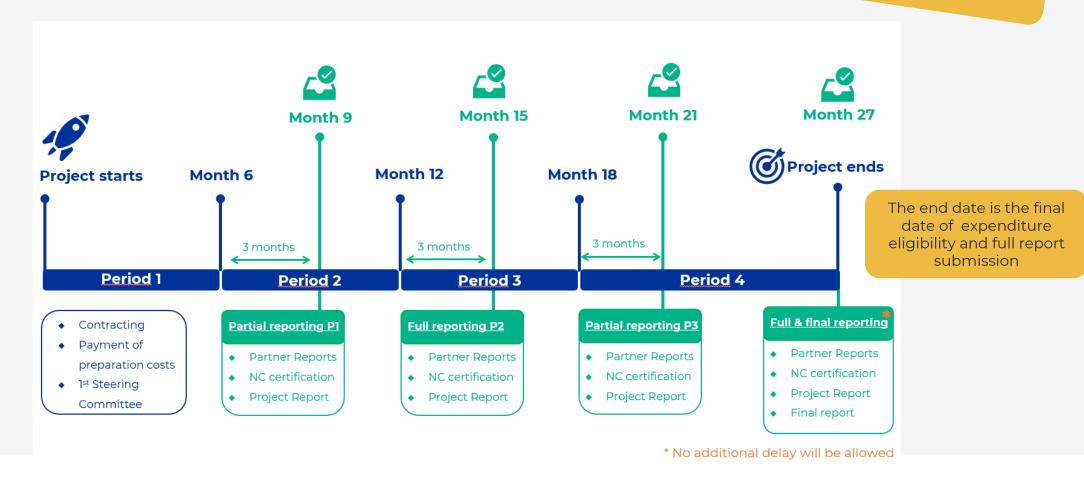
- Reporting procedures
- Ad-hoc tutorials
- Reporting on communication data
- Other specific JS requests



## **Project Reporting timeline**

Project implementation (example: 27 months project)

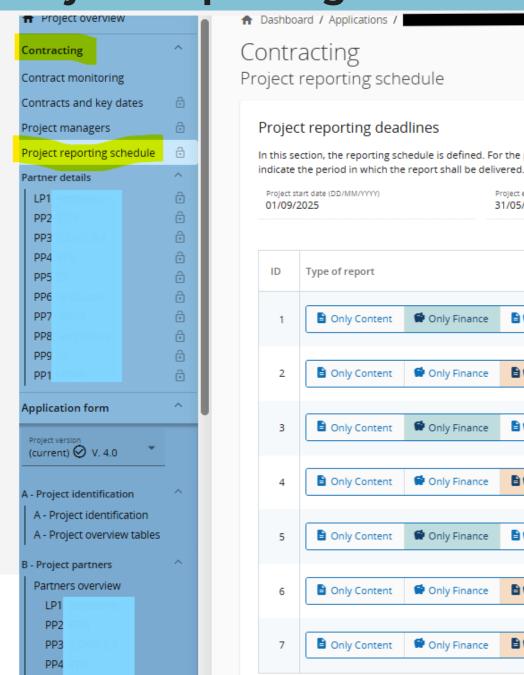
Monitoring meetings: to be defined depending on level of risk







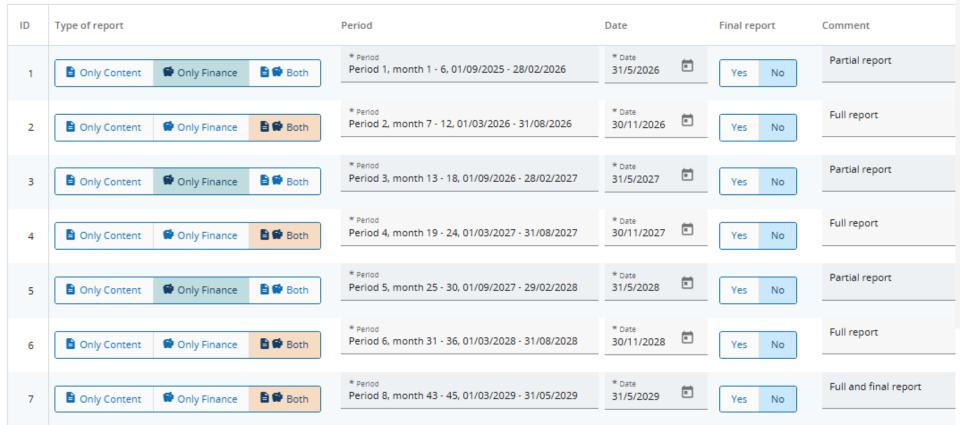
### **Project Reporting Schedule**





Project end date, calculated automatically (DD/MM/YYYY)

31/05/2029



Project duration in months

45

Jems

#### **Reporting Process**

#### Who does What?

Jems Nat

Each partner

• enters activities and expenditures on JEMS dedicated section by submitting the **Partner Report** 

Compulsory for all PPs claiming costs

during the reporting period

National Control

supporting documents, etc)

Starts the CONTROL WORK on JFMS.

(verification of expenditures, activities,

· Validates the expenditures and fill-in

the Control Checklist (and external

contract checklist if needed) in JEMS
Generates the Contract Certificate and



Jems

National Level\*

• For partners coming **Spain**, the expenditures certified by NC must be validated at national level through the submission of the MS checklist before their inclusion in a project payment claim.

