

European Union | European Regional Development Fund



Managing finances

24 April, 2018 | Lead partner workshop in Sofia

Content



- 1. Remember the basics
- 2. First level control
- 3. Reporting procedures
- 4. Budget lines
- 5. Practical exercise



1. REMEMBER THE BASICS



Basic principles

- Plan sufficient resources and time
- Put in place solid internal communication tools
- Agree on timelines and procedures
- Be aware of different administrative cultures



Lead partner principle

Lead partner =



- formal link between the project and the managing authority/joint secretariat
- responsible for management, communication, implementation and coordination of activities

Legal basis: article 13 of the ETC Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013



References

- Useful information in the programme manual:
- Section 6.2: Reporting
- Section 7: Financial management
- See also the Delegated Regulation (EU) 481/2014





2. FIRST LEVEL CONTROL



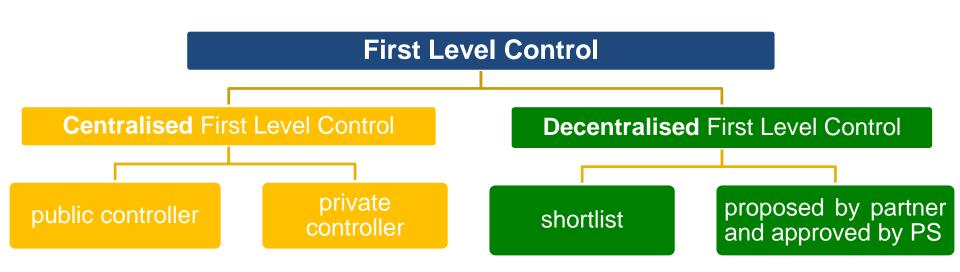
All expenditure reported has to be certified by an independent controller, before submission to the JS

The organisation of this control = Partner State responsibility

Legal basis: Art. 23 (4) of Regulation (EU) 1299/2013



The different FLC systems



First level control systems



CENTRALISED (15):

Belgium: Brussels+ Wallonia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Luxemburg, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Northern Ireland (UK)

DECENTRALISED (16):

Austria, Belgium-Flanders, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom

+ Validation for Portugal & Spain!



Conclusions



- LP asks partners to get to know their FLC system as soon as possible
- For decentralised systems:
 - Procure and contract first level controller
 - Ask national approbation body to approve the FLC
- Don't leave it to the last minute!

Procurement and designation

take time.





Time for questions...



3. REPORTING PROCEDURES



Reporting periods set by call subject to the monitoring committee (MC)'s approval

EXAMPLE for 3rd call projects:

	Rep	orting period	Deadline for submission
Phase 1 (e.g.36 months)	six-monthly	01 June – 30 Nov. 01 Dec. – 31 May	01 March 01 September
Phase 2 (24 months)	annual*	01 June – 31 May	01 September (1 st year) 31 May (2 nd year)

* six-monthly reporting under certain conditions



1. The **project partner** completes the list of expenditure in iOLF (partner report)

- 2. The **FLC** checks and confirms eligible expenditure
 - ✓ Control report including checklist
 - ✓ FLC certificate
- 3. The **lead partner** checks and includes partner reports in the joint progress report

Set a realistic time frame!



How to make sure to have a **sound financial reporting** in place and to be able to report costs in full and in time **by 1 March 2019**?



Yes, it is possible!





Partners reporting to their FLC:

- Fill in report **continuously** during semester
- Submission to the FLC shortly after the end of the reporting periods





- Partners reporting to LP:
- Submission of partner reports early enough to compile PR

Agree on **internal deadlines**!



Reporting procedures - Lead partner responsibilities

- The lead partner checks the partner reports on the basis of:
 - ✓ The FLC certificate
 - \checkmark The control report incl. checklist
 - ✓ The list of expenditure + list of contracts

No longer special role for the lead partner's controller!



The lead partner checks that:

the expenditure is related to the project and corresponds to the activities in the application form

 the expenditure is certified by a controller (in line with national control requirements)

Don't re-do the work of the partner controllers!



Time for questions...

