

DRAFT MINUTES

EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS

NORTHERN IRELAND PROGRAMME FOR BUILDING SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY – PROGRAMME MONITORING COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 21 MAY 2001 AND TUESDAY 22 MAY 2001 IN THE STORMONT HOTEL, BELFAST

1. A list of attendees is attached at Annex A.

Introduction

2. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the third formal meeting of the Monitoring Committee, which had been arranged to discuss the detail of the Programme Complement. An agenda for the meeting had been circulated with the papers however the Chairman requested permission to deal with Priority 2 first as this would facilitate the attendance of Departmental officials. This was agreed.

Draft Minutes of the meeting on 1 May 2001

3. The draft minutes of the meeting on 1 May 2001 had been circulated and comments were requested. It was pointed out that discussion on the Onestopshop application process, which had taken place at the meeting, had not been recorded in the minutes. There had been a number of issues raised in relation to this process. It was agreed a revised set of minutes would be issued to take account of this discussion.

Matters Arising

4. The action points arising from the previous meeting were discussed and a number of issues were raised. A request was made for an update on the progress of the application process. The Chairman

confirmed that this would be dealt with at the next meeting on 14 June 2001. It was also confirmed that an updated and revised version of the Programme Complement would be issued to Monitoring Committee members on Monday 4 June 2001 for further consideration. A paper on the role of the Northern Ireland Centre in Europe (NICE) in the process to develop the Programme Complement was circulated to members for information. In relation to the Monitoring Committee Rules of Procedure which had been adopted at the previous meeting a request was made to clarify a point that the BSP Monitoring Committee should report on it's work to the CSF Monitoring Committee. The request was to amend this to read that the Committee should 'provide' a report to the CSF Monitoring Committee. This was agreed. An explanation of Article 33 of the Rural Development Regulation had also been circulated for the information of members.

5. The Chairman drew attention to a further letter, which had been circulated in relation to the consultation on the potential equality impact of the Programme. A conference to discuss these issues had been arranged for 24 May 2001 at the Dunadry Hotel, Templepatrick. The Committee was provided with an outline of the format for the Conference. A report from the Conference on both Operational programmes will be prepared and circulated to Committee members. Depending on the outcome of the Conference any necessary changes to the Programme Complement would be brought to the Monitoring Committee for consideration and approval at the next meeting.

Programme Complement

6. There was substantial discussion on the detail of the Programme Complement and Departments were asked to bring forward a revise of the various measures to the next meeting. The details of these revisions are attached in a schedule at Annex B.

7. There were, however, a range of generic issues raised which applied across the board and a summary of these based on the component parts of the Measures follows:-

- (a) Rationale
 - The rationale is derived from the ex ante evaluation, socio economic analysis and labour market survey and this should be clearly demonstrated in the text.
- (b) Objectives
 - The objectives should be clearly defined to meet the needs set out in the rationale.
- (c) Activities
 - The activities should be defined in a way which meets the needs to be addressed through the Measure as set out in the rationale and objectives.
- (d) Categorisation
 - Correct categorisation codes should be applied throughout and linked to the indicators.
- (e) Project Selection Criteria
 - The criteria should be clear to ensure funding is directed at the correct target areas.

- (f) Target Areas, Groups & Sectors - Must ensure we have the appropriate target groups.
- (g) Indicators
 - (i) Output - These should be defined and refined to ensure proper monitoring can take place. They must be able to demonstrate that funds are being properly spent.
 - (ii) Results - These should be defined and refined to ensure the objectives of the Measure are being met.
 - (iii) Impacts - These should be defined and refined so that they can demonstrate the impact on the target groups.
- (h) Financial Summary - Match Funding element should be shown separately.
- (i) Implementing Body - Must clearly show all elements of delivery.
- (j) Nature of Aid - Must clearly show whether grant or loan.
- (k) North/South and Wider Co-operation - Must demonstrate specific aspects as set out in the Common Chapter.

8. There was also a need to address Section 75 issues across all of the Measures including through the indicators. The entire Complement should be equality proofed and reflect all horizontal issues including a

demonstration of how environmental issues were going to be measured.

9. Members of the Committee reiterated their willingness to work together for the good of Northern Ireland as a whole in seeking to reach agreement on the detail of the Complement. This however was an extremely important issue and one that would have to be got right at this stage. It was imperative that permanent members understood fully the range of issues before them so that they were in a position to manage and monitor this Programme effectively once agreement had been reached.

Any Other Business

10. The Chairman explained that a schedule of the detailed changes to the Programme Complement would be produced to cover the issues raised and attached as an Annex to a summary minute of the meeting. This would facilitate both members and Departmental advisors in identifying revisions to the document.

