JASPERS Advisory and capacity building support for projects and investment

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JASPERS-EPEC Seminar on Blending ESI Funds and PPPs
Brussels, 11th May 2016
Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Regions

- A technical assistance partnership between three partners (EU Commission’s DG Regional and Urban Policy, EIB and EBRD) started in 2005
- Independent advice and capacity building to beneficiary countries to help prepare high quality major projects to be co-financed by EU Structural and Cohesion Funds (absorption of EU Funds in sound and sustainable investments)
- Main focus on assignments related to major projects with total eligible cost exceeding EUR 75 million (transport sector) and EUR 50 million (other sectors)
- Flexibility to work on smaller projects & investment programmes
- 2014-2020: also provides support to MSs and EC in project appraisals (IQR)
JASPERS functions in 2014-2020

JASPERS main areas of activity 2014-2020

**Project Advisory**
- Project advisory in EU16 + IPA countries
- Expansion to other EU MS recipient of Cohesion Funding (Spain, Portugal, others, based on demand)
- Focus on Major Projects and sectoral issues

**Networking and Competence Center**
- All EU28 and IPA
- Multi-country capacity building & knowledge sharing (Networking Platform)
- On-demand training (including in-country and e-learning)
- Advisory support on cross-sectoral topics

**Independent Quality Review**
- Independent expert appraisal of cohesion-funded Major Projects as envisaged by EU Regulations and relevant Implementing Acts
JASPERS structure and operations

Seven divisions

- Roads
- Rail, Air and Maritime
- Energy and Solid Waste
- Smart Development
- Water and Wastewater
- Independent Quality Review
- Networking and Competence Centre

Now operating under four mandates

- Cohesion (DG Regio)
- IPA II (DG Near)
- CEF (DG Move)
- Support to EIAH

2006-2015
- 994 assignments completed
- 467 grant applications approved
- Total Investment cost of mobilised: 72.21 € billion

- Around 120 staff in 2016, 70% of experts are in JASPERS Regional Offices (PL, RO, Vienna, BXLS) close to counterparts and beneficiaries
- JASPERS experts are Engineers, Economists, State Aid and Environmental/climate specialists
What JASPERS offers

- Project preparation support (full project cycle, from strategies to request for grant)
- Support to address cross-cutting issues and on strategic considerations (e.g. Transport Master Plans)
- Capacity building, training and knowledge sharing, including a [Networking and Competence Center](#) (NCC)
- [Independent quality review](#) of projects
- Post-submission appraisal function for all major projects submitted directly to the EU Commission
- Targeted implementation support
- Assistance to [Connecting Europe Facility](#) projects (transport) to seven Member States (Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia)
- Assistance to the [European Investment Advisory Hub](#) (EIAH)
## Project cycle and JASPERS Support

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<th>Stage</th>
<th>Support and Guidance</th>
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| **Pre-feasibility or concept stage** | - Support and guidance on sectoral strategies, master plans, etc.  
- Assistance in developing project concepts vis-à-vis EU regulations  
- Terms of Reference for beneficiaries to select consultants for the preparation of the feasibility study. |
| **Feasibility stage**        | - Methodological and advisory support during the preparation of the feasibility study and other supporting studies (EIA, CBA, etc)  
- Support to the beneficiary and/or line ministry in the review of intermediate and final deliverables. |
| **Grant Application stage**  | - Review of the draft grant application and supporting document before the submission to COM for approval |
| **Implementation**           | - Selective implementation support for the setting up of appropriate Project Implementation Units (PIUs) and the reviewing of tender documents |
| **Horizontal outputs and capacity building activities** | - JASPERS advises on horizontal issues that affect several projects/subsectors/countries. Assistance through Horizontal actions to address issues across a whole sector or series of projects (e.g. state aid, environmental issues, CBA)  
- Capacity building: Multi-country (Networking Platform) and in-country workshops/seminars/trainings |
How JASPERS works

- JASPERS operates on the basis of country Action Plans prepared in cooperation with the beneficiary state concerned and the European Commission

- A Managing Authority acts as a central coordinator for each country and it can request assistance from JASPERS

- Every Action Plan is a rolling plan, starting with the signature of this document one single time for the 2014-2020 programming period

- Action Plan/Working Arrangements are valid for the entire 2014-2020 period

- Periodic modifications (addition and removal of projects and assignments) take place with agreement between the parties by exchange of letters
NCC capacity building and training activities

- Networking Platform multi-country capacity building, training, knowledge sharing, dissemination of good practice and lessons learned (in Brussels and at regional level)
  - Focus on key competencies for cohesion policy, good practice for project preparation and other relevant horizontal/sectoral topics
  - Discussion forums (online/offline)

- In-country capacity building actions
  - Request by MSs for targeted capacity building assignments (train-the-trainers) and contribution to other JASPERS actions
  - Follow-up of multi-country actions (at regional level)

- Advisory on horizontal issues - State aid, climate change, PPPs, CBA, environmental issues, etc.