Reporting fully online



Reporting is now fully online through iOLF system:

NO submission of paper documents to JS



Reporting fully online In iOLF:



- Partner reports (incl. list of expenditure and list of contracts)
- FLC designation (no longer designation certificates for decentralised countries)
- FLC certification (incl. the first level control certificate, the control report & checklist)
- Validation (for ES + PT partners)
- Joint progress report

Getting you started



http://www.iolf.eu/

Welcome to the Interreg Europe online application and reporting system

Log in		
Email		
Password		
Register if you don't have ar	n account.	🖈 Log in
Forgot Password?		
Need help? Mail to info(at)i Question" or call +33 3 61 7	nterregeurope.eu with subject 6 59 59	"iOLF

The use of iOLF signifies unconditional acceptance to the terms and conditions.

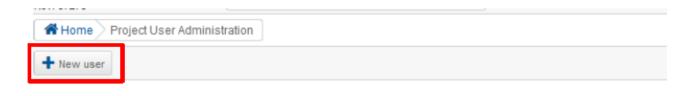


Invite your partners

- Step 1: create new user
 - Project user widget

Project Users	\$	😫 User /	Administration
Number	Organisation (english)	Email	Status
LP			Active

New user





Invite your partners

1

2

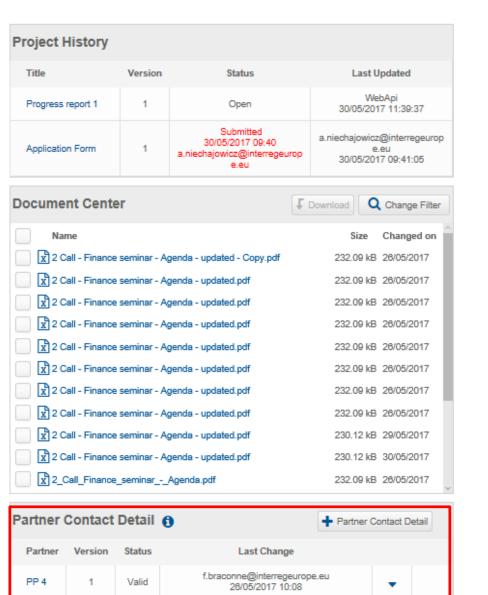
Step 2: Manage the partner's rights

project	except the original creator must be ass partner, which can be created in the par cation form.	
 Partner informati 	nin rights give full control over all aspec write rights allow users to change the on of the partner to which they are assig th Read only rights can access the proje	contact ned.
and a second		
 If there a a notifica If there is user and 	already is an account registered under the tion about the new role will be sent out, is no existing account, a new one will be of they get a notification with an activation in status can be viewed in the user admini-	preated for the link. The
 If there a a notifica If there is user and 	tion about the new role will be sent out. a no existing account, a new one will be a they get a notification with an activation	preated for the link. The
 If there a a notifica If there a user and activation 	ition about the new role will be sent out, a no existing account, a new one will be of they get a notification with an activation in status can be viewed in the user admini-	preated for the link. The
 If there a a notifica If there is user and activation Partner 	ition about the new role will be sent out. a no existing account, a new one will be of they get a notification with an activation in status can be viewed in the user admini- Please Select	preated for the link. The

Step 3: Partner's confirmation

Manage your partner contact details





Policy Inst	rument Pr	ogress 🚯		Open policy instru	ment report
Report		Period	Status	Last char	nge
Report on policity instruments for		01/01/2018 - 30/06/2018	Open	WebAp 30/05/2017	
Partner's r	eports 🚯			🕇 Par	tner Report
		No project partr	er reports four	nd	
Project Us	ers Ap	plication Form (Vers	ion 1) 🗸 🗸	😫 User Adr	ministration
Number	Organisati	on (English)		Email	Status
LP			f.braconne	@interregeurope.eu	Active
LP	Part	mer A	lp@	gseminar.eu	Active
PP 2	Part	mer B	partne	rB@seminar.eu	Active
PP 3	-Par	tner C	partne	rC@seminar.eu	Active
PP 4	Part	ner D	partne	rD@seminar.eu	Active
PP 5	Part	mer E	partne	rE@seminar.eu	Active
PP 6	Part	ner F	partne	rF@seminar.eu	Active
PP 7	Partner G		partnerG@seminar.eu		Active
PP 8	Part	ner H	partne	rH@seminar.eu	Active
PP 9	Par	tner I	partne	eri@seminar.eu	Active
PP 10	Part	tner J	partne	rJ@seminar.eu	Active

