

ECOPP workshops subgroup 2

Feb 16th, 2023



PRESENTATION PLAN

1. How do we understand the co-creation in the European Code of Conduct on Partnership (ECCP)?
2. Why do we need more co-creation? - positive and negative cases
3. How we can strengthen co-creation in the ECCP?



How do we understand co-creation in the European Code of Conduct on Partnership ?

Co-creation means that managing authorities and beneficiaries (those mentioned in the Common Provisions Regulation and the Code of Conduct on Partnership) jointly decide on all relevant steps in the programming and implementation of funds as equal partners. This would require more and closer cooperation between managing authorities and beneficiaries when discussing and taking key decisions on the funds.



Positive case: Evolvment of ERDF SUD-programs (Sustainable Urban Development) in West Sweden 2007-2027

Period	MA-level	Format	Geography	Budget
2007-2013	NUTS 2	SUD-priority axis	Deprived areas, Gothenburg	9 MEUR
2014-2020	NUTS 2	ITI (ERDF only)	Gothenburg	2 MEUR
2021-2027	National	SUD-program (pre-studies)	Gothenburg Region	?

Aspects facilitating meaningful co-creation:

- Additionality
- Adequate budget & timeframe
- A concrete co-ordination structure at national level
- Functional learning platforms



Negative case

- Long after the beginning of the process, the central authority sends information on the decisions that were taken by the managing authority on the planning of the programs to a number of partners, not granting them an opportunity to provide feedback.
- During a single workshop that is being organised on the central level, representatives of several ministries present their view on the programmes to a number of selected partners.
- No consideration is given to vulnerable & underrepresented groups and the vast majority of members of the monitoring committees are representing central ministries/managing authorities.



How can we strengthen co-creation in the ECCP?

- **Recommendation 1 (Representativeness)**

- Art. 3 will help to achieve a more balanced representation of partners in the development of a Partnership-Agreement through a detailed description of bodies that managing authorities will invite.
- Art. 4 establishes similar rules for the programmes and further includes more detailed descriptions of how the involvement of smaller groups could be ensured (para 3 & 4).

CONCRETE CHANGE PROPOSAL:

Article 3

Identification of relevant partners for the Partnership Agreement

1. For the Partnership Agreement, Member States shall identify the relevant partners among at least the following:

(a) competent regional, local and other public authorities, including:

(i) regional authorities, national representatives of local authorities, ~~and~~ local authorities, **while equally representing sub-regional authorities such as cities, municipalities, metropolitan authorities etc. or the representatives of associations representing the beforementioned entities**, whose competences are related to the planned use of the ESI Funds; (...)

Article 4

Identification of relevant partners for programmes

1. For each programme, Member States shall identify the relevant partners among at least the following:

(a) competent regional, local and other public authorities, including:

(i) regional authorities, national representatives of local authorities, ~~and~~ local authorities **while equally representing sub-regional authorities such as cities, municipalities, metropolitan authorities etc. or the representatives of associations representing the beforementioned entities**, whose competences are related to the planned use of the ESI Funds contributing to the programme;

(...)

3. Where public authorities, economic and social partners, and bodies representing civil society have established an umbrella organisation, they may nominate a single representative to present the views of the umbrella organisation in the partnership. **To facilitate the participation of smaller association and interest groups, members shall be able to nominate alternate members that can participate in meetings on their behalf.**

4. When identifying relevant partners, the member states shall ensure all partners are equally represented at all stages of the preparation and implementation of the programmes.

stimulate
exchange
dominate
review

How can we strengthen co-creation in the ECCP?

• Recommendation 2 (Involvement)

- We specifically mention the metropolitan level because of its growing role in the EU. 60% of EU's population lives in metropolitan areas. 68% of EU's GDP is created in metropolitan areas. Over 80% of migrants choose metropolitan regions as their points of destination. Most big problems and challenges are also located there.

Article 6

Preparation of the Partnership Agreement (...)

- (d) the list of programmes and the mechanisms at national, ~~and~~ regional, ***local, urban and metropolitan*** level to ensure coordination of the ESI Funds with one another and with other Union and national funding instruments and with the European Investment Bank;
- (e) the arrangements for ensuring an integrated approach to the use of ESI Funds for the territorial development of urban, rural, ***metropolitan***, coastal and fisheries areas and areas with particular territorial features;

Article 8

Preparation of programmes

Member States shall involve relevant partners, in accordance with their institutional and legal framework, ~~in the preparation of programmes,~~ ***This includes*** and in particular concerning:

- (a) the analysis and identification of needs;
- (b) the definition or selection of priorities and related specific objectives;
- (c) the allocation of funding;
- (d) the definition of programmes' specific indicators;

How we can strengthen co-creation in the ECCP?

- **Recommendation 3 (Exchange and learning) NEW - Article 12a**
- Actual ECCP seems to be a "procedure" of providing the right way of choosing the partners and ensuring the possibility of being involved in the decision-making process. In fact, very often participation in the work of the committee comes down to the acceptance or submission of comments on the proposal of the Management Authority. A new article should strengthen and increase the meaning of co-creation in the decision-making process. Give opportunity for common reflection on the relationship between problem, goals, actions and expected effects.

NEW - Article 12a

- Managing Authorities should ensure that partners can participate in the co-creation of the main assumptions concerning: calls for proposals, progress reports, monitoring and evaluation of programmes.
- Co-creation shall take place through the organisation of workshops or in other forms determined by the monitoring committee.
- The monitoring committee approves the annual schedule of co-creation workshops on the preparation: calls for proposals, progress reports, monitoring and evaluation of programmes
- The implementing authority provides the facilitator and all premises to improve the competences of the partners in the field of methods and principles of conducting co-creation process.