Jems



**Lead Partner** 

- gathers all the NC's certificates and produce the reporting package (payment claim + project report) on JEMS
- submits to the JS within the deadlines mentioned in the Subsidy Contract



• leads recommandations or Financial corrections

Report

- verifies the project's reporting package,
- address to the LP in case of doubts
- prepares the MA Payment Order

**Managing Authority** 

- performs an additional control and ensures the precision of the payment claim
- ·validates the MA Payment Order
- •transfers the MA Payment Order to the Accounting Authority

#### **Accounting Authority**

- · Receives the payment order from MA
- sends the effective reimbursement of expenditures directly to the PP bank's account indicated on Jems





# Reporting procedure: general overview

Finalised versions of the key deliverables are uploaded on Jems by the LP during full report only

The JS validates the Key deliverables. Following a **peer review** by governance projects, key deliverables and outputs can be published on the **Programme library**.

The peer review can be made **during the project lifetime**; usually through basecamp (check with your mission community project)







#### **Reporting Process**

#### **Partial and full Reporting**

#### After each reporting period:

- Each partner claiming costs (including the LP) must submit in Jems:
  - At least 1 partner report
  - 1 National Control Certificate(s) and report (+ National Validation where needed)

The **Lead Partner** must submit in Jems a **REPORTING PACKAGE** composed of

- 1 project report :
  - Partial reporting (after periods 1, 3, 5....) > partial version of the project report
  - Full reporting > full version of the project report
- 1 payment claim
- A report on ineligible expenditures, if relevant
- The PPs "control package", (all documents related to the National certification of PPs expenditures).



### **Reporting Package**

### **Project report: Partial and Full reporting**

PARTIAL REPORTING	FULL REPORTING
Project report Identification	Project report Identification
	Work plan progress
	Project results and horizontal principles
List of partner certificates	List of partner certificates
Project report annexes	Project report annexes
Financial Overview	Financial Overview
> Submit	> Submit



#### **Project partner**

#### Role and responsibility in the Reporting process

#### Project partners must:

- ✓ Comply with the terms of the subsidy contract and partnership agreement
- ✓ Ensure that a **National Controller (NC)** <u>is designated</u> as soon as possible after project approval
- ✓ Implement activities according to the consolidated AF
- ✓ **Submit on-time activities and costs** (partner report) **to the NC** + supporting documentation via JEMS (planning to be agreed with the LP and respective NC)
- ✓ Ensure that the complete documentation is made available on time to the LP (signed version of the certificate + checklist duly completed)



#### **Lead partner**

#### Role and responsibility in the Reporting process

Payment Claim statement from the LP

Before submitting the Project Report **LP MUST** ensure that:

- the expenditure reported by all partners result from implementing the project (> list of expenditure)
- National Validation from Spain is available (> national validation )
- a tangible system to prevent double-funding and to identify project expenditures exists for each Project Partner and is described in the control checklist(s) (> NC checklists)
- the cumulated certified amount for each Project Partner is less or equal to the available budget
- no anomaly has been detected among expenditure and activities > the report on ineligible costs must be attached to the payment claim
- the signed version of the Control Report and Certificate is available for each PP

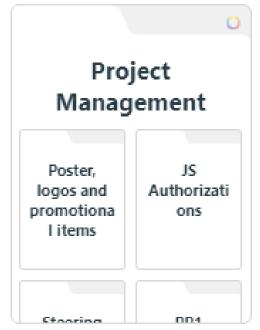


### **Project daily monitoring**

#### Standard folders on Basecamp







Optional for exchange with the JS prior to a full reporting

A carbon footprint report must be delivered at each reporting

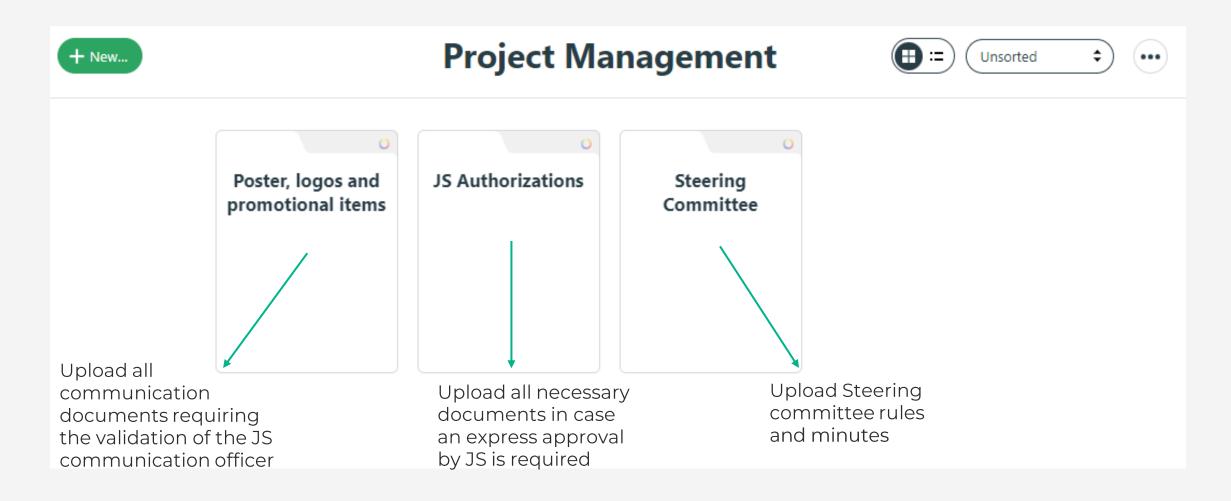
Documents related to the project management