Manage your partner contact details



Contact details can be changed by PPs & LP

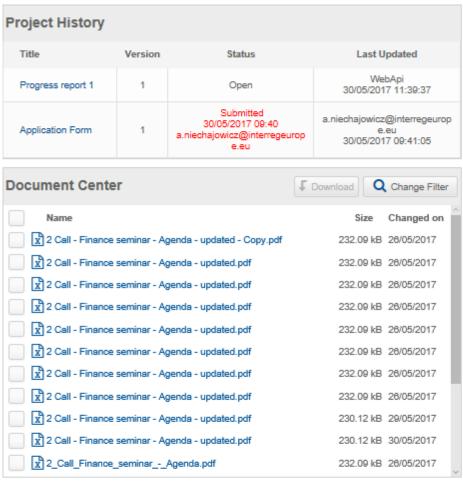
Partner (Contact I	Detail 🚯	Please select Please select
Partner	Version	Status	Last Change
LP	1	Valid	k.ecke@interregeurope.eu 14/04/2017 15:57
PP 2	1	Valid	k.ecke@interregeurope.eu 14/04/2017 15:57
PP 3	1	Valid	k.ecke@interregeurope.eu 14/04/2017 15:57
PP 4	1	Valid	k.ecke@interregeurope.eu 14/04/2017 15:58

Manage your partner contact details



Partner	Manager	Bank						
🖺 Save	t Back to list	cr	eck for errors	+ New Version	🔺 Submit		Remember to submit!	
Contact D)etails - Ve	rsion 1						
Name of organ language	nisation in ori	ginal	Partner A					
								9 / 200 characters
Name of organ	nisation in En <u>c</u>	ılish	Partner A					
								9 / 200 characters
Department/ui applicable)	nit/division (if		ż					1 / 200 characters
Address			ż					17200 characters
								1 / 200 characters

Partner report in the iOLF system



Partner Contact Detail 🚯

+ Partner Contact Detail

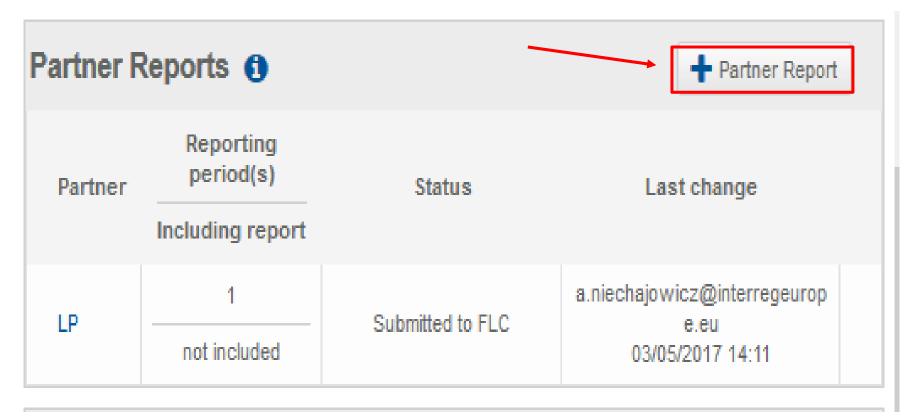
Partner	Version	Status	Last Change		
PP 4	1	Valid	f.braconne@interregeurope.eu 26/05/2017 10:08	•	

Policy Inst	rument Pro	ogress 🚯	!	Open policy instru	ment report		
Report		Period	Status Last change				
Report on policy instruments for PR1 01/01/2018 - 30/06/2018 Open WebApi 30/05/2017 11:39							
Partner's re	eports 🚯			🕇 Par	tner Report		
		No project partn	er reports foun	d			
Project Use	ers App	lication Form (Vers	ion 1) 🗸 🗸	醬 User Ad	ministration		
Number	Organisatio	on (English)		Email	Status		
LP			f.braconne@	@interregeurope.eu	Active		
LP	Parti	ner A	lp@	seminar.eu	Active		
PP 2	Partr	ner B	partner	B@seminar.eu	Active		
PP 3	-Part	ner C	partner	C@seminar.eu	Active		
PP 4	Partr	ner D	partner	D@seminar.eu	Active		
PP 5	Partr	ner E	partner	E@seminar.eu	Active		
PP 6	Parti	ner F	partner	F@seminar.eu	Active		
PP 7	Partner G		partnerG@seminar.eu		Active		
PP 8	Partr	ner H	partner	H@seminar.eu	Active		
PP 9	Part	ner l	partne	ri@seminar.eu	Active		
PP 10	Part	ner J	partner	J@seminar.eu	Active ~		