- Videos and e-learning (blended training)

- Publications and guidance documents

- Web portal: www.jaspersnetwork.org
Multi-country NCC Work Programme 2016

- Training on environmental requirements for projects in 2014-2020
- Public Transport quality monitoring
- **Combining EU funds with PPPs**
- Cycle of seminars and training on State Aid issues
- Workshops on climate change adaptation, mitigation and carbon footprinting
- CBA Forum sectoral meetings (with DG REGIO)
- CBA training seminars
- Streamlining environmental procedures into project development
- Water Framework Directive requirements in projects
- Public Transport Integration in municipal areas
- “Smart Cities”: integrating urban transport, energy, ICT

Full details and proceedings on [www.jaspersnetwork.org](http://www.jaspersnetwork.org)
Examples of JASPERS Publications

- Guidance notes on transport demand analysis and traffic modelling
- Evaluation of economic benefits of polluted sites remediation projects
- Sectoral guidance documents for State Aid in projects
- Application of the polluter-pays-principle in the waste management sector
- Calculation of GHG emissions in waste and waste-to-energy projects
- Toolkit for EIA and SEA general ex-ante conditionalities in 2014-2020
- Project preparation and CBA for RDI infrastructure
- Combining EU grant funding with PPP for infrastructure
- Key Considerations in Planning Waste–to–Energy Facilities

More publications coming in the near future…

Available at [www.jaspersnetwork.org](http://www.jaspersnetwork.org)
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Introduction to the European PPP Expertise Centre (EPEC)

JASPERS-EPEC Seminar on Blending ESI Funds and PPPs
Brussels, 11 May 2016
Presentation outline

1. EPEC: who are we?
2. EPEC: what do we do and how?
3. EPEC: to whom do we offer advisory?
4. Overview of EPEC’s advisory services
5. JASPERS and EPEC working together
6. Examples of EPEC resource material
EPEC: who are we?

An integral part of EIB’s Advisory Services:

• Created in 2008
• As a unique membership-based PPP expertise network
• Of over 40 public sector bodies (typically central PPP Units of Member States and candidate countries)
• Coordinated/supported by the EPEC executive, comprising an international team of dedicated PPP experts (core team of 12 advisers)
• With a mission to support the public sector to deliver sound PPPs
• That benefits from significant Member engagement in EPEC network activities

Over 40 members
From more than 30 countries
Sharing PPP experience
Supporting the public sector
To deliver sound PPPs
EPEC: what do we do and how?

EPEC’s main services

1. Network activities: analytical work and information sharing through Member working groups, publications and helpdesk

2. Policy and institutional strengthening advice: PPP policy and programme support through working with individual Members

3. Upstream PPP (project) development support: advice to early stages of the preparation of PPPs, working with individual Members and related public bodies

EPEC works by

- Sharing information, experience and expertise of Members
- Promoting good practice across the public sector
- Strengthening the organisational capacity of public authorities to develop PPP programmes and projects
- Applying the competence and experience of its team and the EPEC network
EPEC: to whom do we provide advisory?

**EPEC Members:**
PPP institutional capacity building, PPP policy advice and upstream PPP project advisory (1, 2, 3)

**EIB lending operations:**
PPP institutional capacity building, upstream PPP project support (1, 3)

**JASPERS:**
Support to PPP preparation for PPP-EU grant blended projects (3)

**European Investment Advisory Hub (EIAH):**
Advisory inputs to PPP requests for support via the Hub (2, 3)

**Connecting Europe Facility:**
PPP institutional capacity support to Member States on PPPs using CEF financial instrument (1)
Features of EPEC’s advisory services

- **For who:** advice to the public sector
- **Independent advice:** in the interests of the public sector (though EPEC advice may facilitate EIB lending)
- **Nature/scope:**
  - selective response, where EPEC has value to add (e.g. particularly challenging and/or replicable PPPs)
  - high level strategic advice - steering rather than ‘doing’, working with rather than ‘for’, not replacing or competing with commercial advisers
- **On request:** opportunities assessed on a case by case basis
- **Benefiting from:**
  - skills and experience of EPEC, where its **uniqueness** can play a role
  - using **tools and guidance** developed by EPEC (e.g. Guide to Guidance, PPP preparation readiness tool)
JASPERS and EPEC working together

EPEC supports JASPERS projects:
• At the request of JASPERS, participant in the JASPERS team
• On PPP-specific technical issues related to PPP-EU grant blended projects

EPEC’s support includes, for example:
• Making the PPP decision (VfM, affordability, feasibility, deliverability)
• Different PPP models/defining the scope of the PPP
• Assessing risk allocation and mitigation
• Assessing PPP project ‘readiness’
• Developing PPP project governance arrangements
• Using PPP advisers
• Specific blending issues (e.g. beneficiary, grant amount, timing of approvals)
Examples of EPEC resource material

EPEC guidance and knowledge

- PPP motivations and challenges for the public sector
- Establishing and reforming PPP Units
- Value for Money assessment methodologies
- Blending EU Funds and PPPs
- Eurostat and accounting treatment of PPPs
- Using advisers in PPPs
- Managing PPPs during their contract life

User-friendly PPP tools

- ‘How to’ guide to PPPs (Guide 2 Guidance): www.eib.org/epec/g2g/index.htm
- Project preparation readiness assessment tool: www.eib.org/epec/wbif/index.htm
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