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INTERREG ITALY–CROATIA PROGRAMME 2021–2027

**Summary of main changes between
Version 2.0 and Version 1.0 of the
Programme Implementation Manual**

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1.4 Programme management structures

- Link to the Programme website is added:

[“https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia.”](https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/italy-croatia)

3.1 Project’s lifecycle

- Description of the mid-term review meeting’s purpose is expanded:

“It offers an opportunity for the Programme to obtain a more detailed picture of the project’s performance beyond the information provided in the project reports and to the projects to discuss any issue or delay and to seek Programme’s support to overcome difficulties in implementation.”

- Option to disburse ERDF funds also to Italian PP is added (further clarified in paragraph 5.7. Reimbursement of funds):

“As stipulated in the subsidy contract, the disbursement of funds to the LP/Italian PP is subject to the condition that the EC makes the necessary funds available.”

- Period for retention of documents is better defined:

“Archive of project documents (related to activities and finance) is set-up in closure phase in order to assure retention of documents for period of 5 years from the 31 December of the year in which the last payment by MA is made to the LP, according to art. 82 CPR.”

3.2 Project generation

- Description of the Investment is expanded:

“Main investment features are as follows:

- 1) A clear link to the development of outputs relevant for the project (core outputs) - Output indicators under each Specific Objective and Programme Intervention Logic;
- 2) The physical character;
- 3) Durability.



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In the project budget, according to its contents, the Investment can include items that belong to the cost categories “Infrastructure and works” for e.g., a new construction of a building or the adaptation of existing infrastructure, “Equipment” (such as for instance the purchase of fixed assets/equipment necessary for infrastructure) and “External expertise and services”.

- Principles of efficiency and effectiveness are better defined:

- **“The principle of efficiency:** it concerns the best relationship between the resources employed, the activities undertaken and achievement of objectives;
- **The principle of effectiveness:** it concerns the extent to which the objectives pursued are achieved through the activities undertaken.”

3.3 Conditions clearing and contracting

- Utmost importance and timing of the Partnership Agreement is emphasized:

“The agreement must be concluded and signed by the partners as soon as possible and before the signature of the subsidy contract. A copy of the signed agreement must be provided to the MA/JS and annexed to the Subsidy Contract. The MA and JS will check the partnership agreement in order to verify that it has been signed and that it meets the minimum requirements set by the Programme. Any subsequent change of PA must be communicated to the MA/JS.”

4.3 Project communication strategy

- Relationship between Communication objective(s) and project’s specific objectives is better defined:

“The communication strategy should support project management and thus be linked to the specific objectives of the project. Communication objectives shall be defined in accordance with one or more project’s specific objectives, and they must be relevant in relation to the identified target groups.”

5.4 Non-eligible expenditure

- Three additional costs are added to the, anyway not exhaustive, list of costs that are not eligible:



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- “VAT for projects where the total costs are at least EUR 5.000.000 (including VAT), where it is recoverable under the national legislation;
- for State Aid relevant partners under GBER schemes, regardless the value of the project, VAT where it is recoverable under the national legislation;
- Costs of management verifications if performed by an internal controller.”

5.6.5 Equipment costs

- Accidental copying mistake in Table 10. Equipment options is corrected by adding a bullet point to the preceding list and removing the same text from the table:

- “If the equipment represents a core component of and it is essential for a key project output (e.g., the purchase of a laboratory machine for the purpose of research activities in the project, or the purchase of fixed assets necessary for infrastructure) usually associated to Investments in Jems, then the full cost of the item as approved by the Programme can be reported.

