

JASPERS Advisory and capacity building support for projects and investment

Massimo Marra, Senior Officer
JASPERS Networking and Competence Centre

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JASPERS overview

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 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

**Now operating under
four
mandates**

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

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

Pre-feasibility or concept stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Review of the draft grant application and supporting document before the submission to COM for approval
Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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

- ❑ **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

- ✓ 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

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





For info or further questions:

Massimo Marra
NCC Senior Officer
ph: +352 4379 85007
mail: m.marra@eib.org

www.jaspers-europa-info.org

www.jaspersnetwork.org

Introduction to the European PPP Expertise Centre (EPEC)

JASPERS-EPEC Seminar on Blending ESI Funds and PPPs
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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

European PPP Expertise Centre

epec@eib.org

www.eib.org/epec

Twitter: @EpecNews

Telephone: +352 4379 22022

Fax: +352 4379 65499



For info or further questions on this seminar and the activities of the JASPERS Networking Platform, please contact:

JASPERS Networking and Competence Centre

jaspersnetwork@eib.org

www.jaspersnetwork.org