

DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR THE CONTENT OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

Version 14.03.2014

This is a draft document based on the new ESI Funds Regulations published in OJ 347 of 20 December 2013 and on the most recent version of the relevant Commission's (draft) implementing and delegated acts. It may still require review to reflect the content of these draft legal acts once they are adopted.

The headings in this document correspond to the elements set out in the Articles 27 and 96 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹ (the Common Provisions Regulation or 'CPR'). The text boxes provide guidelines on the drafting of the content of the operational programme. Separate guidelines are being prepared for programmes implementing the SME initiative.

It is recalled that the Operational Programmes will be directly introduced in SFC2014. The character limits are based on the needs of most extensive programmes, the pages estimations are based on a standard page using the font "Times New Roman" and the font size 12. Where programmes are sectoral or cover a limited number of thematic objectives, the content of the operational programme can be shorter. The character limits referred to under the description of the priority axis, where information is required by investment priority, are set per investment priority.

In 2012 the Commission provided each Member State with a country position paper outlining the analysis of the Commission services of the main challenges and funding priorities relevant for the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) in the programming period 2014-2020. These position papers should guide the ensuing dialogue with the Commission in particular in relation to the prioritisation of development needs and concentration of support, as well as in terms of the presentation of information.

When a Member State prepares a maximum of one operational programme for the ERDF, the ESF and the Cohesion Fund, Art. 96(8) CPR allows that some elements of the operational programme are solely incorporated under the relevant provisions of the Partnership Agreement. These elements are identified with an asterisk ''. If a Member State wants to make use of this option, it is thus sufficient to include a reference to the relevant section of the Partnership Agreement.*

¹

Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320).

CCI	<0.1 type="S" maxlength="15" input="S" "SME"> ²
Title	<0.2 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M" "SME" >
Version	<0.3 type="N" input="G" "SME" >
First year	<0.4 type="N" maxlength="4" input="M" "SME" >
Last year	<0.5 type="N" maxlength="4" input="M" "SME" >
Eligible from	<0.6 type="D" input="G" "SME" >
Eligible until	<0.7 type="D" input="G" "SME" >
EC decision number	<0.8 type="S" input="G" "SME" >
EC decision date	<0.9 type="D" input="G" "SME" >
MS amending decision number	<0.10 type="S" maxlength="20" input="M" "SME" >
MS amending decision date	<0.11 type="D" input="M" "SME" >
MS amending decision entry into force date	<0.12 type="D" input="M" "SME" >
NUTS regions covered by the operational programme	<0.12 type="S" input="S" "SME" >

The above table contains the basic information for the identification of the programme. It also allows to keep track of the latest version of the programme, as it indicates the dates of the Commission approval or amending decision or of the amending decision of the Member States for elements that are not approved by a Commission decision pursuant to Article 96(10) CPR.

² Legend for the characteristics of fields:
type: N = Number, D = Date, S = String, C = Checkbox, P = Percentage, B = Boolean
decision: N = Not part of the Commission decision approving the operational programme
input: M = Manual, S = Selection, G = Generated by system
"maxlength" = Maximum number of characters including spaces
PA – Y = Element can be covered solely by the Partnership Agreement
TA – NA = not applicable in the case of operational programmes dedicated exclusively to technical assistance
YEI – NA = not applicable in the case of operational programmes dedicated exclusively to the Youth Employment Initiative
SME = applicable also to programmes dedicated to joint uncapped guarantee and securitisation financial instruments for SMEs, implemented by the EIB

SECTION 1 STRATEGY FOR THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNION STRATEGY FOR SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND THE ACHIEVEMENT OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND TERRITORIAL COHESION

(Reference: Article 27(1) and point (a) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

1.1. Strategy for the operational programme's contribution to the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and to the achievement of economic, social and territorial cohesion

1.1.1. Description of the programme's strategy for contributing to the delivery of the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and for achieving economic, social and territorial cohesion.

<1.1.1 type="S" maxlength="70 000" input="M">

The strategy of the operational programme for contributing to the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth outlining:

- *the relevant³ regional, and where appropriate, the national needs (depending, inter alia, on the territorial scope of the operational programme), including the needs to address the challenges identified in the relevant country specific recommendations adopted in accordance with Art. 121(2) TFEU and relevant Council recommendations adopted in accordance with Art. 148(4) TFEU;*
- *how the operational programme will address these needs and challenges and thereby contribute to the delivery of the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and to economic, social and territorial cohesion, where appropriate with reference to existing national or regional strategies coherent with the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, including the National Reform Programme, where relevant and the ex-ante evaluation;*

The operational programme's strategy should be consistent with the CPR, including the Common Strategic Framework set out Annex I CPR, the Fund-specific rules and with the content of the Partnership Agreement and take into account the relevant elements of the Commission services country position paper.

Where the operational programme is dedicated specifically to technical assistance, this section should set out the strategy for the programme, with reference to the relevant development needs and challenges, taking into account relevant strategies.

³ I.e. the needs that can be addressed by the Fund(s) of the operational programme.

- 1.1.2. *A justification for the choice of thematic objectives and corresponding investment priorities having regard to the Partnership Agreement, based on an identification of regional and, where appropriate, national needs including the need to address the challenges identified in relevant country-specific recommendations adopted in accordance with Article 121(2) TFEU and the relevant Council recommendations adopted in accordance with Article 148(4) TFEU, taking into account the ex ante evaluation.

Not required for operational programmes dedicated exclusively to technical assistance, as technical assistance is not associated with any of the thematic objectives and investment priorities.

***Table 1: Justification for the selection of thematic objectives and investment priorities**

Selected thematic objective	Selected investment priority	Justification for selection
<p><1.1.2 type="S" input="S" PA=Y TA="NA"></p>	<p><1.1.3 type="S" input="S" PA=Y TA="NA"></p>	<p><1.1.4 type="S" maxlength="1000" input="M" PA=Y TA="NA"></p>
		<p>1) Country specific Council recommendation to improve energy efficiency in housing</p> <p>1bis) Country specific recommendation to increase participation (e.g. of older workers, vulnerable groups, youth) in the labour market</p> <p>2) Ambitious national Europe 2020 targets set out in the National Reform Programme from baseline of x in 2010 to a target of y by 2020</p> <p>3) Severe bottlenecks in transport infrastructure due to a insufficient intermodal links between rail, road, air and water transport</p> <p>4) Serious territorial imbalances, needs or potential that need to be addressed to achieve a certain thematic objective (further explanation needed).</p> <p>5) Need to improve the quality of active labour market policies and increase the capacity of the Public Employment Service</p> <p>6) Skills mismatch and low responsiveness of the education system to labour market needs</p> <p>7) Low efficiency of the public administration</p>

1.2. *Justification for the financial allocation

Justification for the financial allocation (Union support) to each thematic objective and, where appropriate, investment priority, in accordance with the thematic concentration requirements, taking into account the ex-ante evaluation.

<1.2.1 type="S" maxlength="7000" input="M" PA=Y TA="NA">

For the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund, this justification should primarily concern the level of thematic objectives.

As the thematic concentration mechanisms of the ESF is also established at the level of the programme, and investment priorities, the justification in the case of ESF should also refer to investment priorities. There is no obligation to set out a financial allocation by investment priority in the financial tables, but an indicative allocation by investment priority is available for the ESF in the categorisation tables (under "Intervention field").

This justification is to be set out with reference to, where appropriate:

- distance from national Europe 2020 targets;*
- need to ensure compliance with Union acquis;*
- substantial complementary investments from other public or private sources;*
- the funding priorities, with reference to the Commission services' country position paper;*
- etc.*

The justification should be presented in percentage and qualitative terms (e.g. "approximately 1/3 of the ERDF allocation is allocated towards thematic objective 1, because.."), based on the relative weight of the allocation to different thematic objectives to the operational programme. It should be brief and proportionate, reflecting the total amount of programme resources.

In case of technical assistance this section should explain the size of the overall allocation to technical assistance and, where appropriate, the choice of Funds from which technical assistance is supported.

Table 2: Overview of the investment strategy of the operational programme

The purpose of this section is to demonstrate in a synthetic manner the consistency between the needs identified, the thematic objectives and the investment priorities selected, as well as the specific objectives and the financial allocation proposed. It also provides an overview of the contribution of the operational programme to the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

This table is generated automatically by SFC2014 based on information inserted under other sections of the operational programme.

Priority axis	Fund (ERDF ⁴ , Cohesion Fund, ESF ⁵ or, YEI) ⁶	Union support ⁷ (EUR)	Proportion of total Union support for the operational programme ⁸	Thematic objective ⁹	Investment priorities ¹⁰	Specific objectives corresponding to the investment priority	Common and programme-specific result indicators for which a target has been set
<1.2.1 type="S" input="G">	<1.2.2 type="S" input="G">	<1.2.3 type="N" " input="G">	<1.2.4 type="P' input="G">	<1.2.5 type="S" input="G">	<1.2.6 type="S" input="G">	<1.2.7 type="S" input="G">	<1.2.8 type="S" input="G">

⁴ European Regional Development Fund.

⁵ European Social Fund.

⁶ Youth Employment Initiative.

⁷ Total Union support (including the main allocation and the performance reserve).

⁸ Information by Fund and by priority axis.

⁹ Title of thematic objective (not applicable to technical assistance).

¹⁰ Title of investment priority (not applicable to technical assistance).

SECTION 2 PRIORITY AXES

(Reference: points (b) and (c) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

2.A A description of the priority axes other than technical assistance

(Reference: point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

The description of the priority axis has to be provided for each priority axis and is, where indicated, broken down by investment priority. For each investment priority the corresponding specific objectives have to be set out (Article 96(2) (b) CPR).

Each priority axis will be given an ID and a title. It will also be indicated whether the priority axis will be implemented solely through financial instruments, solely through financial instruments set up at Union level, through community-led local development or for the ESF, whether the priority axis is dedicated to social innovation or transnational cooperation, or both. Priority axes where one of the preceding is the case will benefit from a higher co-financing rate.

When (part of) a priority axis implements the YEI, this will also result in a higher co-financing rate.

As a general rule programmes should set out priority axes which are mono-fund, cover only one thematic objective and a single category of region.