### **Project daily monitoring**

#### Standard folders on Basecamp

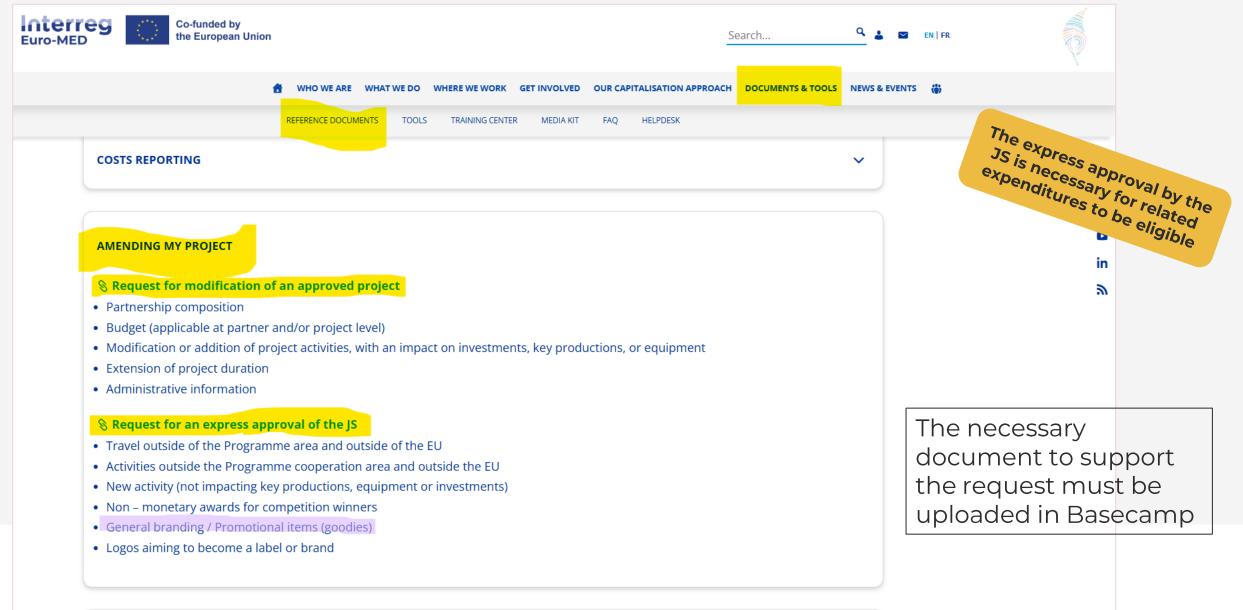






#### **JS** authorizations

#### Two dedicated forms online - NB: you have to logged in



### **Project daily monitoring**

#### Reporting on...

#### ... communication activities

Data on communication activities to be provided once a year by means of an online form to be completed (**link provided by the JS**).

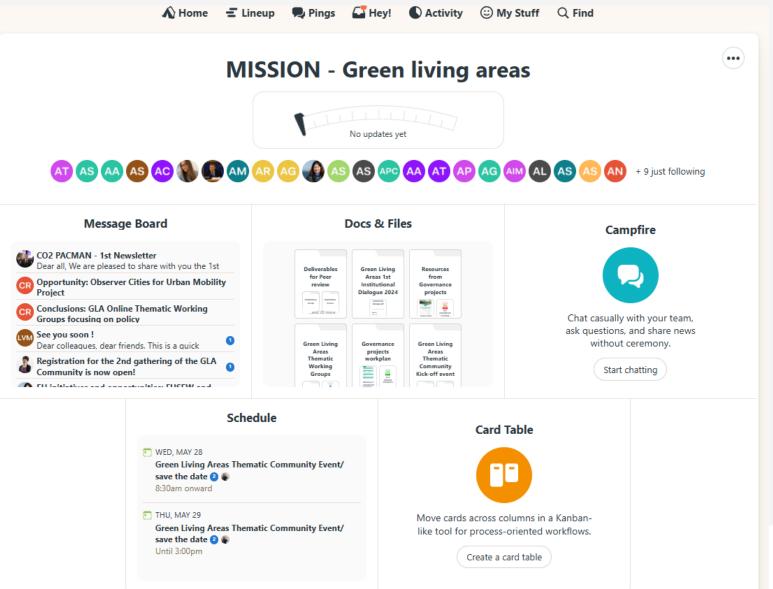
### ... carbon footprint

- All reporting: all PPs provide on basecamp the report generated by the online tool
- Only full reporting: project analysis with evolution of project emissions and follow-up measures



### **Project working community**

Other basecamp folders



Example for the green living

The mission
basecamp folder
gathers all thematic
projects from the
mission + the 2
governance
projects.
Information is
shared on project
progress,
workshops,
community events















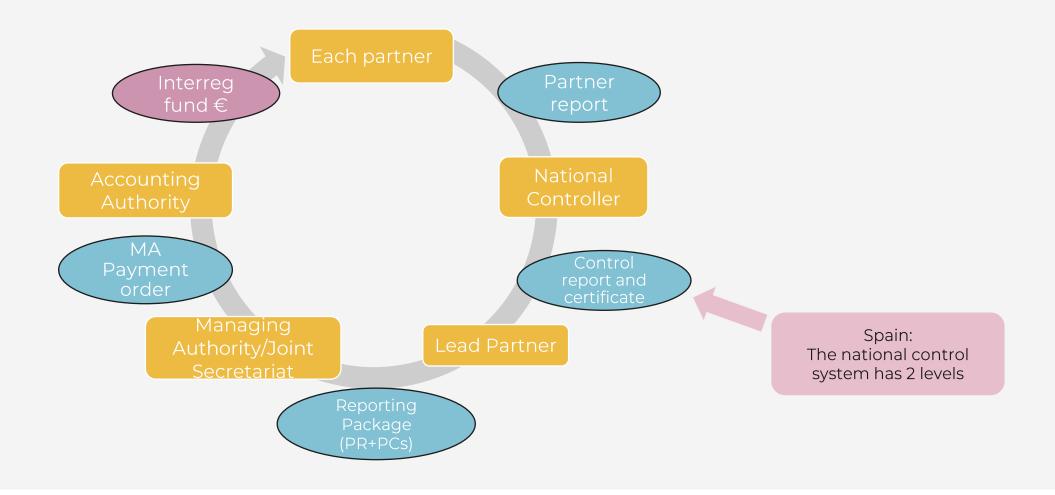




Financial flow, National Control's System and key aspects of declaration of expenditure and eligibility of costs

