

4th JMC MEETING
22-23 November 2017 – Teatini Monastery - Lecce

Decisions of the Joint Monitoring Committee

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The composition of the Joint Monitoring Committee is published at <https://www.italy-albania-montenegro.eu/programme/programme-bodies>

All documents, referred to in following decisions, the preparatory documentation and the minutes of the meeting are part of the decision-making.

To become effective, following decisions of the Joint Monitoring Committee shall be followed up on with administrative decrees by the involved authorities, which will be published in the related websites, in compliance with the national legislation.

Item 1 Decision:

The JMC approves the agenda of the fourth JMC meeting.

Item 2 Decision:

1. The JMC approves the score grid for the first call for standard projects, with a budget increase to total €30.766.667,00, of which €7.200.000,00 for PA1 €11.900.000,00 for PA 2, with additional possible increase to be approved in written procedure.

2. The JMC gives the mandate to MA and JS/NIPs to develop binding conditions for the projects, for which JS/NIPs and JSC assessment had major discrepancies, addressing all weaknesses identified by the JS/NIPs assessment, according to example discussed on PA 3. The JMC may suggest possible formulation of the conditions, in case it deems necessary

The JMC agrees to make the following formulations aside each project in the ranking list to be published: i) approved under condition, ii) approved under condition and budget availability and iii) reserve list.

4. The JMC acknowledges the list of projects approved under condition attached to the minutes underlining that the projects that have not reached the minimum score of 63 are declared unapproved. All projects that have a score from 63 upwards are declared selected and under condition, some of these will be implemented after negotiation "on budget availability" and others will be included in a reserve list. Only after negotiations are concluded will the final list be shared with the JMC. Thus, projects that could be funded on the basis of the JMC decision result to be 32. For them, the JMC expresses favourable opinion on the financial viability, subject to the resolution of the conditions that will be communicated by MA to the lead applicants.

5. The JMC gives the mandate to the MA and JS to publish the outcomes of the project assessment (complete score grid confirmed by the JMC) and to contact lead applicants of the projects at the top of the list, to negotiate the required project changes. These include budget reductions on average per priority axis of at least 20%, which must be reasonable and take into account the level of precision of costs estimation made by the partners, as well as the suitability of project outputs and activities, which shall not be financed if they are not eligible and/or not coherent with the Programme and if the lead applicants do not approve the budget reductions, considered that the JS and the NIPs found that all the projects have an overestimated budget. The size of the overall budget of the project should be taken into consideration when making the budget cuts. In case of two (or more) projects with the same score, the Programme should consider to fund them both (or more). In case of lack of financial resources a written procedure should be initiated to asking for additional budget.

6. Accordingly, the funds made available shall be used to finance the next projects in the ranking list.

7. The JMC decides to admit project no. 202 Plan4future to PA 3 with of score of 76.

8. The JMC acknowledges the request of the Italian Regions to revise the assessment of the project no. 28 Green Waters, but in order to revise it the lead partner should submit a motivated complaint after the results of the first call are published, as per the programme rules.

9. The JMC gives the mandate to the MA to proceed with the signature of the subsidy contracts, once the key conditions are fulfilled.

Item 3 decision:

1. The JMC acknowledges the impossibility of a decision on the thematic project ideas during the current meeting.

2. A working group shall be set up by the JMC, having the task to match project ideas

3. The JMC agrees on the thematic projects timetable

4. The JMC agrees that a proposal for strategic call has to be developed for next JMC approval and to include:

- Analysis of gaps of standard / thematic projects,
- 2-steps procedure, 1st step concept notes, targeted call,
- with thematic workshops, incl. on EUSAIR action plan.

Item 4 decision:

The JMC approves the content of the chapters of the Programme Manual, as submitted by the JS and reserves the right to propose a revision of the Financial guarantee factsheet before contracting the projects.

Item 6 decision:

The JMC approves that the fourth JMC meeting shall take place in in Montenegro on 17-18 April 2017. It commits not to change the date, except for cases of force majeure.