However, Article 96(1) CPR sets out that where appropriate, and in order to increase the impact and effectiveness in a thematically coherent integrated approach:

- it is possible to set up a priority axis covering more than one Fund and more than one category of region;*
- in duly justified cases, it is also possible to set up a priority axis combining complementary investment priorities from different thematic objectives in order to achieve their maximum contribution to that priority axis;*
- for the ESF it is possible to combine investment priorities from different thematic objectives set out in points (8), (9), (10) and (11) of the first paragraph of Article 9 CPR in order to facilitate their contribution to other priority axes, without need for further justification. In practical terms this means that where complementary support from the ESF is needed to complement actions supported under an operational programme funded predominantly from the ERDF or the Cohesion Fund, a single priority axis may be set up combining all ESF investment priorities, to ensure a proportionate approach. Other cases in which a priority axis for the ESF may combine investment priorities from different thematic objectives are the implementation of social innovation and transnational cooperation.*

As a general rule, information included in the operational programme for such priority axes set up under Article 96(1) CPR should be broken down by Fund and by category of region. Special cases are where:

- A joint priority axis is set up for the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund supporting the same investment priorities. In such cases data on output indicators and on categories of intervention should be broken down by Fund (due to the close link with the financial allocation to each Fund). The breakdown (by Fund) of other information included in the*

description of the priority axis is not required, but may be provided.

- *A priority axis is set up which covers more than one category of region and the same investment priorities for all categories of regions concerned. In such a case information on all output indicators and targets (except those for the Cohesion Fund, as this fund is not allocated by category of region) and categories of intervention should be broken down by category of region (due to the close link with the financial allocation of each category of region). The result indicators and targets for the ESF must also be broken down by category of region in all cases due to their close link with output indicators. Information on ERDF result indicators should be broken down, where appropriate. The breakdown (by category of region) of other information included in the description of the priority axis is not required, but may be provided.*
- *When the YEI is implemented as a part of a priority axis it should be treated as a separate investment priority.*

2.A.1 Priority axis (repeated for each priority axis)

ID of the priority axis	<2A.1 type="N" input="G""SME"> >
Title of the priority axis	<2A.2 type="S" maxlength="500" input="M""SME" >

<input type="checkbox"/> The entire priority axis will be implemented solely through financial instruments	<2A.3 type="C" input="M">
<input type="checkbox"/> The entire priority axis will be implemented solely through financial instruments set up at Union level	<2A.4 type="C" input="M""SME" >
<input type="checkbox"/> The entire priority axis will be implemented through community-led local development	<2A.5 type="C" input="M">
<input type="checkbox"/> For the ESF: The entire priority axis is dedicated to social innovation or to transnational cooperation, or both	<2A.6 type="C" input="M">

2.A.2 Justification for the establishment of a priority axis covering more than one category of region, thematic objective or Fund (where applicable)

(Reference: Article 96(1) CPR)

<2A.0 type="S" maxlength="3500" input="M">

This section is required only in case the operational programme uses the possibility provided by Article 96(1) CPR to set up a priority axis covering more than one category of region, more than one thematic objective or more than one Fund. Where this option is not used, this section is not filled in.

This approach is a derogation from the general rule and should only be used "where appropriate and in order to increase impact and effectiveness in a thematically coherent integrated approach " and, in case of a priority axis combining one or more complementary investment priorities from more than one thematic objective "in duly justified cases".

The aim of this section is to explain how the chosen set-up of the priority axis contributes to an increase in the impact and the effectiveness of cohesion policy and why a simpler set-up of an axis or axes covering a single category of region, a single thematic objective or a single Fund would constitute a less effective choice. When a priority covers more than one thematic objective, this section should justify how this will lead to the maximum contribution of the investment priorities concerned to the priority axis.

2.A.3 Fund, category of region and calculation basis for Union support

(Repeated for each combination under a priority axis)

<i>Fund</i>	<2A.7 type="S" input="S""SME" >
<i>Category of region</i>	<2A.8 type="S" input="S""SME" >
<i>Calculation basis (total eligible expenditure or eligible public expenditure)</i>	<2A.9 type="S" input="S""SME" >
<i>Category of region for outermost regions and northern sparsely populated regions (where applicable)</i>	<2A.9 type="S" input="S" >

2.A.4 Investment priority

(Repeated for each investment priority under the priority axis)

<i>Investment priority</i>	<2A.10 type="S" input="S""SME" >
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2.A.5 Specific objectives corresponding to the investment priority and expected results

(Repeated for each specific objective under the investment priority)

(Reference: points (b)(i) and (ii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

The aim of this section is to specify the specific objective linked to a particular investment priority and to outline the results sought.

The specific objective must be consistent with the investment priority in question, defining it, as necessary to target the particular identified needs of the Member State or regions. The specific objective cannot be broader than the investment priority in question. The number of specific objectives per investment priority should be limited as far as possible, to facilitate the monitoring of progress and avoid the fragmentation of programmes. However, there is no formal limitation in this respect.

The specific objective sought is meaningful only if there is an understanding of the reference situation i.e. what the situation is at the beginning of the programming period. Therefore, where section 1 is not sufficiently explicit on the identified development needs pertinent to the specific objective, this section may be used to outline the situation at the start of the programming period, including the challenges to be addressed, in more detail.

"Results" in general refer to the changes sought (in the reference situation) in view of the specific objective which the Member State seeks to achieve with the Funds. "Result indicators" are used to capture the measurable dimension(s) of the result – to facilitate the assessment of whether progress has been made towards the achievement of the specific objectives and whether a change has taken place in the direction desired. Result indicators measure only some of the relevant dimensions of the result. Depending on the indicator, external factors apart from Union intervention may to a lesser or higher degree influence the results reported and the attainment of the specific objective and targets.

<i>ID</i>	<2A.1.1 type="N" input="G""SME" >
<i>Specific objective</i>	<2A.1.2 type="S" maxlength="500" input="M""SME" >
<i>The results that the Member State seeks to achieve with Union support</i>	<2A.1.3 type="S" maxlength="3500" input="M""SME" >

Table 3: Programme-specific result indicators, by specific objective (for the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund)

One (if possible) and no more than two result indicators should be used for each specific objective.

(Reference: point (b)(ii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Category of region (where relevant)	Baseline value	Baseline year	Target value¹¹ (2023)	Source of data	Frequency of reporting
<2A.1.4 type="S" maxlength="5" input="M" "SME" >	<2A.1.5 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M" "SME" >	<2A.1.6 type="S" input="M" "SME" >	<2A.1.7 type="S" input="S" "SME" >	Quantitative <2A.1.8 type="N" input="M" "SME" > Qualitative <2A.1.8 type="S" maxlength="100" input="M" "SME" >	<2A.1.9 type="N" input="M" "SME" >	Quantitative <2A.1.10 type="N" input="M" > Qualitative <2A.1.10 type="S" maxlength="100" input="M" "SME" >	<2A.1.11 type="S" maxlength="200" input="M" "SME" >	<2A.1.12 type="S" maxlength="100" input="M" "SME" >
	Programme Specific Result Indicator S.1, with qualitative target e.g. SME productivity as GVA per worker	EUR/worker	Less developed region	20 000	2012	Increase by 10-15%	National Statistical Office	Once a year.
	Programme Specific Result Indicator S.2 with a	Safety perception by population, expressed on a scale from	Less developed region	6	2013	2-3	Survey	Every two years

¹¹ For the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund, the target values may be qualitative or quantitative.

	<i>qualitative target</i> <i>e.g. Perception of safety in selected urban areas</i>	<i>1 to – 10, 1 being very safe</i>						
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Table 4: Common result indicators for which a target value has been set and programme specific result indicators corresponding to the specific objective (by investment priority and category of region) (for the ESF)

(Reference: point (b)(ii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Measurement unit for indicator	Common output indicator used as basis for target setting	Baseline value			Measurement unit for baseline and target	Baseline year	Target value ¹² (2023)			Source of data	Frequency of reporting
					M	W	T			M	W	T		
<i>Programme-specific</i> <2A.1.13 type="S" maxlength="5" input="M"> Common <2A.1.13 type="S" input="S">	Programme-specific <2A.1.14 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M"> Common <2A.1.14 type="S" input="S">	<2A.1.15 type="S" input="S">	Programme-specific <2A.1.16 type="S" input="M"> Common <2A.1.16 type="S" input="S">	Programme-specific <2A.1.17 type="S" input="M"> Common <2A.1.17 type="S" input="S">	Common Output Indicators <2A.1.18 type="S" input="S">				Quantitative <2A.1.19 type="S" input="M"> Common <2A.1.19 type="S" input="G">	<2A.1.20 type="N" input="M">	Quantitative <2A.1.21 type="N" input="M"> Qualitative <2A.1.21 type="S" maxlength="100" input="M">	<2A.1.22 type="S" maxlength="200" input="M">	<2A.1.23 type="S" maxlength="100" input="M">	
	Programme Specific Result Indicator S.1 with quantitative target e.g. No of unemployed aged 15-24 in education or training upon leaving	Less developed regions More developed regions Transition regions NA ¹³	Number of participants	NA				%	2014			Monitoring	1/year	

¹² This list includes common result indicators for which a target value has been set and all programme-specific result indicators. Target values for common result indicators must be quantified; for programme-specific result indicators, they may be qualitative or quantitative. Target values may be presented as a total (men+women) or broken down by gender, the baseline values can be adjusted accordingly. “M” = men, “W”=women, “T”= total.

	<i>Common Result Indicator C.1 with quantitative target e.g. No of participants in employment upon leaving</i>	<i>Less developed region</i>	<i>Number of participants</i>	<i>Inactive not in education or training</i>				<i>%</i>	<i>2013</i>				<i>Monitoring</i>	<i>1/year</i>
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¹³ In case of YEI.

Table 4a: YEI result indicators and programme-specific result indicators corresponding to the specific objective

(by priority axis or by part of a priority axis)

(Reference: Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1304/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁴ (the 'ESF Regulation'))

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit for indicator	Common output indicator used as basis for target setting	Baseline value			Measurement unit for baseline and target	Baseline year	Target value ¹⁵ (2023)			Source of data	Frequency of reporting
				M	W	T			M	W	T		
<i>Programme-specific</i> <2A.1.24 type="S" maxlength="5" input="M"> Common <2A.1.24 type="S" input="S">	<i>Programme-specific</i> <2A.1.25 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M"> Common <2A.1.25 type="S" input="S">	<i>Programme-specific</i> <2A.1.26 type="S" input="M"> Common <2A.1.26 type="S" input="S">	<i>Programme-specific</i> <2A.1.27 type="S" input="M"> Common <2A.1.27 type="S" input="S">	Common Output Indicators <2A.1.28 type="S" input="S">	Quantitative <2A.1.29 type="S" input="M"> Common <2A.1.29 type="S" input="G">	<2A.1.30 type="N" input="M">	Quantitative <2A.1.31 type="N" input="M"> Qualitative <2A.1.31 type="S" maxlength="100" input="M">	<2A.1.32 type="S" maxlength="200" input="M">	<2A.1.33 type="S" maxlength="100" input="M">				

¹⁴ Regulation (EU) No 1304/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the European Social Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1081/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 470).