### **Project Financial**

#### Flow overview





#### **NATIONAL CONTROL SYSTEMS**

(	CENTRALISED SYSTEM	DECENTRALISED SYSTEM 2
	Albania	Cyprus
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	France
	Bulgaria	Italy
	Croatia	Malta
	Greece	Portugal
	Montenegro	Spain**
	Republic of North Macedonia	
	Slovenia	





<sup>\*\*</sup> In Spain expenditure certified by NC must also be validated at national level to be included in a project Payment Claim

#### **National Controller**

### **NC's Designation process**

NC's Key compétences: ✓ Independent

- ✓ Qualified
- ✓ Good knowledge of EN/FR

#### **CENTRALISED SYSTEM**

#### **Public Controller**

Independent Controller

- The designated controller and any possible reviewer or certificate signatory, creates an account on Jems
- The National Autorithy notifies the JS of the complete list of controllers and reviewers by email
- The JS activates the Controller profile on Jems
- The National Authority in charge of controllers assigns the controllers' profiles to the relevant project partner on Jems

#### **DECENTRALISED SYSTEM**

#### **Controller proposed** by PP and approved by NA

**Short List** 

- PP applies to the NA for NC designation
- NA validates the NC
- NA validates the NC and fills-in the <u>on-line form</u> on the Programme website
- NC and any possible Reviewer create an account on JEMS
- Upon receipt of the form by the NA, the JS activates the NC profile on Jems

- Art.74 CPR - Art. 46 (3) ETC
- Co-funded by the European Union
- Each controller must be assigned individually to all projects for which they have been proposed and designated by NA/JS > DO NOT WASTE TIME
- Maintaining the same **National Controller** throughout the project is strongly recommended by the Programme



#### **National controller**

#### **Types of control**

The verification of expenditure carried out by the NC can be done through two different types of controls:

- Administrative verifications (i.e. desk-based verifications)
- most frequent method of implementing controls, the desk-based control or "administrative verification" is implemented by the NC from its headquarters and is based on documents and material provided by the project partners whose expenditure is being controlled
- On-the-spot verifications (OTS)

It allows to check the existence and delivery of goods and services as well as the accuracy of the management system put in place in each partner structure and the existence of accounting documents forming the audit trail. It is **mandatory in case of projects involving investments**!



#### **National controller**

#### **Role and duties**

#### NC must:

- Check the compliance with the Programme's and national eligibility rules
- Verify and validate partner's expenditures included in a partner report
- Detect and report fraud and irregularity
- Complete the checklist(s) and generate the Control Report and certificate
- Control Work must be tracked in **Jems**.
- Good knowledge of controlling project expenditure under the Structural Funds Regulations
  - > **Timeline** (including the National validation by the relevant Spanish PPs) : LP must submit the Reporting

Package 3 months after the end of the Reporting period!

Information on each National Control System

is available in the Programme's website

https://interreg-euro-med.eu/en/national-controllers/





#### The CONTROL PROCESS Flow in details

On-the spot check **mandatory** for Investment



Partners **submit** the Partner Report in Jems Controllers **verify** (administrative/on the spot)

LPs **check and gather** the information (all

No paper Version needed!

Information to the NC on activities and related costs
> PP report created and completed on Jems

NC's validates
expenditure and
complete any
eventual
Checklist &
generate the
Control Certificate

and Report in Jems

Controller may ask clarification/supporting docs to PPs

Control Work (Control
Certificate and
Report signed) is
Finalised on Jems
> and uploaded on

Jems

LP is notified of PRs > Reporting
Package and payment claim upload
in Jems

National validation from Spain signed and uploaded on Jems

Deadlines for project reporting set up in **JEMS** > **Project Reporting Schedule's section** 





#### **National controller**

The overall control work is performed in Jems

Joint Electronic Monitoring system



Access granted by the NA/NCAA/JS



### PRACTICAL GUIDES: STEP BY STEP





#### LPs and PPs must ensure:



That a controller is designated by the relevant NA for the project form **CALL 05** 



That the Controller is assigned on Jems to the project for which they have been proposed and designated by NA/JS



To provide the most up to date information to the NC concerning the implementation of the project (last consolidated AF)!











### Declaration of expenditures



#### **Declaration of expenditure**

### **Eligibility period**

Jems Contracting section:

-project starting date-eligibility of expendituresstarting date

Eligibility period for implementation costs starts from the date of the approval of the project by the **Monitoring Committee** of the Programme:

Call 5 (Thematic Strategic Territorial Projects): 24.06.2025

All expenditures must be related to the implementation of the project **or to closure activities,** must be **incurred** and **paid** by the project <u>End date</u>

Strategic Territorial Projects (Thematic, 45 months): 31.05.2029

Any expenditure paid after project end date, whatever the nature of the activity concerned, is ineligible!





### **Eligibility of Expenditure: Hierarchy of Rules**

National Controllers must verify and certify that partners expenditure are eligible according to:

#### **EU rules**

- Regulation (EU) n° 2021/1060 (Common Provisions Regulation CPR)
- Regulation (EU) n° 2021/1058 (ERDF Regulation)
- Regulation (EU) n° 2021/1059 (Interreg Regulation)
- Regulation (EU) n° 2021/1529 (IPA III Regulation)

#### Interreg Euro-MED Programme's eligibility rules

Additional rules on the eligibility of expenditure are set out in the Programme Manual.