Table 10. Equipment options

<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	Non Depreciable	Depreciable	Purchased before project approval	Rented / leased
As core component of the project output	Full cost	Full cost	Full remainder	Full cost
Not core component of project output used 100% for the project	Full cost	Pro rata / Full cost if fully depreciated before the end date of the project	Pro rata	Full cost



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Not core component of project output partially used for the project	Pro rata	Pro rata	Pro rata	Pro rata"
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5.6.6. Costs for infrastructure and works

- The timing for availability of authorisations is corrected to correspond to the 1st Call for Proposal's rules:

"Infrastructure and construction works shall be compliant with applicable European, National and internal procurement rules, including e.g. feasibility studies, environmental impact assessments, building permissions. The above-mentioned authorisations have to be possessed at the moment of the application and uploaded in Jems OR if the authorisations are not available at the moment of application the date of availability shall be indicated in Jems;"

5.7. Reimbursement of funds

- The timeframe for the reimbursement of funds is clarified:

"The disbursement of funds by the MA is subject to availability of funding (the EC makes necessary funds available), it takes place as soon as possible and within 80 days from the approval of the Project Report by JS/MA."

- The options for the reimbursement of funds are presented in more detail:

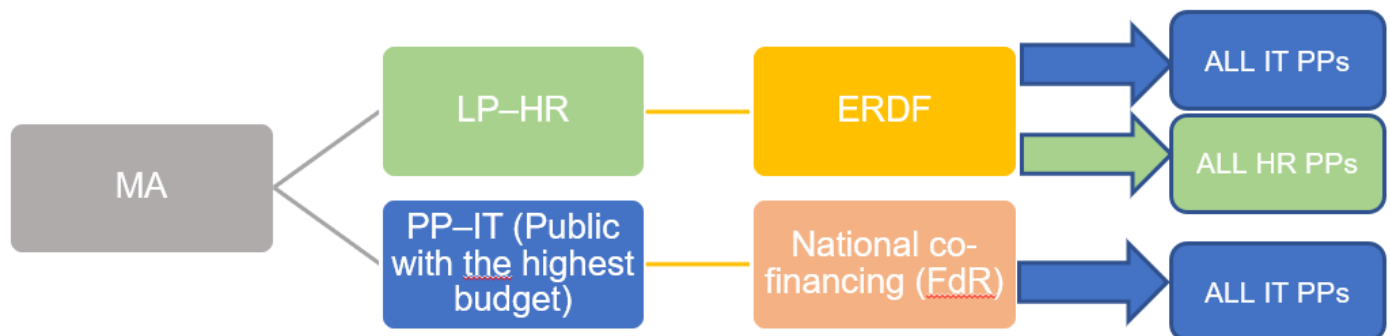
"In case of **Croatian LP**, the MA will transfer:

- the total share of ERDF to the Croatian LP;
- the total share of Italian National co-financing (Fondo di Rotazione) of the Italian PPs to the Italian Public PP with the highest budget among the Italian PPs within the project. In case no Italian public PP is present in the partnership, the MA will transfer the Italian National co-financing to each Italian PP directly.