Partner report in the iOLF system

- Each partner can see only their own reports
- LP notified by email when a partner submits report to FLC







Partner report in the iOLF system

Summary tab



Summary

In the table below please select the reporting period(s) that you wish to include in this partner report.

Please note that if you include a specific reporting period in this report, it will be impossible to select it again in any other partner report. Please also note that it is possible to add another reporting period partner report. However, for technical reasons, moving the end date to an earlier point in time is not possible. If you accidentally choose a wrong end date, please delete the entire partner report from recreate a new report with the corrected dates.

Project title	Successful Reporting in Interreg Europe
Project index number	PGI04937
Partner name	Partner D
Partner number	PP4
Reporting period start date	Reporting period 1 (begins on 01/01/2018)
Reporting period end date	Reporting period 1 (ends on 30/06/2018)
Included in progress report	Not yet included in a progress report.
Certified by	

Joint progress report in the iOLF system



Project dashboard

Project History										
Title	Version	Status	Last Updated							
Progress report 1	1	Open		ebApi 17 11:39:37						
Application Form	1	Submitted 30/05/2017 09:40 a.niechajowicz@interregeurop e.eu	a.niechajowicz@interregeur e.eu 30/05/2017 09:41:05							
Document Center Change Filter										
Name Size Changed on										
2 Call - Finance	seminar - Ag	genda - updated - Copy.pdf	232.09 kB 26/05/2017							
2 Call - Finance	seminar - Ag	genda - updated.pdf	232.09 kB 26/05/2017							
2 Call - Finance	seminar - Ag	genda - updated.pdf	232.09 kB	26/05/2017						
2 Call - Finance	seminar - Ag	genda - updated.pdf	232.09 kB 26/05/2017							
2 Call - Finance	seminar - Ag	genda - updated.pdf	232.09 kB	26/05/2017						
2 Call - Finance	seminar - Ag	genda - updated.pdf	232.09 kB	26/05/2017						
2 Call - Finance	seminar - Ag	genda - updated.pdf	232.09 kB	26/05/2017						
2 Call - Finance	seminar - Ag	genda - updated.pdf	232.09 kB	26/05/2017						
2 Call - Finance	seminar - A	genda - updated.pdf	230.12 kB	29/05/2017						
2 Call - Finance	seminar - Ag	230.12 kB 30/05/2017								

Partner Contact Detail

+ Partner Contact Detail

Partner	Version	Status	Last Change		
PP 4	1	Valid	f.braconne@interregeurope.eu 26/05/2017 10:08	•	

Policy Instrument Progress () Den policy instrument report					
Report	Period	Status	Last change		
Report on policy instruments for PR1	01/01/2018 - 30/06/2018	Open	WebApi 30/05/2017 11:39		
Partner's reports 🚯			+ Partner Report		

No project partner reports found

Project Users

F

Application Form (Version 1)

User Administration

Number	Organisation (English)	Email	Status
LP		f.braconne@interregeurope.eu	Active
LP	Partner A	lp@seminar.eu	Active
PP 2	Partner B	partnerB@seminar.eu	Active
PP 3	"Partner C	partnerC@seminar.eu	Active
PP 4	Partner D	partnerD@seminar.eu	Active
PP 5	Partner E	partnerE@seminar.eu	Active
PP 6	Partner F	partnerF@seminar.eu	Active
PP 7	Partner G	partnerG@seminar.eu	Active
PP 8	Partner H	partnerH@seminar.eu	Active
PP 9	Partner I	partneri@seminar.eu	Active
PP 10	Partner J	partnerJ@seminar.eu	Active



Joint progress report in the iOLF system

Status tab

	V 4.1.0 Das	hboard My Projects Users				
	Home Progress report Status	Progress report Status				
	Status Partner Reports ! 1. Implem	entation overview 1 1.3 Activities 1 2. Results/Policy instruments 1 3. Finance 🗸 Annexes 1 Contact details LP declaration				
	Version 1					
Status of the current Progress Report Open						
	Reporting period	01/10/2017 to 31/03/2018				
	ERDF amount reported in this reporting period	0.00				
	History	PR 1 PR 2 PR 3 PR 4				







- Info bubbles
- Check button



A

- Error messages
- · Exchange rates need to be refreshed.

