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EUSAIR governance support project overview

Note: This project overview template is supposed to accompany the Concept Note document. Its function is to provide condensed overview of the governance support project. For further information the GB members can refer to the full document, which will in the final version concept notes be transferred in the format requested by the IPA ADRION IP.

**1. BASIC DATA**

Project title: **EUSAIR STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION (Project 3)**

Compulsory functions covered (as per IPA ADRION IP):

1. Support to development and implementation of strategic implementation formats.

Project partnership:

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| **Role** | **Country** | **Institution** |
| Lead Partner | Croatia | The Ministry of Regional Development and EU funds |
| Project Partner | Serbia | Ministry of European Integration of the Republic of Serbia |

Project duration: 1 September 2023 – 31 August 2029; 72 months

Total estimated project budget: 2,611.620,00 EUR

EU funds budget: 2,219.877,00 EUR

**2. OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS**

Project overall objective: to facilitate EUSAIR governance structures in developing and implementing the EUSAIR through targeted implementation formats and capitalising on existing resources available to the region to use them smarter and more efficiently as well as enhancing macro-regional cooperation.

Expected results:

⮊ R1 State of the art - analysis of the existing flagships and developed implementation formats conducted.

⮊ R2 Knowledge based report on established key strategic ideas produced based on conducted capacity building activities for TSGs and stakeholders.

⮊ R3 Terms of references for the engagement of external experts needed for the development of the strategic projects prepared and the corresponding public procurement procedure carried out and completed.

⮊ R4 Set of criteria and typologies for implementation formats developed and Pipeline of selected implementation formats prepared.

⮊ R5 Handbook for the preparation of project proposals for each implementation format prepared.

⮊ R6 Project proposal documents for each strategic implementation format that is bankable and ready for financing developed.

⮊ R7 Project proposals labelled based on developed Methodology for labelling.

⮊ R8 Advocacy plan for EUSAIR label conceptualized as a set of actions based on a timely defined and implementation-wise advocacy plan.

**3. PROJECT WORKPLAN**

**WP 1: DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION FORMATS**

Specific objective: Providing a quality and efficient organizational and methodological framework

Brief description of WP: creation of prerequisites for the selection of key strategic ideas that will be advanced into implementation formats through capacity building and the development of criteria for selection of implementation formats.

List of activities and deliverables:

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| Activity | Related deliverables (quantity) |
| 1.1. Report on existing flagships and developed implementation formats  The goal of the report is to identify the main challenges regarding the current implementation of EUSAIR, i.e. identification of the existing implementation formats and policy models. Report will summarize the review of existing documents and methodologies that have been developed in the previous Facility Point and Facility Point Plus projects as well as interviews with TSGs in order to collect all relevant information. | D.1.1.1 Report on existing flagships and developed implementation formats (1) |
| 1.2 Collecting key strategic ideas from flagships and other relevant sources at regional, national, transnational and macro-regional levels  This activity consists of two major functions/actions with internal and external impacts on the EUSAIR and represents an important step in supporting the development of future strategic implementation formats:   * Capacity building of implementers (TSG members) * Empowerment of stakeholders (regional and local authorities, universities, institutes, chambers of commerce, private sector, international financing institutions and other relevant representatives, if relevant). | D.1.2.1 Capacity building workshops meeting minutes (4)  D.1.2.2 Thematic steering group working reports on key strategic ideas (4)  D.1.2.3 Empowerment events with stakeholders (min. 4)  D.1.2.4 Knowledge based report on established key strategic ideas (1) |
| 1.3. Advancement of key strategic ideas and development of the framework for the implementation formats  The activity consists of two phases:   * Development of the framework for the implementation formats * Upgrade of key strategic ideas into implementation formats | D.1.3.1. Set of criteria and typologies for implementation formats (1)  D.1.3.2. Instructions for designing concept documents (1)  D.1.3.3. Pipeline of selected implementation formats (1) |
| 1.4. Preparation of ToRs and implementation of the procurement for engaging external experts for the development of implementation formats |  |
| 1.5. Knowledge exchange and learning  The exchange of knowledge on best practices within and outside MRS will support capacity building for PPs and TSGs in the development of implementation formats.  Activity will be implemented through study visits, joint meetings, good practices exchange, etc. | D.1.5.1. Study visits (min.3)  D.1.5.2. Organized meetings (min. 8) |

Key target groups: EUSAIR governance structures (GB, TSG, NC), regional and local authorities, universities, institutes, chambers of commerce, private sector, international financing institutions, other MRS

**WP 2:** **SUPPORT TO IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION FORMATS**

Specific objective: facilitating the development of concept documents for future project proposals on identified strategic implementation formats that are ready for financing.

Brief description of WP: dedicated to the preparation of project proposals for each strategic implementation format accompanied by facilitation of the mapping process and identification of project proposals partnerships.