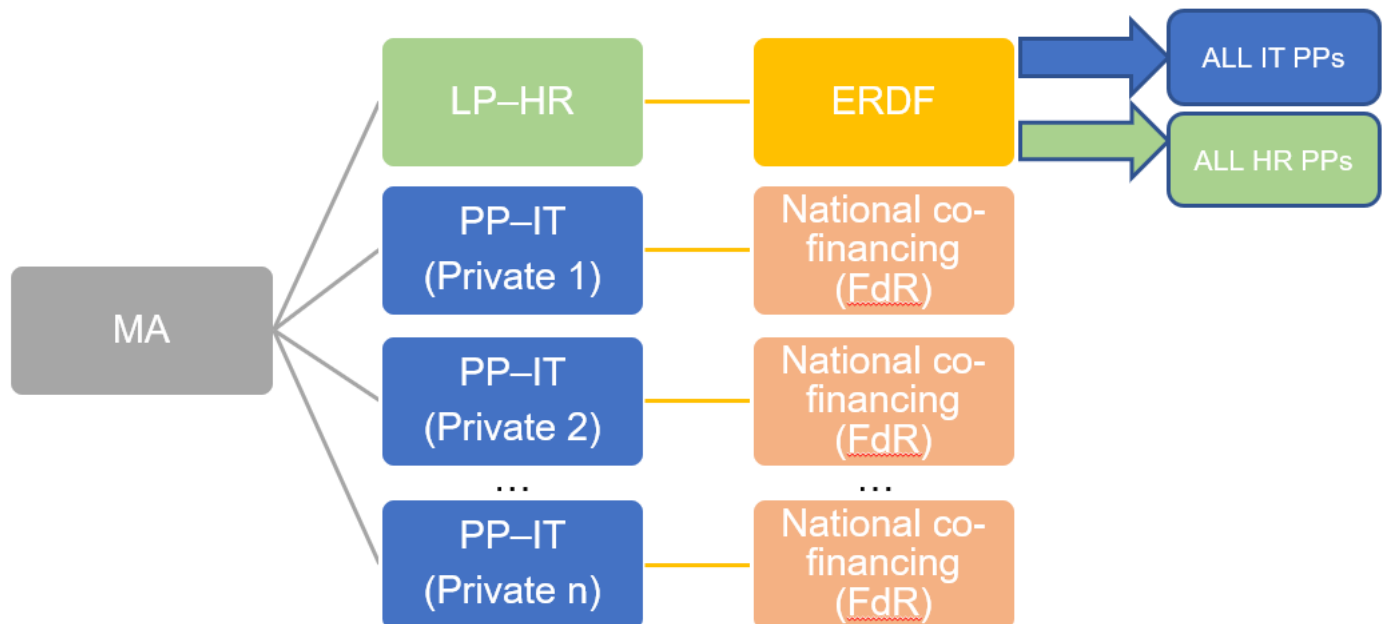
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Image 8. Payment process in case of Croatian LP and Italian Public PP



OR

Image 9. Payment process in case of Croatian LP and no Italian Public PP



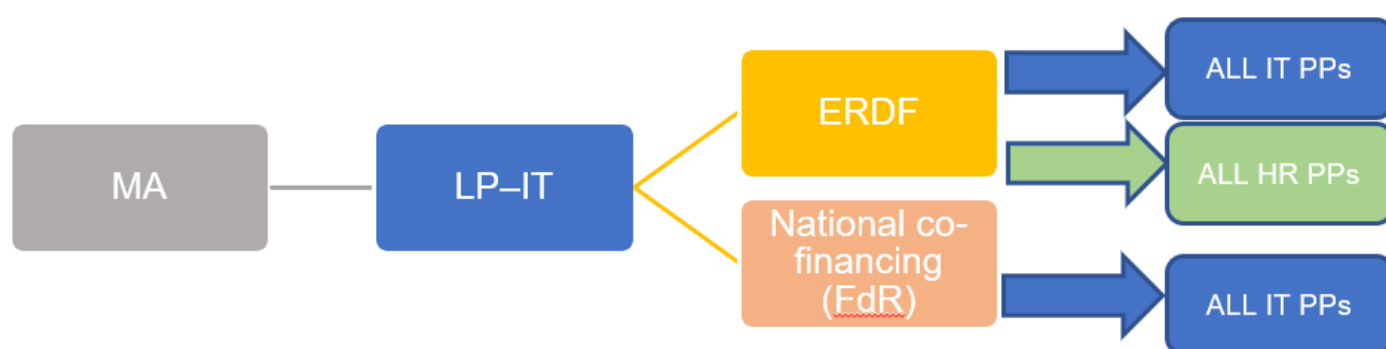
In case of **Italian LP**, the MA will transfer:



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- the ERDF amount and the amount of the Italian National co-financing (Fondo di Rotazione) contributions to the LP.

Image 10. Payment process in case of Italian LP



After receipt of funds from the MA, the LP and, if applicable, the Italian PP with the highest budget are **obliged to transfer in time and in full the share of ERDF which corresponds to each PP** and the national co-financing (Fondo di Rotazione) for the Italian PPs entitled to it. No amount shall be deducted or withheld and no specific charge or other charge with equivalent effect shall be levied, which would reduce that amount for the PPs.”

6. REPORTING AND MONITORING

- Brand new chapter

7. PROJECT MODIFICATIONS AND FLEXIBILITY RULES

- Brand new chapter

8. CONTROLS AND AUDITS

- Brand new chapter

