

## Geographical flexibility

### ➔ Background Information

In general, only those project participants may ask for ERDF-co-funding which are located inside the programme area of the Alpine Space Programme and in the territory of an EU Member State.

The EU-structural funds regulations respectively the Alpine Space Programme foresee three exceptions from this rule which means that ERDF-co-funding is also possible for:

- + national public bodies of one of the programme's Member States located outside the programme area;
- + expenditure incurred by other partners (i.e. other than these national public bodies) coming from EU Member States but located outside the programme area;
- + expenditure incurred due to activities set on the territory of Non EU-Member States.

In all cases certain conditions have to be fulfilled in order to receive ERDF-co-funding. These are set out below.

### ➔ Guidance

#### 1 National public bodies of Member States

National public bodies of one of the programme's Member States can request ERDF-co-funding, even though they are not located in the programme area if they have a competence covering the whole territory of the respective Member State (e.g. a ministry that is located in Rome or Paris). See also factsheet 2.1. *Who can participate?*

## 2 Expenditure incurred by other project participants outside the programme area

In duly justified cases the programme may also finance expenditure incurred by partners located outside the programme area but in the Member States which participate in the Alpine Space Programme.

To this end the following conditions shall be fulfilled:

- 1) The project participants shall be situated in the following regions:
  - all regions of Germany except Upper Bavaria, Swabia, Tübingen and Freiburg (as these are full members of the programme).
  - all regions of France except Rhône-Alpes, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Franche-Comté and Alsace (as these are full members of the programme).
  - all regions of Italy except Lombardia, Friuli Venezia-Giulia, Veneto, Trentino - Alto Adige, Valle d'Aosta, Piemonte and Liguria (as these are full members of the programme).
- 2) The benefit for the programme area which can be expected from these project participants shall be described carefully and traceably in section 3.2.2 of the Expression of Interest (EoI) respectively 3.8.1 in the Application Form (AF).
- 3) ERDF-cofunding for these project participants is limited with an amount of 20% of the ERDF budget requested by the project.

## 3 Expenditure related to activities implemented in Non-EU Member States

The programme may also co-fund expenditure related to project activities that are set outside the territory of EU Member States. To this end the following conditions shall be fulfilled:

- 1) the activities set outside the territory of the EU shall be implemented and financed by project participants coming from the EU-Member States Austria, Germany, France, Italy and Slovenia.
- 2) The benefit for the programme area that can be expected from these activities shall be described in detail in section 2.5 of the EoI respectively 3.8.2 in the AF. Furthermore sections 4 and 6.3 of the AF shall be filled in carefully.
- 3) ERDF co-funding dedicated to the activities located outside the territory of EU is limited to 10 % of the ERDF budget requested by the project.

Please note that any activities implemented by project participants coming from Switzerland and Liechtenstein are not concerned by this rule as the related expenses will not be ERDF co-funded.

## Reference Documents

- + Article 21 (2) and (3) of Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2006 on the European Regional Development Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1783/1999.
- + Operational Programme "Alpine Space", Chapter 1.1

## Annexes

- + Expression of Interest Step 1 with guidance
- + Application Form Step 2 with guidance