

**Multi-region assistance for the assessment of the potential use of financial instruments
supported by the ERDF, CF, ESF and EAFRD
Working session – Presentation of projects, results and lessons learned**

Wednesday, 5 December 2018, 15.00 – 17.00

Crowne Plaza Brussels – Le Palace, Rue Gineste 3, 1210 Brussels, Belgium

The multi-region assistance (MRA) is one of the strands of technical assistance offered under *fi-compass* to the benefit of Member States, its managing authorities/intermediate bodies and other stakeholders. The MRA provides EU funding to a number of projects selected in a call launched by the European Commission in 2015. The projects supported aim at assessing possible use of financial instruments, involve expertise from international or national financial institutions, and are proposed by at least two managing authorities/intermediate bodies, normally from at least two EU Member States. Such projects target the possible use of financial instruments in priority investment areas that are specific and/or shared by the applying regions.

This MRA working session will allow the MRA project promoters to deliver a presentation covering the description of the project, its objectives, and the current results. Each presentation will be followed by an open discussion and the participants are welcome to interact throughout the whole working session.

Agenda

Moderator: Eddy Adams

15.00 – 15.15 Welcome and introduction

Axel Badrichani, European Commission - DG for Regional and Urban Policy

15.15 – 15.45 Revolving Investments in Cities (RICE)

This project aims at furthering the development of new FIs that can increase private sector investment in solutions and initiatives that tackle urban development issues, in particular in relation to Smart Cities. The project establishes the common financing needs of cities, thus identifying those sectors in which FIs can support projects aligned with a city's policy priorities. The project also delivers a blueprint City Fund, a flexible model that can be adapted to the specific needs of cities across the EU to support urban development.

Katie Lindsay, Greater London Authority, United Kingdom

William van den Bungelaar, City of The Hague, Netherlands

Followed by Q&A

15.45 – 16.15 Innovative Financial Instruments in support to the Social Economy (IFISE)

This project explores the potential of financial instruments under ESI Funds to enhance social impact activities, both taking stock of existing FIs in the EU and conceiving innovative financing structures to be managed by public authorities. The project also analyses metrics and methodologies to measure social impact, in the framework of sound financial management of the public resources.

Susanna Longo, Finpiemonte, Italy

Stefan Mathesius, Agency for Innovation and Development of Andalucía – IDEA, Spain

Followed by Q&A

16.15 – 16.45 Enhancement capacity of FIs application in consistency with other forms of public interventions

The project has collected data on existing government interventions in markets where services of general economic interest and/or considered as merit goods are dominating. This has helped the authorities to understand the impact of government interventions on the market, to identify the consistency of FIs within the public support and the optimal balance of FIs and other forms of government interventions.

Agnė Kazlauskaitė, Ministry of Finance, Lithuania

Dijana Bezjak, Ministry of Regional Development and European Funds, Croatia

Followed by Q&A

16.45 – 17.00 Wrap-up and conclusion

Axel Badrichani, European Commission - DG for Regional and Urban Policy