¹⁵ This list includes common result indicators for which a target value has been set and all programme-specific result indicators. Target values for common result indicators must be quantified; for programme-specific result indicators they may be qualitative or quantitative. All result indicators in Annex II to the ESF Regulation used to monitor YEI implementation must be linked to a quantified target value. Target values may be presented as a total (men+women) or broken down by gender, the baseline values may be adjusted accordingly. "M" = men, "W"=women, "T"= total.

2.A.6 Action to be supported under the investment priority

(by investment priority)

2.A.6.1 *Description of the type and examples of actions to be supported and their expected contribution to the specific objectives including, where appropriate, the identification of main target groups, specific territories targeted and types of beneficiaries*

(Reference: point (b)(iii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96 (2) CPR)

This description should provide an overview of the types of interventions that the Member State plans to support, complemented by more concrete examples, as appropriate. In particular it should explain how types of actions planned contribute to specific objectives e.g. through targeting of specific target groups or territories, focus on particular themes or issues etc. Therefore this section should provide a clear understanding of how the objectives will be pursued and the results attained in practice, with the types of actions planned.

Note that the choice of output indicators and categories of intervention must be consistent with this description.

Where appropriate, this description should also include steps to be taken to take into account the principles of equality between men and women, non-discrimination and sustainable development.

NB:

1. Where appropriate, this description should include an indication that the entire priority axis is dedicated solely to community-led local development in the meaning of Article 32 of the CPR (which allows an increase in the Union co-financing rate by 10 percentage points as set out in Article 120 (5) of the CPR).

2. For the ESF: where appropriate, this description should include an indication that the whole of a priority axis is dedicated to social innovation or to transnational cooperation (which allows an increase in the Union co-financing rate by 10 percentage points as set out in Article 11 (2) of the ESF Regulation).

3. For the YEI: where appropriate, this description should specify the amount of YEI resources of the priority axis, allocated to target young people, residing in sub-regions with high youth unemployment levels outside the YEI eligible regions, as identified in the Partnership Agreement (Article 16 of the ESF Regulation).

Investment priority	<2A.2.1.1 type="S" input="S">
<2A.2.1.2 type="S" maxlength="17500" input="M">	

2.A.6.2 Guiding principles for selection of operations

(Reference: point (b)(iii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

This section should include a brief description of:

- *The principles applied to ensure the selection of quality operations contributing to the delivery of the specific objectives and achievement of the result. The CPR requires this description for each investment priority, but where this description is the same for several investment priorities, a cross-reference may be used to avoid repetition.*

<i>Investment Priority</i>	<i><2A.2.2.1 type="S" input="S"></i>
	<i><2A.2.2.2 type="S" maxlength="5000" input="M"></i>

2.A.6.3 Planned use of financial instruments (where appropriate)

(Reference: point (b)(iii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

Where it is envisaged to use financial instruments, this section should include a description of the planned financial instruments. It should outline the planned scope for the use of financial instruments and the intentions of the Member State in this regard. As financial instruments can be set-up in mid-period, and the ex-ante assessment required for each instrument is not necessarily completed at the time of submission of the operational programme, the description should be clear on where the use of financial instruments is definite (e.g. has been already subject to ex-ante assessment and instrument is being set up) and where it is under consideration or planned.

NB: Where appropriate, this section should indicate that the entire priority axis will be implemented solely:

- *through financial instruments within the meaning of Article 37 (which allows an increase in the Union co-financing rate of the EU co-financing rate by 10 percentage points as set out in Article 120 (5) of the CPR); or*
- *through financial instruments set up at Union level and referred to in Article 38(1)a (which allows increasing the Union co-financing rate up to 100%).*

<i>Investment Priority</i>	<i><2A.2.3.1 type="S" input="S"></i>
<i>Planned use of financial instruments</i>	<i><2A.2.3.2 type="C" input="M"></i>

<2A.2.3.3 type="S" maxlength="7000" input="M">

2.A.6.4 Planned use of major projects (where appropriate)

(Reference: point (b)(iii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

A description of how the major projects to be supported will contribute to the specific objectives corresponding to this investment priority. Where no major projects are planned, the Member State should indicate this here.

Each operational programme will include a list of major projects planned to be implemented, which are linked to priority axes and investment priorities under section 12.

Investment Priority

<2A.2.4.1 type="S" input="S">

<2A.2.4.2 type="S" maxlength="3500" input="M">

2.A.6.5 Output indicators by investment priority and, where appropriate by category of region

(Reference: point (b)(iv) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

Output indicators are required by category of region for each investment priority. Outputs relate to the operations supported. The indicators should measure outputs of a majority of the interventions supported under the investment priority and thus enable an assessment of progress of implementation. These data sets can be used as a basis to assess progress towards achieving the specific objectives.

Table 5 also has to be filled out for YEI (as it includes ESF support). The data to be provided cover the YEI (i.e. the specific allocation and the corresponding ESF support). It is not required that output indicators are broken down by category of region in the case of YEI.

Table 5: Common and programme-specific output indicators

(by investment priority, broken down by category of region for the ESF, and where relevant, for the ERDF)

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region (where relevant)	Target value (2023) ¹⁶			Source of data	Frequency of reporting
					M	W	T		
<2A.2.5.1 type="S" input="S" SME >	<2A.2.5.2 type="S" input="S" SME >	<2A.2.5.3 type="S" input="S" SME >	<2A.2.5.4 type="S" input="S" SME >	<2A.2.5.5 type="S" input="S" SME >	<2A.2.5.6 type="N" input="M" SME >			<2A.2.5.7 type="S" maxlength="20 0" input="M" SME >	<2A.2.5.8 type="S" maxlength="100" input="M" SME >

2.A.7 Social innovation, transnational cooperation and contribution to thematic objectives 1-7¹⁷

Specific provisions for ESF¹⁸, where applicable (by priority axis and, where relevant, category of region): social innovation, transnational cooperation and ESF contribution to thematic objectives referred to in points (1) to (7) of the first paragraph of Article 9 CPR.

Description of the contribution of the planned actions of the priority axis to:

- social innovation (if not covered by a dedicated priority axis);
- transnational cooperation (if not covered by a dedicated priority axis);
- thematic objectives referred to in points (1) to (7) of the first paragraph of Article 9 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.

Identification of:

- *the themes for social innovation¹⁹, in particular with the aim of testing and scaling up innovative solutions to address social needs.*
- *a non-exhaustive list of themes for transnational cooperation including the planned actions and the stakeholders to be involved.*

¹⁶ For the ESF, this list includes common output indicators for which a target value has been set. Target values may be presented as a total (men+women) or broken down by gender. For the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund, gender breakdown is in most cases not relevant. "M" = men, "W"=women, "T"= total.

¹⁷ Only for programmes supported by the ESF.

¹⁸ For the ESF, this list includes common output indicators for which a target value has been set and all programme-specific output indicators.

¹⁹ In accordance with Article 9 ESF Regulation.

- *This section should also set out whether and how the types of actions supported contribute to the thematic objectives referred to in points (1) to (7) of the first paragraph of Article 9 CPR.*

<i>Priority axis</i>	<2A.3.1 type="S" input="S">
	<2A.3.2 type="S" maxlength="7000" input="M">

2.A.8 Performance framework

(Reference: point (b)(v) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2), and Annex II CPR)

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 215/2014²⁰ lays down detailed arrangements to ensure a consistent approach for determining the milestones and targets. Guidance will be available for the set-up of the performance framework and the use of different types of indicators for this purpose.

The indicators used for the performance framework are in most cases likely to be a sub-set of the indicators defined for the priority axes, possibly at an aggregate level (if the same indicator is used for multiple investment priorities within the priority axis). The exception to this is the use of "key implementation steps", which are not part of the general indicator system and financial indicators.

Key implementation steps indicate progress in the implementation processes, e.g. preparation of major projects, launch of tendering procedures for key operations, launch of support schemes, progress in the implementation process etc. Such key implementation steps can be used as milestones in circumstances where the early stage of implementation does not allow the use of output indicators. In such cases, measurement units are not always used, hence measurement units are listed as "where appropriate".

Annex II CPR on the performance framework requires the milestones and targets used in the performance framework to be "directly linked" to the achievement of the specific objective of a priority. They are required to be –amongst others- relevant, capturing essential information on the progress of a priority axis. Therefore the indicators and implementation steps chosen should be representative of the priority axis i.e. output indicators and key implementation steps set out in the performance framework shall correspond to more than 50% of the financial allocation to the priority. They shall thus reflect the implementation, outputs and, where appropriate, results of the majority of interventions undertaken under that priority axis (broken down by Fund and by category of region, where appropriate). The last column of the performance framework table provides a possibility to explain this, where this is not evident from the description of the priority axes.

Table 6 has to be filled out for YEI (as it includes ESF support). The data to be provided cover the YEI (i.e. the specific allocation and the corresponding ESF support). It is not required that output indicators are broken down by category of region in the case of YEI.

²⁰ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 215/2014 of 7 March 2014 laying down rules for implementing Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund with regard to methodologies for climate change support, the determination of milestones and targets in the performance framework and the nomenclature of categories of intervention for the European Structural and Investment Funds (OJ L 69, 8.03.2014, p. 65).

Table 6: Performance framework of the priority axis

(by fund and, for the ERDF and the ESF, by category of region)²¹

Priority axis	Indicator type (Key implementation step, financial, output or, where appropriate, result indicator)	ID	Indicator or key implementation step	Measurement unit, where appropriate	Fund	Category of region	Milestone for 2018 ²²			Final target (2023) ²³			Source of data	Explanation of relevance of indicator, where appropriate
							M	W	T	M	W	T		
<2A.4.1 type="S" input="S">	<2A.4.2 type="S" input="S">	Implementation Step or Financial indicator <2A.4.3 type="S" maxlength="5" input="M"> Output or	Implementation Step or Financial indicator <2A.4.4 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M"> Output or Result <2A.4.4 type="S" input="G" or "M">	Implementation Step or Financial indicator <2A.4.5 type="S" input="M"> Output or Result <2A.4.5 type="S" input="G" or "M">	<2A.4.6 type="S" input="S">	<2A.4.7 type="S" input="S">	<2A.4.8 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M">	Implementation Step or Financial <2A.4.9 type="S" input="M"> Output or Result <2A.4.8 type="S" input="M">	Implementation Step or Financial indicator <2A.4.10 type="S" maxlength="200" input="M"> Output or Result <2A.4.10 type="S" input="M">	<2A.4.11 type="S" maxlength="500" input="M">				

²¹ Where the YEI is implemented as part of a priority axis, YEI milestones and targets must be distinguished from other milestones and targets for the priority axis in accordance with implementing acts referred to in the fifth subparagraph of Article 22(7) CPR, as YEI resources (specific allocation and matching ESF support) are excluded from the performance reserve.