### **National eligibility Rules**

National eligibility rules apply to issues not covered by the above-mentioned EU or Programme eligibility rules and must be checked, prior to the execution of the expenditure, with the relevant National Authority.







### Forms of reimbursement 1/3

#### No advance payment !!!

- Reimbursement based on paid expenditures confirmed as eligible by the NC
  - Exception 1: SCO <u>Preparation cost 'lump sum'</u>, by the JS, upon signature of the Subsidy Contract, **no action needed by the PP, LP**
  - Exception 2: SCO Cost categories 'flat rate', automatically calculated, **not subject to** any control
- Payment
- made directly to each PP bank account (one bank account per partner!)
- > 80 days after submission of the complete Reporting Package to the JS.



### Forms of reimbursement 2/3

To be reimbursed by the Accounting Authority, the LEAD PARTNER must ensure that, at the very start of the project all Project PARTNERS have completed the Partner Details Section in Jems, including:

- <u>Ultimate Beneficial Owner(s)</u>: Private entities (e.g. NGOs, companies, associations) may be asked for beneficial owner details by the Commission's Validation Service. Public bodies are usually exempt.
- **Bank details:** enter all necessary information relates to the account

"Following EC recommendations on transparency, fraud prevention and anti-money laundering, all Interreg Euro-MED reimbursements must be made to one **single bank account per partner**, declared in Jems, even if participating in multiple projects (Reg (EU) 2021/1059 Art.51(1).

- **Document Location:** Indicates the person in charge for the document stored for any eventual audit trail
- **Attachment section:** 
  - Already PP? Upload the Financial Identification Form (FIF) duly signed and stamped by both Partner and the Bank (previously used in other projects)
  - **NEW PP?** Upload the **Bank Account Form (BAF)** duly signed and stamped by both Partner and the Bank (available here) If no bank signature,

then bank certificate

or statement!





### Forms of reimbursement 3/3

Once the calculation method is chosen, it cannot be considered for the entire 2021.

#### > Real Costs

- Expenditures incurred and paid directly by a co-financed partner
- Expenditure **justified** by means of **invoices** or any other equivalent accounting document and referenced in an accounting system
- Expenditure that corresponds to effective works, services or supplies

#### Simplified Cost Options

Lump sum for preparation costs Total amount 37.000 €

This lump sum is fixed and compulsory for all projects and is paid once the Subsidy Contract will be signed.

Flat rate for office and administration

15% of eligible staff costs, mandatory for all partners.

Flat rate for travel and accommodation

The flat rate for the calculation of travel expenditure varies according to the country in which the project partner is based

- 15% Partner from EU Member State
- · 22% Partner from IPA State



### Eligibility of Expenditure: cost categories

#### 6 cost categories – exhaustive list of eligible costs on the regulation

Exhaustive list of eligible costs in the Manual + audit trail + examples

- **<u>CC1</u>** Staff costs (fixed percentage of monthly working time dedicated to the project
- **CC2** Office and administrative costs (flat rate automatically calculated)
- **CC3** Travel and accommodation costs (flat rate automatically calculated OR in justified cases, real costs)
- **<u>CC4</u>** External expertise and services costs
- **CC5** Equipment costs
- **CC6** Infrastructure and works

#### **BEWARE!**

- CC1: Updated <u>Staff Task ASSIGNMENT</u> template <u>SAME PERCENTAGE must be maintained</u> for at least the full reporting period (6 months) > partner details on Jems + Established in advance "estimation".
- CC3: the method must be applied consistently across all projects in which a partner organization participates.

If all or part of the direct staff costs is deemed ineligible, the amounts allocated to CC2 and CC3 will automatically be recalculated and reduced accordingly!





#### **Declaration of expenditures**

#### (CC1) STAFF COST

**Eligible costs:** limited to **the payment of gross salaries** fixed in an employment document and **other costs directly linked to salary payments** of the staff employed by the beneficiary for implementing the project

Reference:

Art. 39 Reg 1059/2021 Art. 55 (2) Reg 1060/202 Programme Manual





No separate working time registration system (e.g. timesheets).

#### ONE METHOD: fixed monthly percentage

for each staff member = monthly working time spent on the project expressed in percentage

- 'Staff Task Assignment Template' (STAT) is a MANDATORY document and must be fill in with the name, surname/fixed percentage (determined in advance) which must be the same for the overall reporting period (6 months) and uploaded in Jems in the Partner details section
- New STATs <u>only necessary in case of change</u> of the %
- The applied percentage should AT LEAST cover ONE full reporting period



### **Declaration of expenditures**

#### (CC2) OFFICE AND ADMINISTRATION

Reference:

Art. 40 Reg. 1059/2021 Art. 54 (b) Reg 1060/2021 Programme Manual

**Eligible cost:** operating and administrative indirect expenses of the project partner that are necessary for the implementation of the project (e.g. IT Systems / Adobe licence, office rent..)

- Mandatory for all project partners and fixed at 15% of staff cost
- Simplified Cost Option foreseen by Art. 54 b) CPR (EU) 1060/2021
- Costs are automatically calculated by Jems on the basis of eligible staff costs
- The controller does not need to check if expenditures are incurred and paid!

The controller verifies that no expenditure covered by this category is declared as REAL COST!

If among the direct staff costs all or part is deemed ineligible, the determined amount of administrative and office costs will automatically be recalculated and reduced accordingly!



# Declaration of expenditures (CC3) TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATION

**Eligible costs >** Expenses incurred by the staff of the project partner institution for essential missions directly linked to the implementation of the project

The eligible expenditure under this cost category are (exhaustive list):

- Travel costs (expenses such as tickets, travel and car insurance, car mileage, tolls and parking fees)
- Costs of meals
- Accommodation costs
- Visa costs
- Per diem (daily allowances)
- Travel and accommodation costs for **external experts** must be claimed under the cc external expertise and services!