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| Activity | Related deliverables (quantity) |
| 2.1. Development of the handbook for the preparation of project proposals for each strategic implementation format  The handbook is a comprehensive plan and methodological framework for the development of project proposals. It will streamline the preparation of project proposals by proscribing in detail all the necessary steps that need to be made in order to prepare a successful project proposal. | D. 2.1.1. Developed handbook for the preparation of project proposals for each strategic implementation format (1) |
| 2.2. Awareness Raising activities  Project 3 will participate in the activities in the framework of Projects 1 and 2 to reach all relevant actors on the policy level as well as stakeholders representing potential implementing entities. The goal of the activity is coordination with the networks of the relevant Managing authorities (MAs), centrally managed EU programmes - LIFE, Horizon Europe, etc. and other relevant funding sources, financial institutions like European Investment Bank (EIB). Selected implementation formats will be presented to mentioned actors in order to explore synergies and potential for their implementation as well as subsequential funding opportunities. | D. 2.2.1. Participation in awareness raising events (10) |
| 2.3. Organizing at least two international advocacy matchmaking events  This activity includes the organization of 2 matchmaking events with the purpose of:   * Establishing contacts with relevant stakeholders in the EUSAIR territory to explore possibilities for forming international partnerships. * Facilitating dialogue/matchmaking between project proposals and potential partnerships.   Matchmaking events will present implementation formats and their value for the implementation of the EUSAIR as well as a way to communicate opportunities for potential partnerships and recognize the most suitable ones. | D.2.3.1. Advocacy matchmaking events (min. 2) |
| 2.4. Mapping of the funding sources for project proposals  The result of the Activity will be a report containing a list of potential funding sources adjusted to the developed project proposals that are being targeted. Only project proposals with feasible and available funding will be developed into final project proposals. | D.2.4.1. Report on identified funding sources for each project proposal/implementation format (1) |
| 2.5. Development of project proposal documents for each strategic implementation format  This activity aims to produce project proposals for each implementation format presented in the Pipeline of selected implementation formats in order to enable their efficient implementation in due time. Since each implementation format is expected to be different, external experts will develop one for each format. Project proposals will be made only for the most mature implementation formats, meaning that project partners have to be identified, the budget has to be realistic and the time framework for implementation has to be defined. | D.2.5.1. Developed project proposal documents for each strategic implementation format, for each strategic implementation format |

Key target groups: EUSAIR governance structures (GB, TSG, NC), regional and local authorities, universities, institutes, chambers of commerce, private sector, international financing institutions, Managing Authorities, centrally managed EU programmes

**WP 3: ADVOCACY**

Specific objective: Facilitating advocacy process for the EUSAIR label

Brief description of WP: dedicated to the advocacy process for increasing the visibility and importance of EUSAIR label. Within this WP the preparation of strategic guidelines and recommendations will secure the identification of flagships/key priorities for the future programming period accompanied by continuous communication with stakeholders during the Project`s implementation.

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| Activity | Related deliverables (quantity) |
| 3.1. Labelling of project proposals  New methodology will be developed following the review of the previously existing methodology. The label will transparently communicate to stakeholders and the whole macro-regional area that project proposals are in line with the EUSAIR priorities and financially viable. | D.3.1.1. Methodology for labelling (1)  D.3.1.2. Labelled project proposals for each strategic implementation format |
| 3.2. Preparation of Advocacy plan for EUSAIR label  The aim of the advocacy process is to communicate the added value of EUSAIR and tools developed through this Project. Particularly to increase the reach of the Strategy and capitalization possibilities that contribute to the implementation of EUSAIR and development of macro-region. the advocacy plan will consist of specific recommendations considering its envisioned results. | D.3.2.1. Developed Advocacy plan for EUSAIR label (1) |
| 3.3. Facilitating the identification of flagships/key priorities for the post-2027 period  Identification of flagships for the future post-2027 programming period will be a challenging process that has to match EUSAIR thematic areas with policy and specific objectives of Cohesion funds. Such flagships should also include and reflect national strategic policy objectives and development priorities that derive from the strategic development documents of the EUSAIR countries. | D.3.3.1. Thematic/capacity building workshops with TSGs for development of new flagships, min. 4  D.3.3.2. Strategic guidelines and recommendations for the future flagships/key priorities, 1 |
| 3.4. Communication with stakeholders  The purpose of the activity is to strengthen the visibility of the project and the strategic project development process. | D.3.4.1. EUSAIR website updates  D.3.4.2. Set of promotional items (1 set)  D.3.4.3. e-Publications (2)  D.3.4.4. Press conferences/media actions (2) |

Key target groups: EUSAIR governance structures (GB, TSG, NC), regional and local authorities, universities, institutes, chambers of commerce, private sector, international financing institutions, Managing Authorities, centrally managed EU programmes, general public, NGOs

**4. PROJECT TEAM**

List positions

Lead partner:

Head of Project Implementation Unit (PIU) 1

Project manager(s) 2

Project partner:

Head of Project Implementation Unit (PIU) 1

Project manager(s): 1-2