Video tutorials:

https://www.interregeurope.eu/projects/guidanc e/#reporting



Time for questions...



4. BUDGET LINES



General principles

Different levels of rules

- European: EU regulations
- Programme
- National
- Partner/institutional



General principles

CONSISTENT

allocate the expenditure to the right budget line

JUSTIFIED

 unforeseen expenditure items or over/underspend needs to be justified

COHERENT

reported activities and finances have to match



General principles

Eligibility of costs is determined by the <u>relevance of</u> <u>the activities!</u>

Costs necessary to

- Carry out the project activities
- Achieve the project objectives

Eligibility period

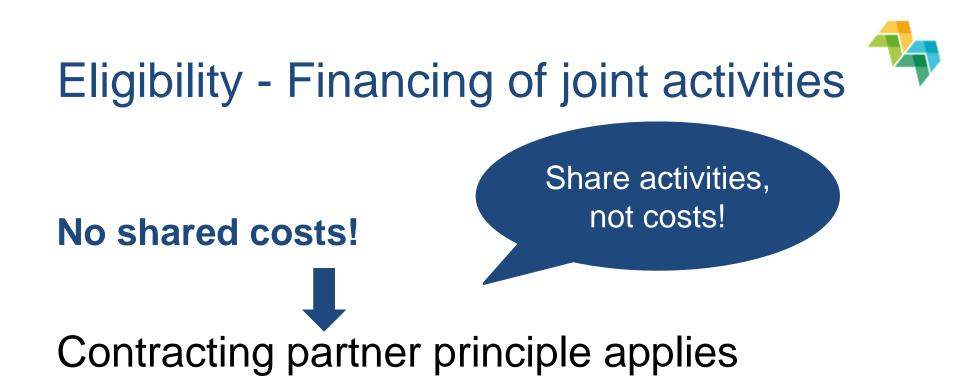


Eligibility period from project approval by monitoring committee (**13 March 2018**) to project end date

Submission date of last report = project end date = end date of eligibility of costs



Administrative cloure: last three months before project end date!



Contracting partner = the only one reporting and receiving the ERDF!



Eligibility - points of attention

Prior approval from JS necessary for items not already specified and approved in the application form, e.g.

- Activities/travel outside the programme area
- Promotional material (e.g. gadgets)
- Equipment



Preparation costs

- Lump sum of EUR 15,000 per project attributed to LP
- Covers costs linked to the preparation of the application
- Added only to the <u>reported lead partner's expenditure</u> in PR1
- Distribution among partners regulated internally by project partnership agreement – only lead partner reports to the programme!
- No supporting evidence required!

Budget lines

- Staff
- Administration costs
- Travel and accommodation
- Equipment

Only for staff directly employed by the partner organisations

 External expertise and services



Staff costs (principles)



- For partner staff only (employment contract)
- Not for staff employed by other bodies even if
 - 100% owned by partner
 - seconded to partner
 - they are members (of association, umbrella organisation)
 - if seated in partner organisation

Programme manual section 7.2.1 & Delegated Regulation (EU) 481/2014, Article 3



Preliminary questions:

- What is the involvement of the staff member in the project activities?
- What does the contract say?





- 1. full-time on project? > Real cost charged
- NO timesheet
 mission letter



Time registration



Mission letter

Simple calculation!





2. fixed % on project?> % of real cost charged

NO timesheet ission letter



Time registration



Mission letter

Simple calculation!