#### **Point of attention**

- ✓ Outside of the Programme cooperation area but in an EU State, *JS must be informed*
- ✓ Outside of the Programme cooperation area AND EU, <u>must</u> <u>be indicated in the approved</u> <u>Application Form and expressly accepted by the JS</u>

Any item of expenditure listed above already covered by a daily allowance should not be claimed or reimbursed in addition to the daily allowance



# Declaration of expenditures (CC3) TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATION



sco

- No audit trail needed!
- Automatically calculated and reimbursed
- Huge reduction of the control effort and speed up of verifications at all levels
- Time better used by PPs and LP to focus on the project activities, and an accurate reporting
- If among the direct staff costs all or part is deemed ineligible, the determined amount of administrative and office costs will automatically be recalculated and reduced accordingly!

#### Real costs



- <u>Complete audit trail</u> needed, as for 2014-2020 period!
- National threshold to be respected
- Cost-effectiveness + link to the project
- Jems entering: 1 expenditure item: 1 person's expenditures/1 mission

Travel outside the cooperation area and EU, express approval of the JS is needed!



### **Declaration of expenditures**

#### (CC4) EXTERNAL EXPERTISE AND SERVICES COSTS

Art 42 Reg 1059/2021 Programme Manual

**Eligible costs:** Expertise and Services provided by a public or private entity, or by a natural person not declared as staff of the partner organization:

- Cost related to the National Control
- Travel and accommodation (costs for <u>external experts</u>, <u>speakers</u>, <u>chairpersons</u> of meetings, <u>service providers</u>, <u>Associated Partners</u> and <u>Target Audiences</u> for their participation in events if mentioned in the Application Form)
- The costs of external expertise and services shall be paid <u>based on contracts</u> or <u>written agreements</u> of equivalent value and must be uploaded in Jems > external contract
- Costs related to installation; maintenance of your Pilot should be linked to the investment and the statement of capacity template must be signed by partners

#### Full compliance with:

- EU, Programme and national procurement rules
- The principles of transparency, non-discrimination and equal treatment

#### Point of attention!

for expertise and external services of activities outside the cooperation area and outside EU

> the express approval from JS is needed!





### **Declaration of expenditures**

#### (CC5) EQUIPMENT

Reference:
Art 43 Reg 1059/202
Programme Manua

**Eligible costs:** Equipment **purchased, rented or leased** by the beneficiary that is not already covered by the cost category "office and administrative costs" and **necessary for the delivery of project activities and used for investment** 

- PPs should foresee the costs on a pro-rata basis or according to a depreciation plan considering the duration of the use of the equipment in the project activities
- Any equipment to be used for project management must be reasonably purchased at the beginning of the project
- in line with the staff effort planned and project activities
- > Include fixed investment in equipment or equipment as part of an infrastructure investment, in those cases:
- exclusively used for the project,
- eligible up to the 100% of the acquisition price
- indicated in the AF section Investment and budget

### Point of attention!

Equipment located and operated outside the Programme Cooperation Area and the EU> the express approval of the JS is needed



### **Declaration of expenditure**

#### (CC6) INFRASTRUCTURE AND WORK

**Eligible costs** in this category are the costs of infrastructure and work necessary for the delivery of project objective in the framework of a pilot activity.



- Cost of infrastructure and work only eligible as a part of an investment and approved in the latest version of the AF
- Costs of equipment as part of an infrastructure investment are eligible under CC5
- Costs of services and external experts are eligible under CC4 if it is not part of the construction contract
- The cost can be 100 % eligible

#### Point of attention!

Infrastructure located and operated outside the cooperation are **NOT ELEGIBLE!** 



#### Focus on investment

#### Investment can affect

#### 3 different cost categories and must be approved by the JS in the consolidated AF

- CC4 external expertise and service costs
- CC5 Equipment costs
- CC6 Cost for infrastructure and works

All infrastructure, technical and IT equipment development, materials and related services for the deployment of the **PILOT ACTION**, which are necessary for the delivery of project objective, **are considered as investment** 

- Cost of fixed investment in equipment and investment in infrastructure considered as Investment
- Investment refer to the output of the project which remain in use
   after the completion of the project
- Durability requirements

On-the-spot check is mandatory!



#### Focus on outsourcing contracts



No Programme threshold or rule for contract award

Information on Jems as soon as a contract is signed with an external provider (+ related checklist)

- The eligibility of costs is subject to:
  - full compliance with EU, and national procurement rules (including institutional regulations if stricter).
  - Entities not subject to public procurement must comply with principles on which
    procurement standards are based i.e. competitive tendering, transparency,
    nondiscrimination and equal treatment, best value for money, lowest price,

To avoid any loss of funds, and in case of control, project partners must therefore be able **to prove** that the award of contracts complies with aforementioned principles and, when applicable, public procurement rules.



#### Value Added Tax (VAT) Eligibility

According to <u>Article 64 of Regulation (EU) No 2021/1060 (CPR)</u> Value Added Tax (VAT) is eligible by the Programme only in 2 cases:

- 1. for operations the total cost of which is below **EUR 5 000 000** (including VAT)
- 2. <u>for operations the total cost of which is at least **EUR 5 000 000** (including VAT) where it is non-recoverable under national VAT legislation</u>

In the framework of Interreg Euro-MED, VAT is always eligible as part of project expenditure for all projects with a total cost of less than EUR 5 000 000 (VAT included), **except for:** 



**Project Partner** with an aid granted under **GBER Art 20** cannot, **under any circumstances**, report value added tax (VAT) if it is refundable under their applicable national tax law



#### **Decommitment risk**

#### Programme level (Article 105 of Regulation (EU) No 1060/2021):

• The Commission shall **decommit any amount** which has **not been used** for pre-financing [...] or for which a payment application has not been submitted [...] by 31 December of the third calendar year following the year of the budget commitments

#### **Project level (Article 2.9 of the Subsidy Contract):**

• If the project **financial absorption is not on track** with the defined schedule or a partner **fails to respect the contractual arrangements** corrective measures may be put in place.