Schedule of Future Meetings

11. In addition to the meeting scheduled for 14 June 2001 a further meeting was arranged for Thursday 5 July 2001.

ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM THE BSP MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 21 MAY AND TUESDAY 22 MAY 2001 IN THE STORMONT HOTEL

Issue	Action By	Timing
Amendment to Draft Minutes of 1 May 2001	Secretariat	Next Meeting
Revised Programme Complement	Secretariat	Next Meeting
Clarification on Match Funding Issues	Secretariat	Next Meeting
Onestopshop Application Process	Secretariat	Next Meeting

**PROGRAMME FOR BUILDING SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY –
PROGRAMME MONITORING MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 21 MAY 2001
IN THE STORMONT HOTEL, BELFAST**

ATTENDEES

Permanent Members

Leo O'Reilly	Chairman
Eugene Rooney	Deputy Chairman
Mary Magowan	Voluntary and Community
Gwen Savage	Business
Raymond Ferguson	Fermanagh District Council
Bridgeen Murphy	SEUPB
Brendan Mackin	Trade Unions
Brian Wood	Environmental
Miceal McCoy	Agricultural/Rural
Gerry Rogan	Paying Authority ESF
Sylvia Sands	Paying Authority ERDF
Noel Cornick	Paying Authority EAGGF/FIFG

Observers/Advisors

Bob Bleakley	DOE
Nuala Kerr	DFP
Stephen Creagh	DRD
Pauline Murray	DRD
Don Harley	DSD
Howard Keery	DETI
Angela Jackson	DETI
Peter Sangster	IFI
Eileen Kelly	DG Regio – European Commission
John Kennedy	NICE
Claire Whitten	NICE
Martin Tyrrell	NISRA
Gillian Ardis	DE
Richard Hodgett	DE
Leslie White	DRD
Raymond Glass	DRD
Michael Pollock	DRD

Apologies

Mervyn Carrick	Craigavon Borough Council
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**PROGRAMME FOR BUILDING SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY –
PROGRAMME MONITORING MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 22 MAY 2001
IN THE STORMONT HOTEL, BELFAST**

ATTENDEES

Permanent Members

Leo O'Reilly	Chairman
Eugene Rooney	Deputy Chairman
Mary Magowan	Voluntary and Community
Gwen Savage	Business
Bronagh Hinds	Equality
Pat Mallon	Craigavon Borough Council
Bridgeen Murphy	SEUPB
Brendan Mackin	Trade Unions
Brian Wood	Environmental
Miceal McCoy	Agricultural/Rural
Sylvia Sands	Paying Authority ERDF
Noel Cornick	Paying Authority EAGGF/FIFG

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Don Harley	DSD
Howard Keery	DETI
Peter Sangster	IFI
Eileen Kelly	DG Regio – European Commission
Claire Whitten	NICE
Martin Tyrrell	NISRA
Gerry McWhinney	DARD
Susie McMullan	DARD
Stuart Morwood	DARD
Daniel Glenn	DARD
Jim Prentice	DARD
Ian Titterington	DARD

Apologies

Raymond Ferguson	Fermanagh District Council
Mervyn Carrick	Craigavon Borough Council

SCHEDULE OF REVISIONS TO PROGRAMME COMPLEMENT

PRIORITY 1

Measures 1A, B, C

- Categorisation** - Name should be included not just number.

MEASURE 2

- Objectives** - These reflect priorities not objectives therefore to be re-written to reflect overall objectives. At present too many objectives to relate to impacts.

- Activities** - Suggest what were previously objectives.

- Selection criteria** - To include minimum standards on environment.

Statements on Equal Opportunity and Environment to come out and to be included in general statement at beginning of Priority.

- Replace word guidelines with policy/legislation.

- Categories** - 181-183 when compared with indicators, are more extensive.

- Indicators** - Do not fully reflect OP indicators could use Activities here. Clarify Development Path Analysis.

- Nature of Aid** - Some confusion between grant/loan, clarify.

MEASURE 3B

- Activities** - Do not match indicators.

- Targets** - Explain further reference to universities, colleges.

- Targets to be improved/expanded.

- Indicators**
 - Included in general statement at beginning of Priorities.
 - Category 172-45% Show projected impact gross/net employment increase.
- Project Selection**
 - Clarify environmental sustainability as regards selection.
- North/South paragraph**
 - None envisaged a mistake, see reference to Tourism Ireland in criteria.

MEASURE 3A

- Indicators**
 - More clarity on impacts in relation to target groupings.

More impacts could be inserted (reference categorisation.)

To clarify relationship between number of visitors and jobs created.
 - Result does not relate back to objectives.