²² Milestones may be presented as a total (men+women) or broken down by gender. “M” = men, “W”=women, “T”= total.

²³ Target values may be presented as a total (men+women) or broken down by gender. “M” = men, “W”=women, “T”= total.

		<i>result<2 A.4.3 type="S " input="S"></i>												

Additional qualitative information on the establishment of the performance framework
(optional)

<2A.4.12 type="S" maxlength="7000" input="M">

2.A.9 Categories of intervention

(Reference: point (b)(vi) of Article 96(2) CPR)

Categories of intervention corresponding to the content of the priority axis based on a nomenclature adopted by the Commission, and indicative breakdown of Union support.

The categories of intervention are based on a nomenclature adopted by the Commission, which includes 6 dimensions common for the Funds, an additional (7th) dimension for the ESF and (8th) for the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund. The nomenclature is set out in the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 215/2014²⁴:

- The first 5 dimensions correspond to those used for the period 2007-2013 and set out in Annex II to Commission Regulation (EU) No 1828/2006²⁵, albeit changes in certain categories and codes have been made.*
- The additional common dimension covers "territorial delivery mechanisms" allowing the analysis of the use of community-led local development, ITIs, and integrated approaches to sustainable urban development.*
- The dimension for the "ESF secondary theme" aims to capture the contribution of the ESF operations to the thematic objectives referred to in points (1) to (7) of the first paragraph of Article 9 CPR.*
- The additional dimension proposed for the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund aims to track the allocation of Union support to each thematic objectives (where priority axes cover multiple thematic objectives) and thus to the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.*
- For the purpose of filling out the tables on the categories of intervention, YEI is to be considered as a Fund. It is not required to break the data on YEI down by category of region.*

NB: As set out in Article 96(10) CPR, this section (categories of intervention) is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

Tables 7-11: Categories of intervention²⁶

(by Fund and category of region, if the priority axis covers more than one)

Table 7: Dimension 1 – Intervention field	
Fund	<2A.5.1.1 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >

²⁴ OJ L 69, 8.03.2014, p. 65.

²⁵ Commission Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006 of 8 December 2006 setting out rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and of Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Regional Development Fund (OJ L 371, 27.12.2006, p. 1).

²⁶ Amounts include total Union support (the main allocation and the allocation from the performance reserve).

Category of region	<2A.5.1.2 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	
Priority axis	Code	Amount (EUR)
<2A.5.1.3 type="S" input="S" Decision=N>	<2A.5.1.4 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	<2A.5.1.5 type="N" input="M" Decision=N >

Table 8: Dimension 2 – Form of finance		
Fund	<2A.5.2.1 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	
Category of region	<2A.5.2.2 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	
Priority axis	Code	Amount (EUR)
<2A.5.2.3 type="S" input="S" Decision=N>	<2A.5.2.4 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	<2A.5.2.5 type="N" input="M" Decision=N >

Table 9: Dimension 3 – Territory type		
Fund	<2A.5.3.1 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	
Category of region	<2A.5.3.2 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	
Priority axis	Code	Amount (EUR)
<2A.5.3.3 type="S" input="S" Decision=N>	<2A.5.3.4 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	<2A.5.3.5 type="N" input="M" Decision=N >

Table 10: Dimension 4 – Territorial delivery mechanisms		
Fund	<2A.5.4.1 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	
Category of region	<2A.5.4.2 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	
Priority axis	Code	Amount (EUR)
<2A.5.4.2 type="S" input="S" Decision=N>	<2A.5.4.4 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	<2A.5.4.5 type="N" input="M" Decision=N >

Table 11: Dimension 6 – ESF secondary theme²⁷ (ESF only)		
Fund	<2A.5.5.1 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	
Category of region	<2A.5.5.2 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	
Priority axis	Code	Amount (EUR)
<2A.5.5.3 type="S" input="S" Decision=N>	<2A.5.5.4 type="S" input="S" Decision=N >	<2A.5.5.5 type="N" input="M" Decision=N >

For the remaining dimensions of categorisation, data is requested for information purposes through electronic data exchange system during implementation.

2.A.10 Summary of the planned use of technical assistance including, where necessary, actions to reinforce the administrative capacity of authorities involved in the management and control of the programmes and beneficiaries (where appropriate)

(by priority axis)

(Reference: point (b)(vii) of Article 96(2) CPR)

This section should be included in the description of the priority axis, where appropriate, to identify specific gaps in the administrative capacity of specific authorities or specific beneficiaries who implement this priority axis. It should set out specific actions to be supported from technical assistance to reinforce the administrative capacity of authorities and beneficiaries to ensure an effective implementation of the priority axis as well as the level of the available resources. Therefore this section is dedicated to the actions which are specific and limited to improving the implementation capacity related to a single priority axis.

Where the use of technical assistance for the purpose of developing the administrative capacity of authorities and beneficiaries does not involve any specific actions linked to the priority axis concerned, this section does not need to be filled in.

The content of this section should not overlap with the description of the priority axis for technical assistance or the specific operational programme for technical assistance. The section here is to highlight the specific use of technical assistance for the reinforcement of administrative capacity for a specific priority axis. Technical assistance itself will be

²⁷ Include, where appropriate, quantified information on the ESF's contribution to the thematic objectives referred to in points (1) to (7) of the first paragraph of Article 9 CPR.

programmed in section 2.B.

Priority axis

<3A.6.1 type="S" input="S">

<2A.6.2 type="S" maxlength="2000" input="M">

2.B Description of the priority axes for technical assistance

(Reference: point (c) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

The following information should be provided by priority axis and, where indicated, broken down by specific objective (Article 96 (2) (c)CPR). There are no corresponding thematic objectives or investment priorities for technical assistance.

Technical assistance priority axes are mono-fund and as a general rule should cover a single category of region.

However, Article 96(1) CPR sets out that, where appropriate, and in order to increase the impact and effectiveness in a thematically coherent integrated approach, it is possible to set up a priority axis covering more than one category of regions.

2.B.1 Priority axis (repeated for each technical assistance priority axis)

<i>ID of the priority axis</i>	<2B.0.2 type="N" maxlength="5" input="G">
<i>Title of the priority axis</i>	<2B.0.3 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M">

2.B.2 Justification for establishing a priority axis covering more than one category of region (where applicable)

(Reference: Article 96(1) CPR)

This is required only in case the operational programme uses the possibility provided by Article 96(1) CPR to set up a priority axis covering more than one category of region. The aim of this section is to explain and substantiate how the chosen set-up of the priority axis contributes to an increase in the impact and the effectiveness of cohesion policy to contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy and why a simpler set-up of an axis or axes covering a single category of region, would constitute a less effective choice.

Article 119 CPR sets out that technical assistance priority axes are mono-fund. However, technical assistance from any of the Funds can be used to support activities related to any other of the Funds, within limits set out in Article 119 CPR.

<2B.0.1 type="S" maxlength="3500" input="M">

2.B.3 Fund and category of region (repeated for each combination under the priority axis)

<i>Fund</i>	<2B.0.4 type="S" input="S">
<i>Category of region</i>	<2B.0.5 type="S" input="S">
<i>Calculation basis (total eligible expenditure or eligible public expenditure)</i>	<2B.0.6 type="S" input="S">

2.B.4 Specific objectives and expected results

(repeated for each specific objective under the priority axis)

(Reference: points (c)(i) and (ii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

<i>ID</i>	<2B.1.1 type="N" maxlength="5" input="G">
<i>Specific objective</i>	<2B.1.2 type="S" maxlength="500" input="M">
<i>Results that the Member State seeks to achieve with Union support</i> ²⁸	<2B.1.3 type="S" maxlength="3500" input="M">

The description of the expected results is required only where the Union support to the priority axis or axes for technical assistance in an operational programme exceeds EUR 15 million.

2.B.5 Result indicators²⁹

Table 12: Programme-specific result indicators (by specific objective)

(for the ERDF/ESF/Cohesion Fund)

(Reference: point (c)(ii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

²⁸ Required where Union support for technical assistance in the programme exceeds EUR 15 million.

²⁹ Required where objectively justified given the content of the action and where Union support for technical assistance in the programme exceeds EUR 15 million.

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value			Baseline year	Target value ³⁰ (2023)			Source data	Frequency of reporting
			M	W	T		M	W	T		
<2.B.2.1 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M">	<2.B.2.2 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M">	<2.B.2.3 type="S" input="M">	Quantitative <2.B.2.4 type="N" input="M">			<2.B.2.5 type="N" input="M">	Quantitative <2.B.2.6 type="N" input="M"> Qualitative <2.B.2.6 type="S" maxlength="100" input="M">			<2.B.2.7 type="S" maxlength="200" input="M">	<2.B.2.8 type="S" maxlength="100" input="M">

2.B.6 Actions to be supported and their expected contribution to the specific objectives (by priority axis)

(Reference: points (c)(i) and (iii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

2.B.6.1 A description of actions to be supported and their expected contribution to the specific objectives

(Reference: points (c)(i) and (iii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

This section should include a description of actions to be supported and describe the link between the outputs generated by these actions and the specific objectives/ results sought.

Priority axis	<2.B.3.1.1 type="S" input="S">
---------------	--------------------------------

³⁰ Target values may be qualitative or quantitative. Target values may be presented as a total (men+women) or broken down by gender, the baseline values may be adjusted accordingly. “M” = men, “W”=women, “T”= total.

<2.B.3.1.2 type="S" maxlength="7000" input="M">

2.B.6.2 Output indicators expected to contribute to results (by priority axis)

(Reference: point (c)(iv) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

Table 13: Output indicators (by priority axis)

(for the ERDF/ESF/Cohesion Fund)

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Target value (2023) ³¹ (optional)			Source of data
			M	W	T	
<2.B.3.2.1 type="S" maxlength="5" input="M">	<2.B.2.2.2 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M">	<2.B.3.2.3 type="S" input="M">	<2.B.3.2.4 type="N" input="M">			<2.B.3.2.5 type="S" maxlength="200" input="M">

2.B.7 Categories of intervention (by priority axis)

(Reference: points (c)(v) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

Corresponding categories of intervention based on a nomenclature adopted by the Commission, and an indicative breakdown of Union support.

NB: As set out in Article 96(10) CPR, this section (categories of intervention) is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

Separate tables by category of region, where appropriate, depending on the intervention logic set out.

³¹ Target values for output indicators under technical assistance are optional. Target values may be presented as a total (men+women) or broken down by gender. "M" = men, "W"=women, "T"= total.

