

Financial Instruments delivering ESI Funds

Malta
25 January 2016

Programme



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The Europe 2020 strategy for growth and jobs called for a stronger role of financial instruments in 2014-2020. The European Council subsequently gave a mandate to the European Commission that the programming negotiations of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) should be used to significantly increase the overall EU support from these funds to leverage-based financial instruments in particular for SMEs. More recently, the Investment Plan for Europe (COM(2014)903) has set out the objective of the overall doubling of the use of ESIF financial instruments as compared to 2007-2013 levels.

The new legal and policy framework has widened the scope of financial instruments to include all thematic objectives and all five funds - **the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the Cohesion Fund (CF), the European Social Fund (ESF), the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)**. The framework also gives more implementation options to Member States.

To support the achievement of the above objective, *fi-compass*, an integrated platform providing advice and learning opportunities to the benefit of Member States, their Managing Authorities but also a wider public has been set up by the European Commission (EC), in partnership with the European Investment Bank (EIB).

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Audience

The target audience for this seminar are ESIF Managing Authorities, intermediate bodies, beneficiaries and other public authorities in Malta who are directly involved in the design, implementation and promotion of ESIF financial instruments. In addition, the seminar is also open to financial intermediaries and potential final recipients such as SMEs as well as other actors supporting financial instruments implementation.

Venue

Le Méridien St. Julian's
39 Main Street, Balluta Bay
St. Julian's, STJ1017, Malta

Language

The seminar language is English.

Costs

Registration is free. Participants are expected to finance their own travel and accommodation costs.

In case of unforeseen circumstances such as force majeure or low participant numbers, the event might be moved to a different date or cancelled. In this case, registered participants will be informed immediately via email. The reimbursement of travel and accommodation expenses or work hours lost will not be possible.

How to book your place at the seminar?

Please register as soon as possible via www.fi-compass.eu. The venue capacity is planned for up to 100 participants. The deadline for the registration for this seminar is **22 January 2016**.

What will the event offer?

Participants can expect to further their understanding of how financial instruments can help in their efforts to deliver ESIF 2014-2020 objectives.

The event in Malta will feature case studies on financial instruments, the opportunities offered by the 2014-20 regulatory framework and the advisory products issued by *fi-compass* to support the design and set-up of financial instruments.

Financial Instruments delivering ESI Funds

The purpose of the seminar is to:

- Provide Member States, Managing Authorities, intermediate bodies, beneficiaries and other relevant ESIF stakeholders from the public and private sectors with an opportunity to learn more about the advantages, features and suitability of financial instruments in delivering ESIF 2014-2020 objectives, with a specific focus on the thematic priorities of the respective Member State;
- Provide the opportunity to learn about and discuss in depth the technical challenges that the Managing Authorities and the Member States are facing as regards the design and set up of financial instruments;
- Offer support for Member States and Managing Authorities by introducing relevant *fi-compass* learning material.

Structure of the seminar

The seminar will be in the form of a plenary session with room for interaction. It will commence with the presentation of experiences and good practice by various authorities will take into account the thematic priorities of Malta. Secondly, new opportunities under the 2014-2020 ESIF framework as well as ESI Funds-specific considerations will be highlighted. In addition *fi-compass* products will be introduced to support Managing Authorities interested in or already taking forward financial instruments under their operational programmes.

Seminar**Financial Instruments delivering ESI Funds**25 January 2016 (*Monday*)

Le Méridien St. Julian's
39 Main Street, Balluta Bay
St. Julian's, STJ101, Malta

Moderator: **Tim Wills**, *fi-compass* expert**09:00**

Registration and coffee

09:30[Welcome](#)

Hon Ian Borg, Parliamentary Secretary, EU Funds and
the EU Presidency 2017, Malta

09:50[Opportunities offered by the 2014-20 framework](#)

Joerg Lackenbauer and **Ieva Zālīte**,
DG REGIO, European Commission
Followed by Q&A

10:45[fi-compass advisory support](#)

Bruno Robino, European Investment Bank
Followed by Q&A

11:00

Coffee break

11:20[Presentation of case studies on Financial Instruments](#)**Financial Instruments in Malta – State of Play**

Jonathan Vassallo, Head of Managing Authority,
Ministry for European Affairs and the Implementation
of the Electoral Manifesto, Malta

JESSICA initiative in Italy

Angela Murgia, European Investment Bank

**Co-investment Instrument under the JEREMIE Initiative
in Languedoc-Roussillon (FR)**

Alberto Schiavone, European Investment Fund
Followed by Q&A

13:00

Lunch break and networking opportunity

14:00

End of the seminar