JS may propose to the Monitoring Committee to reduce the amount granted!

Based on table D.3 section in the AF



#### **Irregularities**

An "irregularity" is an ineligible amount (certified by the controller, verified by the MA and

detected after having been declared to the EC by the Accounting Authority





As a result of any *level of controls*Cases stated in art 12.1 of the *Subsidy Contract* 



**Unduly paid amount** > notified to the Programme by email via a dedicated template and is corrected in Jems by the JS through a specific workflow

In case of ongoing project, withdraw of the irregular amount from a pending payment (**compensation**)

in case of closed projects, via a formal Recovery procedure

As far as an irregularity is related to **staff cost category**, the corresponding **flat rate(s) (CC2 and CC3) is/are automatically corrected** by the system

Programme Manual Art. 8 Subsidy Contract Art. 7 Partnership Agreement





















# Communication and tools

General framework Online tools Branding Next steps



# Welcome to Interreg Euro-MED!

now that your project has been approved,

it is time to think about communication ©



On 2<sup>nd</sup> October →

Meeting dedicated

to Communication







### What do we expect?

- Communication strategy
- All project materials compliant with the EU and Programme rules
- 1 **poster** on each PP premise
- 1 project description on each PP website
- 1 project presentation video
- 1 website (provided by the Programme) to be completed and updated
- 1 communication report per year
- media kit (on project website)



#### **Materials**

The Programme provides for each project:

- 1 website
- Basecamp tool (1 Project Group)
- 1 logo (in all different versions)
- 1 poster template
- Guidelines for video / strategy / billboards / website ...









# Communication and tools

Online tools

# Your project website

The Programme provides each project with a website.

- Wordpress CMS
- Delivered on the 15 September
- User manual, youtube tutorials and checklist provided
- Go live once compulsory items are checked by the JS
- → Website must be **ready and submitted for validation** to the JS by **15 November**.
- → More details will be shared during Communication Meeting on October 2nd



# Your project website

The Programme provides each project with a website.

#### What is the objective?

- Harmonise all websites of the Programme;
- **Facilitate the navigation** from a website to another for all stakeholders of the programme and outside;
- Ensure the presence of the main features;
- Ensure compliance with the EC and Programme publicity rules;
- Offer project technical tools.







Search...









HOME WHAT WE ACHIEVE WHAT WE DO OUR STORY EVENTS NEWS ▼



#### **INTERREG EURO-MED - ARTEMIS**

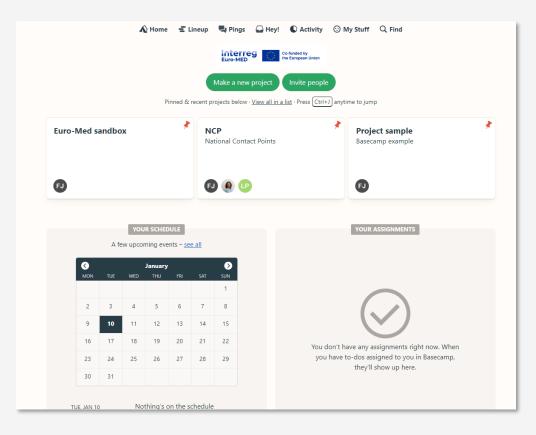
# Your project Basecamp

The Programme provides each project with a Basecamp group.

- · Online collaborative tool, simple & intuitive.
- One project = One Basecamp
- All partners can have a Basecamp Account
- The first Basecamp accounts are created by the JS
- The LP will receive an activation link
- Later, the LP can request the creation or deletion of an account on Basecamp through an online form (all PP can send the request, but if not listed on JEMS, JS will ask confirmation to LP)



# Basecamp



#### **Features**

- Chat (private and collective),
- Message board
- File storage
- Shared calendar
- Tasks management
- And more...











# Communication and tools

Branding



#### **Materials**

The Programme provides for each project:

- 1 logo
- 1 poster template

Each project can develop its own <u>visual identity</u> complying with the **Programme brand book** (e.g. word and ppt template, event agenda, social media post...).

- No PPT or letterhead template provided
- No Newsletter tool provided



#### Mission colours and icons



CMJN 89 / 18 / 0 / 0 RVB 0 / 145 / 218 HEX #0091DA PANTONE 2192 C



CMJN 0 / 32 / 100 / 0 RVB 242 / 169 / 0 HEX #F2A900 PANTONE 130 C



CMJN 84 / 0 / 59 / 0 RVB 0 / 179 / 136 HEX #00B388 PANTONE 399 C



CMJN 4 / 51 / 7 / 6 RVB 213 / 146 / 170 HEX #D592AA PANTONE 507 C







#### MISSION 1:

STRENGTHENING AN INNOVATIVE SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY RENFORCER L'ÉCONOMIE DURABLE INNOVANTE







#### MISSION 2:

PROTECTING, RESTORING AND VALORISING NATURAL HERITAGE PROTÉGER, RESTAURER ET VALORISER LE PATRIMOINE NATUREL







#### MISSION 3:

PROMOTING GREEN LIVING AREAS
PROMOUVOIR LES BASSINS DE VIE VERTS







#### MISSION 4:

ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE TOURISM AMÉLIORER LE TOURISME DURABLE





### **Programme Font**

#### Monserrat

extralight | extralight italic | light italic | regular regular italic | medium | medium italic | semibold semi bold italic | bold | bold italic