Tables 14-16: Categories of intervention³²

Table 14: Dimension 1 – Intervention field		
Category of region: <type="S" input="S">		
<i>Priority axis</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Amount (EUR)</i>
<2B.4.1.1 type="S" input="S" > <i>Decision=N</i>	<2B.4.1.2 type="S" input="S"> <i>Decision=N</i>	<2B.4.1.3 type="N" input="M"> <i>Decision=N</i>

Table 15: Dimension 2 – Form of finance		
Category of region: <type="S" input="S">		
<i>Priority axis</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Amount (EUR)</i>
<2B.4.2.1 type="S" input="S" > <i>Decision=N</i>	<2B.4.2.2 type="S" input="S"> <i>Decision=N</i>	<2B.4.2.3 type="N" input="M"> <i>Decision=N</i>

Table 16: Dimension 3 – Territory type		
Category of region: <type="S" input="S">		
<i>Priority axis</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Amount (EUR)</i>
<2B.4.3.1 type="S" input="S" > <i>Decision=N</i>	<2B.4.3.2 type="S" input="S"> <i>Decision=N</i>	<2B.4.3.3 type="N" input="M"> <i>Decision=N</i>

For the remaining dimensions of categorisation data is requested for information purposes through electronic data exchange system during implementation.

³² Amounts include total Union support (the main allocation and the allocation from the performance reserve).

SECTION 3 FINANCING PLAN

(Reference: point (d) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

3.1 Financial appropriation from each fund and amounts for performance reserve

(Reference: point (d)(i) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

Between 5 and 7% of the allocation for each priority axis will be set aside for the performance reserve. The amounts set aside will be indicated for each year. They will only be definitively allocated to the priority axis where the performance review to be carried out by the Commission in 2019 concludes that the priority axis has achieved its milestones. The detailed arrangements to ensure a consistent approach for assessing the achievement of the milestones and targets are laid down in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 215/2014. Where priorities have not achieved their milestones, a proposal for reallocation of the amounts to priorities that have achieved their milestones has to be submitted.

Priority axes dedicated to technical assistance, (parts of) priority axes implementing the YEI and programmes dedicated to the SME initiative are not subject to the allocation of the performance reserve.

Table 17

Fund	Category of region	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		Total	
		Main allocation ³³	Performance reserve	Main allocation	Performance reserve	Main allocation	Performance reserve	Main allocation	Performance reserve	Main allocation	Performance reserve	Main allocation	Performance reserve	Main allocation	Performance reserve	Main allocation	Performance reserve
<3.1.1 type="S" input="G" "SME">	<3.1.2 type="S" input="G" "SME">	<3.1.3 type="N" input="M" "SME">	<3.1.4 type="N" input="M" TA - "NA" YEI - "NA">	<3.1.5 type="N" input="M" "SME">	<3.1.6 type="N" input="M" TA - "NA" YEI - "NA">	<3.1.7 type="N" input="M" "SME">	<3.1.8 type="N" input="M" TA - "NA" YEI - "NA">	<3.1.9 type="N" input="M" "SME">	<3.1.10 type="N" input="M" TA - "NA" YEI - "NA">	<3.1.11 type="N" input="M" "SME">	<3.1.12 type="N" input="M" TA - "NA" YEI - "NA">	<3.1.13 type="N" input="M" "SME">	<3.1.14 type="N" input="M" TA - "NA" YEI - "NA">	<3.1.15 type="N" input="M" "SME">	<3.1.16 type="N" input="M" TA - "NA" YEI - "NA">	<3.1.17 type="N" input="G" "SME">	<3.1.18 type="N" input="G" TA - "NA" YEI -

³³ Total allocation (Union support) less allocation to performance reserve.

																			"NA">
(1)	ERDF	In less developed regions																	
(2)		In transition regions																	
(3)		In more developed regions																	
(4)		Total																	
(5)	ESF³⁴	In less developed regions																	
(6)		In transition regions																	
(7)		In more developed regions																	
(8)		Total																	
(9)	YEI-specific allocation	Not applicable		Not applicable		Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
(10)	Cohesion Fund	Not applicable																	

³⁴ Total allocation from the ESF, including matching ESF support for the YEI. The columns for the performance reserve do not include matching ESF support for the YEI, as this is excluded from the performance reserve.

(11)	ERDF	Special allocation to outermost regions or northern sparsely populated regions																
(12)	Total																	

3.2 Total financial appropriation by fund and national co-financing (EUR)

(Reference: point (d)(ii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

1. The table sets out the financial plan by priority axis.
2. Where a priority axis covers more than one fund, the Union support and national counterpart is broken down by fund with a separate co-financing rate within the priority axis for each fund.
3. Where the priority axis covers more than one category of region, the Union support and national counterpart is broken down by category of region with a separate co-financing rate within the priority axis for each category of region.
4. The European Investment Bank (EIB) contribution is presented at priority axis level.

Table 18a: Financing plan

Priority axis	Fund	Category of region	Basis for calculation of Union support (Total eligible cost or public eligible cost)	Union support	National counterpart	Indicative breakdown of national counterpart		Total funding	Co-financing rate ³⁵	For information EIB contributions	Main allocation (total funding less performance reserve)		Performance reserve		Performance reserve amount as proportion of total Union support
						National public funding	National private funding (1)				Union support	National counterpart	Union support	National counterpart ³⁶	
				(a)	(b) = (c) + (d)	(c)	(d)	(e) = (a) + (b)	(f) = (a)/(e)	(g)	(h)=(a)-(j)	(i) = (b) - (k)	(j)	(k)= (b) * ((j)/(a))	(l) =(j)/(a) *100

³⁵ As set out in Article 120 CPR the co-financing rate is established at the level of the priority axis. All Union support, including that associated with the performance reserve under the priority axis, is subject to the same co-financing rule. The national counterpart should be divided pro-rata between the main allocation and the performance reserve depending on the amount of Union support.

³⁶ The national counterpart is divided pro-rata between the main allocation and the performance reserve.

<3.2.A.1 type="S" input="G" "SME">	<3.2.A.2 type="S" input="G" "SME" >	<3.2.A.3 type="S" input="G" "SME">	<3.2.A.4 type="S" input="G" "SME">	<3.2.A.5 type="N" input="M" "SME">	<3.2.A.6 type="N" input="M" "SME">	<3.2.A.7 type="N" input="M" "SME">	<3.2.A.8 type="N" input="M" "SME">	<3.2.A.9 type="N" input="G" "SME">	<3.2.A.10 type="P" input="G" "SME">	<3.2.A.11 type="N" input="M" "SME">	<3.2.A.12 type="N" input="M" "TA" "NA">	<3.2.A.13 type="N" input="M" "TA" "NA">	<3.2.A.14 type="N" input="M" "TA" "NA">	<3.2.A.15 type="N" input="M" "TA" "NA">	<3.2.A.16 type="N" input="G" "TA" "NA">
Priority axis 1	ERDF														
Priority axis 2	ESF														
Priority axis 3	YEI ³⁷	NA											NA	NA	NA
Priority axis 4	ESF														
	YEI ³⁸	NA											NA	NA	NA
Priority Axis 5	Cohesion Fund	NA													
Total	ERDF	Less developed		Equals total (1) in Table 17											
Total	ERDF	Transition		Equals total (2) in Table 17											
Total	ERDF	More		Equals total (3) in											

³⁷ This priority axis comprises the specific allocation to the YEI and the matching ESF support.

³⁸ This part of a priority axis comprises the specific allocation to the YEI and the matching ESF support.

		developed		Table 17											
Total	ERDF	Special allocation to outermost regions or northern sparsely populated regions		Equals total (11) in Table 17											
Total	ESF ³⁹	Less developed		This does not equal total (5) in Table 17, which includes ESF matching support to YEI ⁴⁰											
Total	ESF ⁴¹	Transition		This does not equal total (6) in Table 17, which includes ESF matching support to YEI											
Total	ESF ⁴²	More developed		This does not equal total (7) in Table 17,											

³⁹ ESF allocation without the matching support for the YEI.

⁴⁰ The sum of total ESF support in less developed, transition and more developed regions and the resources allocated to the YEI in Table 18a equals the sum of total ESF support in such regions and the specific allocation to the YEI in Table 17.

⁴¹ ESF allocation without the matching support for the YEI.

⁴² ESF allocation without the matching support for the YEI.

				which includes ESF matching support to YEI											
Total	YEI ⁴³	NA		This does not equal total (9) in Table 17, which only includes the YEI-specific allocation											
Total	Cohesion Fund	NA		Equals total (10) in Table 17											
Grand total				Equals total (12) in Table 17											

- (1) To be completed only when priority axes are expressed in total costs.
- (2) This rate may be rounded to the nearest whole number in the table. The precise rate used to reimburse payments is the ratio (f).

⁴³ Includes the YEI special allocation and the matching support from the ESF.

Table 18b: Youth Employment Initiative – ESF- and YEI-specific allocations⁴⁴ (where appropriate)

	Fund ⁴⁵	Category of region	Basis for calculation of Union support (Total eligible cost or public eligible cost)	Union support (a)	National counterpart (b) = (c) + (d)	Indicative breakdown of national counterpart		Total funding (e) = (a) + (b)	Co-financing rate (f) = (a)/(e) (2)
						National public funding (c)	National private funding (d) (1)		
	<3.2.B.1 type="S" input="G">	<3.2.B.2 type="S" input="G">	<3.2.B.3 type="S" input="G">	<3.2.B.1 type="N" input="M">	<3.2.B.4 type="N" input="G">	<3.2.B.5 type="N" input="M">	<3.2.B.6 type="N" input="M">	<3.2.B.7 type="N" input="G">	<3.2.B.8 type="P" input="G">
1.	YEI-specific allocation	NA			0				100%
2.	ESF matching support	less developed							
3.	ESF matching support	transition							
4.	ESF matching support	more developed							
5.	TOTAL: YEI [part of] Priority axis	[Must equal [part of] Priority axis 3]		Sum (1:4)	Sum (1:4)				

⁴⁴ To be completed for every (part of a) priority axis which implements the YEI.

⁴⁵ The YEI (specific allocation and matching ESF support) is considered a Fund and appears as a separate row even if it is part of a priority axis.

6.			Ratio of ESF for less developed regions $2/\text{sum}(2:4)$	<3.2.c.11 type="P" input="G">		
7.			Ratio of ESF for transition regions $3/\text{sum}(2:4)$	<3.2.c.13 type="P" input="G">		
8.			Ratio of ESF for more developed regions $4/\text{sum}(2:4)$	<3.2.c.14 type="P" input="G">		

- (1) To be completed only when priority axes are expressed in total costs.
- (2) This rate may be rounded to the nearest whole number in the table. The precise rate used to reimburse payments is the ratio (f).