 HIGHLY recommended even if for limited involvement



- 3. flexible percentage on project?
 - a> monthly salary / contractual hours or
 - b> annual salary / 1,720 hours
- Timesheet required & complex calculation

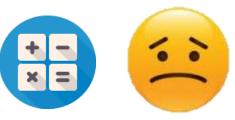


Document showing calculation of hourly rate



100% Time registration

Risk of errors in calculation





- 4. hours on project> hourly rate
- hourly rate fixed in employment contract
- used in specific partner states
- timesheet required



100% Time registration

Special national rules might apply (NL + BE-VL)

Administration costs



- Flat rate of 15% of staff costs
- Includes: office rent, utilities, office supplies, general accounting etc.
- No administration costs under any other budget line
- No supporting evidence required!

Programme manual section 7.2.2 & Delegated Regulation (EU) 481/2014, Article 5



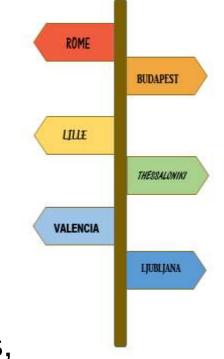
Travel and accommodation

- Only for staff employed by a project partner
- Non-staff travel costs: external

expertise budget line!

- Includes items such as travel, meals, accommodation, visa, daily allowances
- Compliance with national and/or institutional rules

Programme manual section 7.2.3 & Delegated Regulation (EU) 481/2014, Article 6



External expertise







Compliance with public procurement rules

Programme manual section 7.2.4 & Delegated Regulation (EU) 481/2014, Article 6

Equipment



- Purchased, rented or leased by a partner, to achieve the objectives of the project
- Mainly 'office equipment' for project management, not exceeding EUR 5,000-7,000 per project
- Only planned/pre-approved equipment eligible!

Compliance with public procurement rules

Programme manual section 7.2.5 & Delegated Regulation (EU) 481/2014, Article 7





Public procurement applicable rules:

- the EU public procurement directives (Directive 2014/24/EU)
- national rules
- internal rules of the partner organisation

The stricter rule must always be applied

Programme manual section 7.5.6

Most common mistakes



- Inadequate procedure chosen (e.g. direct award of contract not justified)
- Insufficient publicity
- The value of the contract not estimated at institutional level
- Splitting the contracts to fit below thresholds
- Insufficient audit trail (e.g. missing documents)

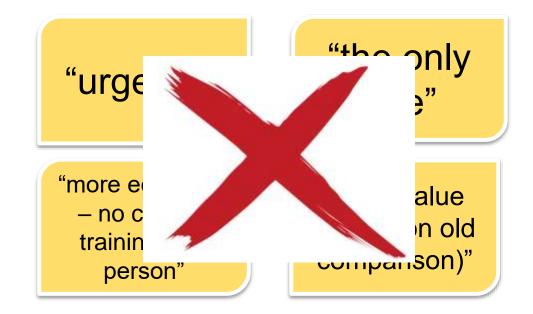


Direct award - Common non-justified reasons





Direct award - Common non-justified reasons



Objective reasons needed (the market should prove)



Dealing with financial changes

How to deal with small financial changes in the budget? **Flexibility rule**!



Programme manual section 6.3.5



 Budget line and partner's budget at project level (total!) can be exceeded by up to 20% of the original amount without formal approval by JS



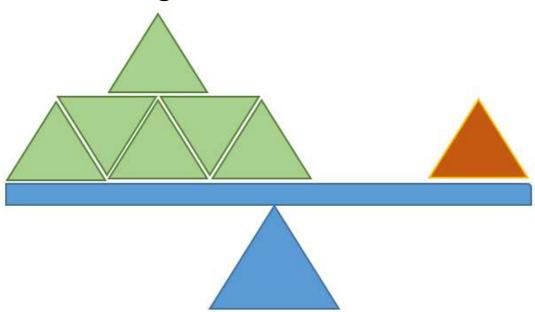


 total ERDF/Norwegian funding allocated to the project cannot be exceeded





 overspending of partners/in budget lines needs to be compensated by underspending of other partners/in budget lines





Deviations justified in the PR





- Lead partner to agree on the changes in cooperation with partnership
- Lead partner to keep an overview on all the budget changes → Problems may occur if budget flexibility not monitored closely
- JS to advice, but FLC responsible to confirm the eligibility of the costs



Time for questions...



