

ESI Funds 2014-2020 - Informal Dialogue

Meeting on funding priority – "Innovation-friendly business environment"

Brussels: 21 March 2013

Agenda

Venue

Centre Albert Borchette, 36 rue Froissart, 1040 Bruxelles, meeting room AB-3B (with simultaneous translation EN-SK)

Scope of the dialogue and objectives of the meeting

The starting point for the dialogue is the Commission Services Position paper. This specific meeting should focus on how ESI funds could contribute to developing "Innovation-friendly business environment" in Slovakia, in particular addressing country's development needs and underpinning its growth potential. In particular it should concentrate on how ESI funds' investments could contribute to:

- Enhancing business innovation and competitiveness to increase value added and stimulate growth and jobs
- Improving research and innovation performance, including the quality of higher education, and increasing private R&I investment
- Developing the e-economy and promoting access in areas of market failure and take-up of ICT
- Improving the economic environment in rural areas, including related local infrastructure (EAFRD only)

Annotated Agenda

9.00 – 9.30

Introduction

SESSION 1

Review of the challenges and of the strategy to address them in light of the lessons learned in the current programming period.

- *COM: Reminder of main issues raised in the position paper, update on next programming period (e.g. legislative negotiations, expected deadlines for submission of programming documents, etc.)*
- *SK: Overall reaction to the Commission position paper covering the "Funding priority" and underlining key development needs, challenges & "lessons learned"*
- *SK: Update about the organisation of the programming exercise in relation to the "Funding priority", calendar, division of responsibilities*

Discussion

- *Wrap up: points of agreement, points of disagreement, issues requiring further clarification*

9.30 – 11.15

SESSION 2

Improving research and innovation performance, including the quality of higher education, and increasing private R&I investment.

- *SK: Reaction to Commission position paper and proposals for new programming period: a) Choice of intended thematic objectives and investment priorities/focus areas; b) Definition of Specific Objectives and Results (to be linked to the development needs & reflecting "lessons learned"; c) Ex-ante conditionalities*

Discussion

- *Wrap up: points of agreement, points of disagreement, issues requiring further clarification*

11.15 – 11.30

Coffee Break

11.30 – 13.00

SESSION 3

Enhancing business innovation and competitiveness to increase value added and stimulate growth and jobs

- *SK: Reaction to Commission position paper and proposals for next programming period: a) Choice of intended thematic objectives and investment priorities/focus areas; b) Definition of Specific Objectives and Results (to be linked to the development needs & reflecting "lessons learned"; c) Ex-ante conditionalities*

Discussion

- *Wrap up: points of agreement, points of disagreement, issues requiring further clarification*

13.00 – 14.30

Lunch Break

14.30 – 15.30

SESSION 4

Developing the e-economy and promoting access in areas of market failure and take-up of ICT

- *SK: Reaction to Commission position paper and proposals for the next programming period: a) Choice of intended thematic objectives and investment priorities/focus areas; b) Definition of Specific Objectives and Results (to be linked to the development needs & reflecting "lessons learned"; c) Ex-ante conditionalities*

Discussion

- *Wrap up: points of agreement, points of disagreement, issues requiring further clarification*

15.30 – 15.45

Coffee Break

15.45 – 16.45 **SESSION 5**

Improving the economic environment in rural areas, including related local infrastructure (EAFRD only)

- *SK: Reaction to Commission position paper and proposals for the next programming period: a) Choice of intended thematic objectives and investment priorities/focus areas; b) Definition of Specific Objectives and Results (to be linked to the development needs & reflecting "lessons learned"); c) Ex-ante conditionalities*

Discussion

- *Wrap up: points of agreement, points of disagreement, issues requiring further clarification*

16.45-17.15 **Conclusions**

Commitments, next steps