Table 18c: Breakdown of the financial plan by priority axis, fund, category of region and thematic objective

(Reference: point (d)(ii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) CPR)

This breakdown is required in order to fulfil the requirement set out under Article 96(2)(d)(ii) CPR to specify for priority axes, which combine investment priorities from different thematic objectives, the amount of total financial appropriation from the ERDF, the ESF and the Cohesion Fund and the national co-financing for each of the corresponding thematic objectives. Where a priority axis corresponds to a single thematic objective, this table will not require a breakdown below the level of a priority axis and the information will be filled in automatically by SFC2014.

Priority axis	Fund ⁴⁶	Category of region	Thematic objective	Union support	National counterpart	Total funding
<3.2.C.1 type="S" input="G">	<3.2.C.2 type="S" input="G">	<3.2.C.3 type="S" input="G">	<3.2.C.4 type="S" input="G">	<3.2.C.5 type="N" input="M">	<3.2.C.6 type="N" input="M">	<3.2.C.7 type="N" input="M">
Total						

Table 19: Indicative amount of support to be used for climate change objectives

(Reference: Article 27(6) CPR)⁴⁷

This table is generated automatically by SFC2014 based on categorisation tables included under each of the priority axes. This table is not part of the financial plan in accordance with Article 96 of the CPR and is not subject to Commission decision.

The information provided in this table is based on uniform conditions on the implementation of a methodology to each of the ESI Funds adopted by the Commission in accordance with the third paragraph of Article 8 of the CPR⁴⁸.

⁴⁶ For the purposes of this table, the YEI (specific allocation and matching ESF support) is considered as a fund.

⁴⁷ This table is generated automatically on the basis of tables on categories of intervention under each priority axis.

Priority axis	Indicative amount of support to be used for climate change objectives (EUR)	Proportion of total allocation to the operational programme (%)
<3.2.C.8 type="S" input="G">	<3.2.C.9 type="N" input="G"> Decision=N>	<3.2.C.10 type="P" input="G"> Decision=N>
Total		

⁴⁸ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 215/2014 of 7 March 2014 (OJ L 69, 8.03.2014, p. 65).

SECTION 4 INTEGRATED APPROACH TO TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT

(Reference: Article 96(3) CPR)

Description of the integrated approach to territorial development taking into account the content and objectives of the operational programme having regard to the Partnership Agreement and showing how it contributes to the accomplishment of the objectives of the operational programme and expected results

A description of the approach to territorial development outlining:

- *The main territorial development needs and bottlenecks to be addressed, and main territorial development potentials, with reference to section 2, where appropriate and the means to achieve an integrated approach at regional and sub-regional level, where necessary to complement the Partnership Agreement. Where the Partnership Agreement is comprehensive and the programme does not have a specific territorial considerations (which can be the case especially where all programmes are prepared at the national level), the repetition of the Partnership Agreement is not necessary.*
- *The contribution of the territorial approach to the specific objectives and expected results of the operational programme.*

In case of operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance, this section should outline the support provided through this programme to the integrated territorial approach set out in the Partnership Agreement.

<4.0 type="S" maxlength="3500" input="M">

4.1 *Community-led local development (where appropriate)

(Reference: point (a) of Article 96(3) CPR)

The approach to the use of community-led local development instruments and the principles for identifying the areas where they will be implemented

A description outlining:

- *Where the Member States plans to use the community-led local development approach, a description of:*
 - *the principles for the identification of the areas in which community led local*

development will be implemented in line with the Partnership Agreement;

- the principles for the selection, approval and funding of community-led local development strategies and local development groups under Article 33(2-5) CPR.*

The description should focus on the role of community-led local development under the particular operational programme, avoiding duplication of information included in the Partnership Agreement. Hence, where the Partnership Agreement is comprehensive this section may include cross-references to the Partnership Agreement.

Community-led local development is optional for the ERDF and the ESF, therefore filling in this section is not mandatory, where no community-led local development is planned under the operational programme. This section is generally not relevant for operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance. Where actions are envisaged under such operational programmes specifically to support the implementation of community-led local development, it should be indicated.

<4.1 type="S" maxlength="7000" input="M" PA=Y>

4.2 Integrated actions for sustainable urban development (where appropriate)

(Reference: point (b) of Article 96(3) CPR; Article 7(2) and (3) of Regulation (EU) No 1301/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴⁹ (the 'ERDF Regulation'))

Where appropriate the indicative amount of ERDF support for integrated actions for sustainable urban development to be implemented in accordance with the provisions under Article 7(2) of the ERDF Regulation and the indicative allocation of ESF support for integrated action.

This section should include:

- The indicative amount of the ERDF support for integrated actions for sustainable urban development, to be implemented in accordance with the provisions under Article 7(2) of the ERDF Regulation and the indicative allocation of ESF support for integrated action, where ESF is used for the purposes of such actions (Table 20).*
- In addition the Member State may outline other aspects related to the approach to sustainable integrated urban development, including the use of Integrated Territorial Investment or other specific implementation arrangements to ensure an integrated approach, where this is an integral part of the operational programme.*
- Where integrated urban development actions falling under Article 7(2) of the ERDF Regulation are implemented as part of the operational programme, the*

⁴⁹ Regulation (EU) No 1301/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the European Regional Development Fund and on specific provisions concerning the Investment for growth and jobs goal and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 289).

operational programme should indicate the extent of the involvement of urban authorities in the management of these actions (including in the selection of operations).

Not all operational programmes include integrated actions for sustainable urban development, therefore filling in this section is not mandatory, where no such actions are planned. This section is generally not relevant for operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance. However, where actions are envisaged under such operational programmes specifically to support the implementation of integrated urban development, it should be indicated. Modalities for the envisaged participation in the urban development platform established pursuant to Article 9 ERDF Regulation should also be set out.

<4.2.1 type="S" maxlength="3500" input="M">

Table 20: Integrated actions for sustainable urban development – indicative amounts of ERDF and ESF support

Fund	ERDF and ESF support (indicative) (EUR)	Proportion of fund's total allocation to programme
<4.2.2 type="S" input="G">	<4.2.3 type="N" input="M">	<4.2.3 type="P" input="G">
Total ERDF		
Total ESF		
TOTAL ERDF+ESF		

4.3 *Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI) (where appropriate)

(Reference: point (c) of Article 96(3) CPR)

The approach to the use of Integrated Territorial Investments (ITIs) (as defined in Article 36 CPR) other than in cases covered by 4.2, and their indicative financial allocation from each priority axis.

An indication of whether the Member State will apply the approach outlined in Article 36 CPR to other areas in addition to sustainable urban development referred to in point 5.2 and where relevant:

- whether ITIs will constitute a significant or a widely used implementation tool for the operational programme;
- the areas where ITI will be used (where this is known) or types of areas, if the concrete areas are to be selected later e.g. by competitive procedures, specifying how and by when the areas covered by ITIs will be decided, where relevant;
- an indicative financial allocation to ITI other than those mentioned under point 5.2 (Table 21);
- the arrangements for the management and implementation of the ITI including the coordination between the managing authorities of the operational programmes contributing financially to the implementation of an ITI.

The use of ITIs is optional. Therefore the filling in of this section is not mandatory, where no ITIs will be used to implement the operational programme.

Where ITIs are used for the purposes of integrated urban development in accordance with Article 7 of the ERDF Regulation, the description of these arrangements should be set out under section 4.2.

This section is generally not relevant for operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance. However, where actions are envisaged under such operational programmes specifically to support the implementation of ITIs, it should be indicated.

<4.3.1 type="S" maxlength="5000" input="M PA=Y">

***Table 21: Indicative financial allocation to ITI other than those mentioned under point 4.2**

(aggregate amount)

Priority axis	Fund	Indicative financial allocation (Union support) (EUR)
<4.3.2 type="S" input="G" PA=Y>	<4.3.3 type="S" input="G" PA=Y>	<4.3.4 type="N" input="M" PA=Y >
Total		

4.4 *The arrangements for interregional and transnational actions, within the operational programme, with beneficiaries located in at least one other Member State (where appropriate)

(Reference: point (d) of Article 96(3) CPR)

An overview of circumstances where actions with beneficiaries located in at least one other Member State are planned under the operational programme in question, the expected contribution of such actions to the achievement of the programme's objectives and the expected benefit of such actions for the programme area. Where applicable, a description of arrangements ensuring audit trail and control.

This section is generally not relevant for operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance. However, where actions are envisaged under such operational programmes specifically to support or promote interregional and transnational actions within other national operational programmes, it should be indicated.

<4.4.1 type="S" maxlength="3500" input="M" PA=Y>

4.5 Contribution of the planned actions under the programme to macro-regional and sea-basin strategies, subject to the needs of the programme area as identified by the Member State (where appropriate)

(Where the Member State and regions participate in macro-regional strategies and sea basin strategies)

(Reference: point (e) of Article 96(3) CPR)

Where appropriate, a description, of how the macro regional and sea basin strategies have been taken into account in the definition of specific objectives and elaboration of types of actions to be supported. As not all Member States and regions are covered by macro-regional and sea basin strategies, this section may be left unfilled. However, where the Member State or the regions is covered by such a strategy this section should be filled in. Where the strategy is not relevant for the particular programme or these aspects have been sufficiently elaborated in the Partnership Agreement, it should be explained in this section.

This section is generally not relevant for operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance. However, where such operational programmes entail a significant contribution to a macro-regional or a sea-basin strategy, it should be outlined.

<4.4.2 type="S" maxlength="3500" input="M" >

SECTION 5 *SPECIFIC NEEDS OF GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS MOST AFFECTED BY POVERTY OR TARGET GROUPS AT HIGHEST RISK OF DISCRIMINATION OR SOCIAL EXCLUSION (WHERE APPROPRIATE)

(Reference: point (a) of Article 96(4) CPR)

This section is relevant for most operational programmes under cohesion policy. However, in some cases, particularly in case of narrowly focused sectoral programmes which do not have a significant social dimension, this section might not be relevant. Where this is the case, these sections do not need to be filled in.

Section 6 is generally not relevant for operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance. However, where actions are envisaged under such operational programmes specifically to support the implementation of the integrated approach to the areas and groups concerned, it should be indicated.

5.1 Geographical areas most affected by poverty/target groups at highest risk of discrimination or social exclusion

An identification of the geographical areas most affected by poverty (e.g. NUTS III or LAU 1, formerly known as NUTS IV regions with an at-risk-of-poverty rate 20 percentage points above national average) (preferably on the basis of poverty maps or of target groups at highest risk of discrimination (incl. educational and territorial segregation) covered by the operational programme, or target groups most affected by poverty and a description of their specific needs.