A B C D E F G H
I J K L M N O P Q
R S T U V W X Y Z
a b c d e f g h i j k l m
n o p q r s t u v w x y z
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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#### **Open Sans**

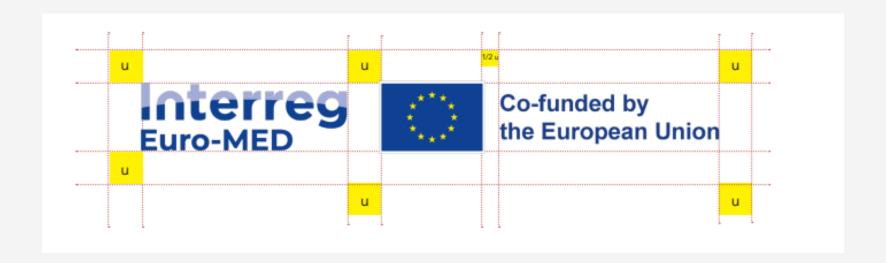
light | light italic | regular | regular italic | medium | medium italic | semibold semi bold italic | bold | bold italic | extra bold | extra bold italic | black | black italic

ABCDEFGH IJKLMNOPQ RSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklm nopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789 Name etur audaest, qui noacesnes utemo Name etco uimasdior audsdaest, qui nones uteeoles imasdfionet mossitatur sam explale voles imaionet mossitature cus tiuntio quisx uyut labor acestium cus tiuntio quisx uyut labor acestium eaquisit corrnimusaovisel dusandisqui com eaquisi con des corrovisel dusandisqui cvenimusd atenn conseque sam ibu stibus vec sam ionsequ ibusciatius qui





## The Programme logo





## **Project Logotypes**









#### Where to use the project logo?

#### On all communication materials!

- printed publications: reports, brochures, newsletters, studies, articles, etc.;
- audio-visual: videos, audio podcasts;
- digital or electronic materials (websites, videos, podcast, etc.);
- events (e.g. PPT presentations, agenda, conference material);
- stationery and office materials;
- promotional goodies.

When not possible (e.g.: scientific & press articles) explicitly mention the contribution from the Programme & the EU co-financing.



### Branding and guidelines

Logos are provided by the programme in all available versions (colour, black, white, standard, horizontal, for print and web).

Together with the logos, a **brand book with guidelines** for correct use is provided.

- → All logos have been uploaded on Basecamp and email sent to LP on 5/09.
- → Branding rules explained in detail during Communication Meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.







#### What if there is another logo?

When other logos are published alongside the programme logo, as in the case of a partnership, make sure that the Union emblem shall have at least the same size, in height, as the biggest of the other logos. EU rules!









### Poster template

A **poster template** is available on the Programme website:













#### How to use the project logo?

The logo must be **clearly visible** (must stand out well on the background).

**No distortion or modification** of the logo provided by the Programme is allowed.

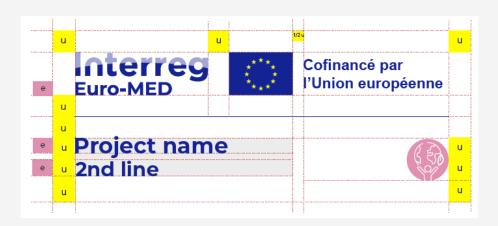






#### How to use the project logo?

It must always have a **space** around it (the size of the yellow box) and a **minimum size** (The minimum height of the EU emblem must be 1 cm).









#### **Social Network**







1 2





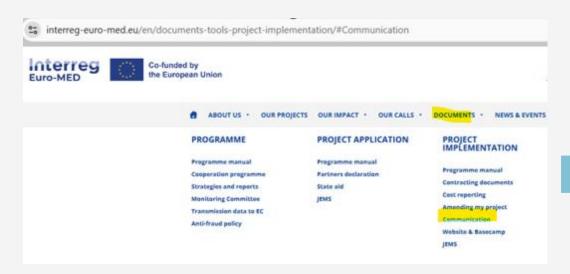
2



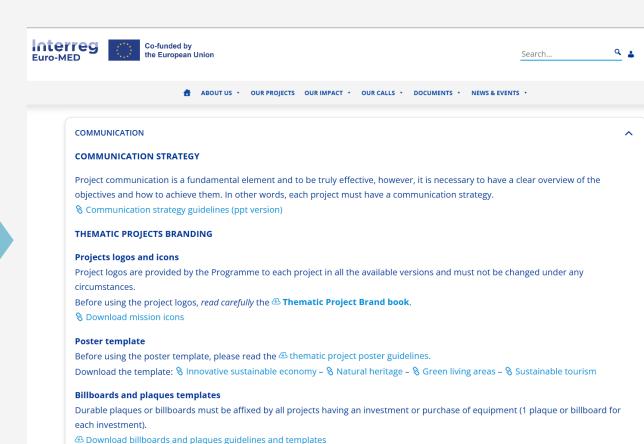
2



# Communication materials











#### Promotional items (goodies)

- MUST be expressly accepted by the JS and branded with the project logo.
- Necessary to reach one of the defined target groups and objectives.
- Eco-friendly
- Please read very carefully the brand book explaining how partners should use the project logo.
- For any doubts, ask the JS
- → <u>interreg-euro-med.eu/en/express-approval/</u> (you have to be logged in on the Programme website)









# Communication and tools

Monitoring



#### How to measure your communication results?

Once a year, the JS sends **a link to a form** to request communication data from the projects, particularly on events and social networks.











# Communication and tools

Next steps



#### Next steps





#### **Useful links**

- → <u>Documents & Tools</u>
- → <u>Projects Brandbook</u>
- → Programme Manual
- → Programme Communication strategy
- → <u>Programme Results Amplification strategy</u>









# THANK YOU! MERCI!