5. PRACTICAL EXERCISE



Staff member	Role and involvement in the project 'GENIUS'	Staff calculation method				
		1	2	3	4	
Valentine Bourgeois	Project coordinator involved only in the 'GENIUS' project	 ✓ 				





Staff member	Role and involvement in the project 'GENIUS'	Staf metl	ion		
		1	2	3	4
Christine Dubois	Finance manager involved in the 'GENIUS' project and in two other projects		 ✓ 		

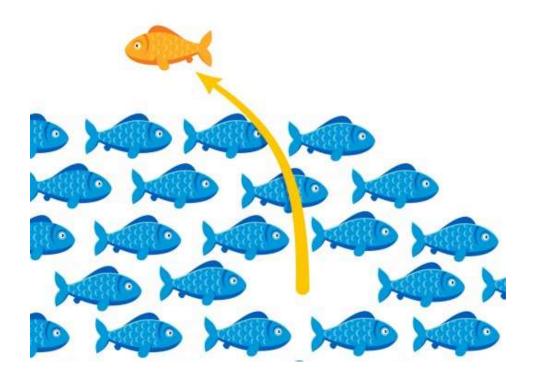


Staff member	Role and involvement in the project 'GENIUS'	Staf met		culatio	on
		1	2	3	4
Justina Deskaité	Project assistant providing administrative support		 ✓ 	(✓)	



 Method 2 can be used even when the staff member's involvement in the project is **limited**







Method 2 can be used when the staff member's involvement in the project is limited:



Easier



More secure for staff costs reporting

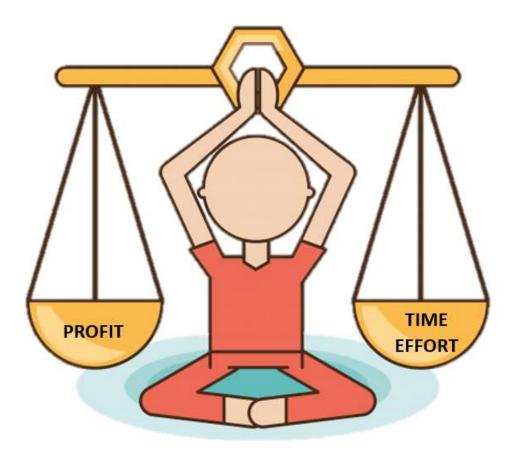
Simplification is also what YOU make it!



Staff member	Role and involvement in the project 'GENIUS'	Staf metl	on		
		1	2	3	4
Mikael	Legal representative of		 ✓ 	(🗸)	
Andersson	the organisation. He will				
	participate in 3 project				
	meetings and in the high-				
	level political				
	dissemination event				



 Consider when it is worthwhile to report a very limited involvement



Conclusions



- Get started soon (project partnership agreement,
- FLC system, user access in iOLF)
- Staff costs make it simple!
- Read new programme
- manual (version 5)





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Thank you!

Questions welcome



Interregeurope

Sharing solutions **V** for better regional policies

BACK UP SLIDES



Partner report in the iOLF system

Expenditure

Bave Check Check Refresh exchange rates Export to Excel Version 1 (Create	
	d) ~
4. List of Expenditure ()	

Budgetline 🚺		Total budget	Previously reported	Currently reported	Certified amount	Total reported so far	% of Total reported so far	Remaining budget
Staff costs	*	105,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	105,000.00
Office and administration		15,750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	15,750.00
Travel and accommodation	*	12,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	12,000.00
External expertise and services	*	53,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	53,200.00
Equipment	*	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00
(Net Revenue)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00 %	0.00
Total		185,950.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00 %	185,950.00

Partner expenditure breakdown per source of funding

	Total 🚺	ERDF/Norway	ERDF/Norway Total partner contribution		Partner contribution from private sources
Declared by Partner	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Certified by FLC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00



Partner report in the iOLF system

List of contracts

3.2.4 List of contracts awarded subject to the provisions of EU public procurement directives

Number	Partner	Supplier name	Contracted amount (excluding VAT)	Contracted amount (including VAT)	Procedure applied	Contract type	Reported amount in current report	Previously reported	Reported amount	Comments (optional)	,	
	Please select		0.00	0.00	Please select	Please select	0.00	0.00	0.00		^	×
	Please select	· ·	0.00	0.00	Please select	Please select	0.00	0.00	0.00		^	×
		~									~	

+ Add Contract