There are no restrictions or requirements as regards the level at which this data should be analysed, however in most cases the analysis should be carried out at a lower level than NUTS II regions in order to be useful. NUTS III regions or particular administrative regions of a Member State may also be used as a point of reference. The analysis may also go to a neighbourhood level, where relevant.

<5.1.1 type="S" maxlength="7000" input="M" Decision=N PA=Y>

5.2 Strategy to address the specific needs of geographical areas most affected by poverty/target groups at highest risk of discrimination or social exclusion, and where relevant, the contribution to the integrated approach set out in the Partnership Agreement

The programme's strategy and funding compatible with the overall strategy to address these specific needs. A description of how the operational programme in the implementation of the programme's strategy will contribute to addressing these specific needs, including the main elements included in table 22, as appropriate and the main results.

<5.2.1 type="S" maxlength="7000" input="M" Decision= N PA=Y>

Table 22: Actions to address specific needs of geographical areas most affected by poverty/target groups at highest risk of discrimination or social exclusion⁵⁰

The aim of the table below is to capture the actions focussing on geographical areas/target groups most affected by poverty from different priority axes which contribute, in an integrated manner, to the reduction of poverty in the areas/of target groups identified above. The aim of this section is not to capture all interventions under these priority axes/investment priorities, but only those that are targeted to these geographical areas/target groups.

NB: As set out in Article 96 (10) CPR, this section is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

Target group/geographical area	Main types of planned action as part of integrated approach	Priority axis	Fund	Category of region	Investment priority
<5.2.2 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M" Decision=N PA=Y >	<5.2.3type="S" maxlength="1500" input="M" Decision= N PA=Y >	<5.2.4 type="S" input="S" Decision= N PA=Y >	<5.2.6 type="S" input="S" Decision= N PA=Y >	<5.2.7 type="S" input="S" Decision= N PA=Y >	<5.2.5 type="S" input="S" PA=Y >

⁵⁰ If the programme covers more than one category of region, a breakdown by category may be necessary.

SECTION 6 *SPECIFIC NEEDS OF GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WHICH SUFFER FROM SEVERE AND PERMANENT NATURAL OR DEMOGRAPHIC HANDICAPS (WHERE APPROPRIATE)

(Reference: point (b) of Article 96(4) CPR).

This section should identify, where appropriate, whether and how the operational programme addresses demographic challenges of regions and the specific development needs of certain regions with severe and permanent natural or demographic handicaps, with reference to the Common Strategic Framework.

Where the Member State has highlighted in section 2 demographic challenges or specific development needs in regions which suffer from severe and permanent natural or demographic handicaps such as the northernmost regions with very low population density and island, cross-border and mountain regions, it should provide a brief summary of how the operational programme will be used to tackle these specific development needs, or demographic challenges in a more wider context.

Where the operational programme is implemented solely in regions referred to in Article 174 TFEU, the general strategy of the programme and the description of the priority axes should provide for these elements, and this specific section is in most cases not necessary.

This section is not relevant for all operational programmes. Where no demographic challenges are highlighted in section 2 or the operational programme does not cover regions suffering from severe and permanent natural or demographic handicaps, the section does not need to be filled in.

Section 6 is generally not relevant for operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance. Where actions are envisaged under such operational programmes specifically to address the needs of the regions concerned, it should be indicated.

NB: As set out in Article 96 (10) CPR, this section is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

<6.1 type="S" maxlength="5000" input="M" Decisions=N PA=Y>

SECTION 7 AUTHORITIES AND BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGEMENT, CONTROL AND AUDIT AND THE ROLE OF RELEVANT PARTNERS

(Reference: Article 96(5) CPR)

7.1 Relevant authorities and bodies

(Reference: points (a) and (b) of Article 96(5) CPR)

NB: As set out in Article 96 (10) CPR, this section is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

Table 23: Relevant authorities and bodies

Authority/body	Name of authority/body and department or unit	Head of authority/body (position or post)
<small><7.1.1 type="S" input="S" Decision=N "SME" ></small>	<small><7.1.2 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M" Decision=N "SME" ></small>	<small><7.1.3 type="S" maxlength="255" input="M" Decision=N "SME" ></small>
Managing authority		
Certifying authority, where applicable		
Audit authority		
Body to which Commission will make payments		

7.2 Involvement of relevant partners

(Reference: point (c) of Article 96(5) CPR)

7.2.1 Actions taken to involve the relevant partners in the preparation of the operational programme, and the role of those partners in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programme

This section should be filled in having regard to the principles set out in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 240/2014 of 7 January 2014 on the European code of conduct on partnership in the framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds⁵¹.

1) A short summary of the process of the preparation of the operational programme, with a specific focus on partnership, including:

⁵¹ OJ L 74, 14.3.2014, p. 1.

- *the authority which has coordinated the preparation of the operational programme and the public institutions directly involved in this exercise (such as, for example, the ministries);*
- *a description of the involvement of the partners referred to in Art. 5 CPR in the preparation of the operational programme (i.e. their involvement in the ex-ante evaluation; the definition of priorities and related specific objectives; the allocation of funding; the definition of programmes' specific indicators; and the implementation of the horizontal principles). This description should include:*
 - o *how partners have been selected;*
 - o *the list of the partners involved (annexed, separate character limit 10 500 characters with spaces);*
 - o *the actions taken to facilitate a wide involvement and an active participation of the partners, including in terms of accessibility;*
 - o *the main added value of the partnership in the preparation of the operational programme, in particular instances where the strategic choices have been significantly influenced by partners;*
 - o *the main results of the consultation with partners, including significant concerns, comments and recommendations raised by multiple partners.*

2) A description of how the relevant partners referred in Article 5 CPR will be involved in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the operational programme, including the planned actions to ensure their active participation in the implementation of the programmes, including actions in terms of accessibility, and the planned use of technical assistance resources.

NB: As set out in Article 96(10) CPR, this section is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

<7.2.1 type="S" maxlength="14000" input="M" Decisions=N "SME">

7.2.2 Global grants (for the ESF, where appropriate)

(Reference: Article 6(1) of the ESF Regulation)

As set out in Article 6(1) of the ESF Regulation, the participation of the partners referred to in Article 5 CPR in the implementation of the operational programmes may take the form of global grants.

Where appropriate, programmes shall identify the parts of the programme concerned by global grants to the partners referred to in Article 5 CPR (e.g. social partners and other stakeholders, in particular NGOs), including an indicative financial allocation from each priority axis to it.

This section is generally not relevant for operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance.

<7.2.2 type="S" maxlength="5000" input="M" Decisions=N>

7.2.3 Allocation of an amount for capacity building (for the ESF, where appropriate)

(Reference: Article 6(2) and (3) of the ESF Regulation)

Where required, programmes shall:

- *identify the appropriate (according to the needs) allocation (amount) of ESF resources to capacity-building activities and activities jointly undertaken by the social partners. They shall specify the priority axes concerned and the types of activities they intend to support (training, networking measures, strengthening of the social dialogue...);*
- *identify the appropriate (according to the needs) allocation (amount) of ESF resources to capacity-building activities for the non-governmental organisations. They shall also specify the types of activities they intend to support.*

This section is relevant for operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance which include a contribution from the ESF in case there is technical assistance support for capacity building for social partners and/or NGOs.

<7.2.3 type="S" maxlength="14000" input="M" Decisions=N>

SECTION 8 *COORDINATION BETWEEN THE FUNDS, THE EAFRD, THE EMFF AND OTHER UNION AND NATIONAL FUNDING INSTRUMENTS, AND WITH THE EIB

(Reference: point (a) of Article 96(6) CPR)

The mechanisms to ensure coordination between the Funds, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) and other Union and national funding instruments, and with the European Investment Bank (EIB), taking into account the relevant provisions laid down in the Common Strategic Framework.

A description how coordination will be ensured:

- *with the other ESI Funds (ERDF, ESF, Cohesion Fund, EAFRD, EMFF);*
- *with other Union instruments (Horizon 2020, LIFE +, the Connecting Europe Facility, COSME, Erasmus for All, Asylum and Migration Fund, Programme for Employment and Social Innovation etc.);*
- *with relevant national funding instruments that contribute to the same or similar objectives as the operational programme, or complement the interventions of the operational programme;*
- *with the EIB.*

This should include:

- *an identification of the areas where support under the operational programme can be used in a complementary manner with the funding sources listed above to achieve the thematic objectives selected;*
- *an explanation of how synergies and complementarities will be exploited to ensure effectiveness, including e.g. by combining support from different instruments to support individual operations;*
- *a description of coordination mechanisms for each of the relevant funding sources listed above identifying the bodies responsible for coordination in these areas and outlining the structures or arrangements (e.g. committees, consultation procedures) used for this purpose;*
- *a description of arrangements to ensure coordination with relevant European territorial cooperation programmes operating in the same territory.*

The content of the Partnership Agreement should be taken into account. The description of coordination mechanisms in the operational programme should complete and complement the Partnership Agreement, avoiding repetition. In certain cases it is possible that this section in the operational programme is very brief, focusing on very specific coordination mechanisms, or it can make references to the Partnership Agreement, as the latter is comprehensive.

In the case of operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance this section should outline how the operational programme will contribute to support coordination between the ESI Funds, with other Union and national funding

instruments, and with the EIB.

NB: As set out in Article 96 (10) CPR, this section is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

<8.1 type="S" maxlength="14000" input="M" Decisions=N PA=Y>

SECTION 9 *EX-ANTE CONDITIONALITIES

(Reference: point (b) of Article 96(6) CPR)

In accordance with Article 19 CPR, the Member States should provide the Commission with information on the applicability of ex-ante conditionalities and on the fulfilment of applicable ex ante conditionalities. Information in this regard may be provided within separate explanatory documents submitted with the operational programme. However, it may also be included under this section of the operational programme in order to complement the information set out in Table 24.

NB: No thematic ex-ante conditionalities have been proposed for technical assistance. However, general ex-ante conditionalities may be applicable to technical assistance priority axes, therefore Tables 24 and 25 are relevant also for operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance. Table 26 on thematic ex-ante conditionalities is not relevant for such programmes.

9.1 Ex-ante conditionalities

Information on the assessment of the applicability and the fulfilment of ex-ante conditionalities (optional)

<9.0 type="S" maxlength="14000" input="M" PA=Y>

Table 24: Applicable ex-ante conditionalities and assessment of their fulfilment

This table sets out all applicable general and thematic ex-ante conditionalities for the operational programme, including those which have been included in the Partnership Agreement, but which are applicable to the priority axes of the programme in question and the fulfilment or non-fulfilment of which therefore affects the implementation of the programme. It is necessary to identify, for each applicable ex-ante conditionality, the priority axes to which it applies and to indicate and explain which criteria are fulfilled or unfulfilled.

