



# FactSheet

## No. 1.3

### Funding principle

#### Total costs principle

The Alpine Space programme (ASP) follows the "total costs" principle<sup>1</sup>. The project participants from EU Member States are co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) up to a maximum rate of 85% of the eligible costs. Every ERDF beneficiary needs to secure public or private contribution to complete its budget (15% at least) either from its own resources or from other entities.

As Liechtenstein and Switzerland are not members of the European Union, project participants from these countries are not eligible for ERDF co-financing. However, they may receive public contribution from their countries as indicated below.

#### Pre-financing of project expenditure

The ASP payment scheme is based on the principle of reimbursement of costs and no advance payment of ERDF is foreseen. Therefore each beneficiary needs to pre-finance its expenditure and request the related ERDF co-financing to the programme every six months through a progress report (see the factsheet "Progress report" for more details). Only when the progress report has been approved by the managing

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<sup>1</sup> During the programming period 2007-2013, ASP followed the "total public costs" principle which meant that no private contribution was allowed.



authority/joint secretariat, the ERDF co-financing can be paid out to the lead partner. The lead partner, in turn, transfers the share of ERDF co-financing to the individual beneficiaries with no delay.

Considering the reporting procedure and its timeframe, it is indispensable that beneficiaries have the financial capacity to pre-finance expenditure for the project implementation until the reimbursement of project related costs is received.

## Public contribution schemes in the Partner States

If public contribution schemes exist and how they are organised varies from state to state.

### Austria

In Austria no centralised fund exists to which beneficiaries taking part in the projects of European Territorial Cooperation programmes could apply for public contribution. If a project envisages public contribution, Austrian beneficiaries may apply for individual funding from ministries, regions or municipalities. Liaising with the members of the National Committee is considered helpful (generally in the stage of project generation) in order to ensure coordination with existing or prior operations and strategic priorities of the bodies providing the contribution. For more information on the procedure contact the Austrian ACP.

### France

There is no specific national public contribution instrument dedicated to projects applying for European Territorial Cooperation programmes available in France. Each project participant has to address an individual request to the local, regional or national public authorities, who may provide a contribution according to their interest in the project aims. Thus, it is necessary to involve those authorities in a very early stage of project development to meet their possible specific requirements.



## Germany

Generally, no specific national public contribution instrument is available in Germany. Public authorities on regional and national level or other bodies governed by public law may provide a contribution in specific cases, depending on the interest in the overall project aims. Beneficiaries are therefore recommended to address their request for contribution directly to the authorities who are expected to have a special interest in the project. Thus, it is useful to involve those authorities in a very early stage of project development to meet their possible specific requirements.

## Italy

Following the approval of the project by the ASP programme committee, Italy makes available through the National Fondo di Rotazione (National law 183 dated 16-04-1987) the national public contribution (15% of the total beneficiary's budget) to those Italian beneficiaries, who are public or public equivalent bodies. Criteria for national contribution are specified in Delibera CIPE to be published soon.

## Liechtenstein

The information for Liechtenstein will be provided as soon as possible.

## Slovenia

No specific national public contribution instrument is available in Slovenia. Nevertheless, project participants can get in contact with public bodies, relevant for the topic of the concerned project and if they find interest in the project content and its outputs, they might decide to provide the project participants with public contribution. Therefore project participants are advised to get in contact with relevant public institutions already during the project generation phase.



## Switzerland

In the framework of the New Regional Policy (NRP), Switzerland has foreseen a national budget for its partners which is managed by the Federal Office for Spatial Development (ARE). The Swiss project participants are asked to address early the Alpine Space contact point in order to discuss the procedure and funding. Swiss partners have to fill in a form during the second step of the application procedure where they give information on their activities and a detailed budget. The contribution is then discussed on the basis of this form. The co-financing rate is flexible and is decided partner per partner.

Other public authorities on national, regional and local levels, other bodies governed by public law and private may also provide a contribution to a project, under the condition that the provenance of money is known.

For further information please contact your national ACP: <http://www.alpine-space.eu/>

## Reference Documents

- Cooperation programme "Alpine Space Programme 2014-2020", section 3.2