Ex-ante conditionality	Priority axes to which conditionality applies	Ex-ante conditionality fulfilled (yes/no/partially)	Criteria	Criteria fulfilled (yes/no)	Reference (reference to strategies, legal act or other relevant documents, incl. relevant sections, articles or paragraphs, accompanied by web-links or access to full text)	Explanations
<9.1.1 type="S" maxlength="500" input="S" PA=Y "SME" >	<9.1.2 type="S" maxlength="100" input="S" PA=Y "SME" >	<9.1.3 type="C" input="G" PA=Y "SME" >	<9.1.4 type="S" maxlength="500" input="S" PA=Y "SME" >	<9.1.5 type="B" input="S" PA=Y "SME" >	<9.1.6 type="S" maxlength="500" input="M" PA=Y "SME" >	<9.1.7 type="S" maxlength="1000" input="M" PA=Y "SME" >

9.2 Description of actions to fulfil ex-ante conditionalities, responsible bodies and timetable ⁵²

These tables cover only applicable general and thematic ex-ante conditionalities which are completely unfulfilled or partially fulfilled (as set out in Table 24 above) at the time of submission of the operational programme.

Table 25: Actions to fulfil applicable general ex-ante conditionalities

General ex-ante conditionality	Criteria not fulfilled	Actions to be taken	Deadline (date)	Bodies responsible
<9.2.1 type="S" maxlength="500" input="G" PA=Y "SME" >	<9.2.2 type="S" maxlength="500" input="G" PA=Y "SME" >	<9.2.3 type="S" maxlength="100 0" input="M" PA=Y "SME" >	<9.2.4 type="D" input="M" PA=Y "SME" >	<9.2.5 type="S" maxlength="500" input="M" PA=Y "SME" >

Table 26: Actions to fulfil applicable thematic ex-ante conditionalities

Thematic ex-ante conditionality	Criteria not fulfilled	Actions to be taken	Deadline (date)	Bodies responsible
<9.2.1 type="S" maxlength="500" input="G" PA=Y "SME" TA- "NA">	<9.2.2 type="S" maxlength="500" input="G" PA=Y "SME" TA- "NA">	<9.2.3 type="S" maxlength="100 0" input="M" PA=Y "SME" TA- "NA">	<9.2.4 type="D" input="M" PA=Y "SME" TA- "NA">	<9.2.5 type="S" maxlength="500" input="M" PA=Y "SME" TA- "NA">
1. X		Action 1	Deadline for action 1	
		Action 2	Deadline for action 2	

⁵² Tables 25 and 26 cover only applicable general and thematic ex-ante conditionalities which are completely unfulfilled or partially fulfilled (see Table 24) at the time of submission of the programme.

SECTION 10 *Reduction of administrative burden for beneficiaries

(Reference: point (c) of Article 96(6) CPR)

Summary of the assessment of the administrative burden for beneficiaries and, where necessary, the actions planned accompanied by an indicative timeframe to reduce administrative burden

A summary assessment of the administrative burden and actions to planned to achieve a reduction including:

- *An assessment of the administrative burden of beneficiaries, including the identification of main sources of administrative burden in the period 2007-2013, the main actions already taken to reduce that burden for the period 2014-2020, and potential scope for further reduction, referring to statistical data, and results of evaluations and studies, where possible;*
- *Main (not all – only a summary is required) actions planned to achieve a reduction in administrative burden with an indicative timeframe (e.g. end date), including the use of simplified costs, where appropriate.*

In the case of operational programmes dedicated to technical assistance the beneficiaries concerned under this section are the authorities using technical assistance. The description of actions taken to reduce the administrative burden of the beneficiaries of other programmes should be described under the description of the respective priority axes.

NB: As set out in Article 96(10) CPR, this section is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

<10.0 type="S" maxlength="7000" input="M" decision=N PA=Y>

SECTION 11 *Horizontal principles

(Reference: Article 96(7) CPR)

11.1 Sustainable development

Description of specific action to take into account environmental protection requirements, resource efficiency, climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster resilience and risk prevention and management, in the selection of operations.

A description of how the aspects listed above are taken into account in project selection, with reference to particular priority axes, where appropriate.

This section is subject to the duly justified assessment of the Member State of the relevance of horizontal principles to the content and objectives of the programme. If the Member State considers that the horizontal principle is not relevant for the operational programme concerned, this section should provide a justification for such an assessment.

Where a part or all of the information requested is included in the Partnership Agreement a cross-reference may be made.

NB: As set out in Article 96(10) CPR, this section is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

<13.1 type="S" maxlength="5500" input="M" decision=N>

11.2 Equal opportunities and non-discrimination

Description of specific action to promote equal opportunities and prevent discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation during the preparation, design and implementation of the operational programme and in particular in relation to access to funding, taking account of the needs of the various target groups at risk of such discrimination and in particular the requirements to ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities.

A description covering, but not limited to:

- Identification of particular targets groups, which may have a reduced access to support or are at risk of discrimination and identification of the measures to mitigate these risks;*
- Any initiatives aimed at mainstreaming these principles in project selection and implementation e.g. uniform requirements for accessibility for already*

existing and new or reconstructed public buildings and established services;

- *Actions which ensure accessibility to all citizens including those with disabilities to all goods, services and infrastructure, in particular to the physical environment, transport and ICT;*
- *Any specific monitoring and evaluation measures envisaged to ensure the follow –up of the implementation of these principles and how these results of monitoring and evaluation will be taken into account;*
- *Specific actions to be taken to promote equal opportunities and prevent discrimination with reference to the investment priority(ies) concerned in the operational programme (compulsory for the ESF);*

Except for programmes co-financed by the ESF – where this section is compulsory in accordance with Article 8 of the ESF Regulation -this section is subject to the duly justified assessment of the Member State of the relevance of horizontal principles to the content and objectives of the programme. If the Member State considers that the horizontal principle is not relevant for the operational programme concerned, this section should provide a justification for such an assessment.

Where a part or all of the information requested is included in the Partnership Agreement a cross-reference may be made.

NB: As set out in Article 96(10) CPR, this section is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

<13.2 type="S" maxlength="5500" input="M" decision=N>

11.3 Equality between men and women

Description of contribution of the operational programme to the promotion of equality between men and women and, where appropriate, the arrangements to ensure the integration of the gender perspective at operational programme and operation level.

A description covering, but not limited to:

- *The contribution of the operational programme to the promotion of equality between men and women, with reference to specific challenges faced in this area, as appropriate;*
- *The actions planned to ensure the integration of gender perspective at operational level in particular with regard to the selection of operations and settings of objectives for intervention including any initiatives aimed at*

mainstreaming this principles in project selection and implementation.;

- *Any specific monitoring and evaluation measures based, if possible, on gender specific data and indicators envisaged to ensure the follow-up of the implementation of this principle;*
- *Specific actions as part of a broader strategy for the promotion of gender equality to be taken;*

Except for programmes co-financed by the ESF – where this section is compulsory in accordance with Article 7 of the ESF Regulation -this section is subject to the duly justified assessment of the Member State of the relevance of horizontal principles to the content and objectives of the programme. If the Member State considers that the horizontal principle is not relevant for the operational programme concerned, this section should provide a justification for such an assessment.

Where a part or all of the information requested is included in the Partnership Agreement cross-references may be made.

NB: As set out in Article 96(10) CPR, this section is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

<13.2 type="S" maxlength="5500" input="M" decision=N>

SECTION 12 Separate elements

12.1 Major projects to be implemented during programming period

(Reference: point (e) of Article 96(2) CPR)

NB: As set out in Article 96 (10) CPR, this section (list of major projects) is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

Table 27: List of major projects

Project	Planned notification/submission date (year, quarter)	Planned start of implementation (year, quarter)	Planned completion date (year, quarter)	Priority Axes/Investment Priorities
<12.1.1 type="S" maxlength="500" input="S" decision=N>	<12.1.2 type="D" input="M" decision=N >	<12.1.3 type="D" input="M" decision=N >	<12.1.4 type="D" input="M" decision=N >	<12.1.5 type="S" " input="S" decision=N >

12.2 Performance framework of operational programme

The summary table is generated automatically by SFC2014 based on the tables outlined by priority axis.

Table 28: Performance framework by fund and category of region (summary table)

Priority axis	Fund	Category of region	Indicator or key implementation step	Measurement unit, where appropriate	Milestone for 2018	Final target (2023) ⁵³		
						M	W	T
<12.2.1 type="S" input="G">	<12.2.2 type="S" input="G">	<12.2.3 type="S" input="G">	<12.2.4 type="S" input="G">	<12.2.5 type="S" input="G">	<12.2.6 type="S" input="G">	<12.2.7 type="S" input="G">		

⁵³

The target value may be presented as a total (men+women) or broken down by gender.

12.3 Relevant partners involved in preparation of programme

This list will complement the description of partnership arrangements and the involvement of partners outlined in section 1.

NB: As set out in Article 96(10) CPR, this section is not subject to the Commission decision approving the operational programme and remains under the responsibility of the Member State.

<12.3 type="S" maxlength="10500" input="M" decision=N>

ANNEXES (uploaded to electronic data exchange system as separate files):

- Draft report of ex-ante evaluation with executive summary (mandatory)
(Reference: Article 55(2) CPR)
- Documentation on assessment of applicability and fulfilment of ex-ante conditionalities (as appropriate)
- Opinion of national equality bodies on sections 11.2 and 11.3 (as appropriate)
(Reference: Article 96(7) CPR)
- Citizens' summary of operational programme (as appropriate)

A citizens' summary is an optional element. The Member State is not obliged to submit it to the Commission and it is not covered by the Commission decision approving the operational programme. It can be used to outline, in the format chosen by the Member State, the objectives and the content of the operational programme, including the intervention logic, as appropriate, for the purposes of consultation and communication.

Where necessary, this section can also outline the content of each individual priority axis.

The format proposed (upload to SFC2014 as a separate file, no structured data) enables the Member State to use the structure and the formatting it considers most appropriate for communication purposes. It also entails no restrictions on the number of characters used.

NB: This document complements the mandatory elements of the operational programme. It does not replace any of the elements for which format requirements have been outlined in the model to be adopted by way of implementing acts. All data required in a structured format must be submitted to comply with the requirements of Article 96 CPR.

In the case of inconsistencies between the structured data submitted (i.e. the formal content of the operational programme) and the citizens summary (not part of the formal content of operational programme under Article 96 CPR), the structured data submitted in the required format shall prevail.