MEASURE 4

- Rationale**
 - Reference to Social Economy missing. More clarity in how this ERDF is used as a building mechanism coherent with PEACE Programme.
- Activities**
 - Distinguish between LSPs and other Local Partnerships.
- Categorisation**
 - Increase to 3 categories? 163 does not relate back to objectives.
- Selection criteria**
 - No mention of TSN.
- Indicators**
 - Do not relate to objectives.

PRIORITY 1

MEASURE 5

- Objectives** - Too many.
- Activities** - Too many.
- Categorisation** - Should be included.
- Indicators** - Should be more meaningful.

Measure - Small footnote to explain how LED is delivered in conjunction with LSPs.

MEASURE 6A

- Objectives** - Remove 35% reference, expand objective.
- Indicators** - Increase in number.
- Impact** - Amend/expand.

Measure 6B

- Indicators** - To be included as detailed in categorisation.

MEASURE 7

- Objectives** - Should relate to impact.
- Selection** - Include TSN
- Impacts** - Should be more concise and reflect categories.
- Measure** - Make the strategy clear in Measure. Do not be explicit in type of technology as this can specify a particular supplier.

MEASURE 8A?

MEASURE 8B

- Measure** - Ref to TSN should apply to all Measures.
- Selection** - Renewable energy should have preference in selection.
- *to check if Measure is funding only existing schemes.

PRIORITY 2

- Need clear link between ex ante evaluation and rationale.
- Examine continued validity of ex ante throughout period of Programme.
- Demonstrate linkage to categorisation.?
- Indicators have to be linked back to objectives.
- Indicators too general-need refined and expanded.
- Define qualifications.
- Disparity on cost per job?
- Peppering of references to ICT explore possibility of Project which is cross-Measure.

Measure 1 & 2

- Objectives** - Value in breaking up the stream here also.
- Selection** - Indication of percentage of resource to Jobskills.
- Reflect percentage of resource likely to be Jobskills. Indicate Match funding and Departments concerned.
- Implementing Body** - Contact point to be specified (Measure 2).
- Target Areas** - Requires further allocation of groups ie long-term/vulnerable groups eg status 2.

- Financial weighting to reflect the 2 categories.
- Indicators**
 - More quality of information behind indicators.
 - Should reflect back to target groups
 - Definition of final beneficiaries not comprehensive enough.
 - Include % improvement on last round
- Horizontal Principles**
 - not fully addressed in this Measure.

MEASURE 3

- Measure**
 - All comments as per Measures 1 and 2.
- Activities**
 - Separate grouping for disadvantaged groups, disabled people.
- Categorisation**
 - Amend to 22.
- Indicators**
 - Segregate between school children and disadvantaged adults.
- Implementing Body**
 - contact print to be specified.

MEASURE 4

- Indicators**
 - ICT skills of teachers referred to in. Activities has no matching indicator.
- Implementing Bodies**
 - To be expanded.

MEASURE 5

- Categorisation**
 - More appropriate category available.
- Indicators**
 - Further breakdown required eg secondary schools/other – unit costs/numerical indicators missing eg number of schools improved, how much per project.

Implementing Bodies	-	Contact point to be included.
MEASURE 6		
Measure	-	Complement should indicate support available for marketing under Priority 1 Measure 3 (DETI) ERDF.
Indicators	-	Part-time businesses should be supported/acknowledged.
Financial Summary	-	Indicate what portion is allocated to LEDU's main Programme.
	-	No indication in terms of spend – TSN Urban/Rural.
Implementing Bodies	-	Contact point to be included.
MEASURE 7		
Project Selection	-	To reflect Rationale.
Indicators	-	Inadequate, to be fleshed out.
Financial Summary	-	Indicate source of match funding.
MEASURE 8		
Selection Criteria	-	Horizontal Principles reminder to include address in all Measures.
Indicators	-	To be fleshed out and should include all activities.
Financial Summary	-	FUND/ESF not shown.
Implementing Bodies	-	Reference that these will be made available to target groups. At workshops run by DHFETE for all participants.
North/South	-	Is this area likely to have cross-border action?

PRIORITY 3 - MEASURE 4

Rationale	- No reference to ex-ante.
Categorisation	- Fields of intervention do not reflect indicators put down.
Selection Criteria	- Not yet included, to be built on existing criteria used by PEGs Group. - To take on board issue of funding new facilities where voluntary facilities already exist who should be supported.
Targets	- Reference to parents should be taken out if number participating are not to be monitored.
Indicators	- To be finalised in conjunction with NISRA. - Include the improvement of existing facilities. - Include reference to involvement of parents in planning and delivery. - Include geographical indicators. - Should be linked to Objectives. - Include quantities eg number of community partnerships.
Implementing Bodies	- Clarify, expand. - Objective 2 not reflected in targets, targets should include TSN.
Measure	- Section 75 issues should be built in, composition of groups should be built in. - Draw out the fact that this Measure supports bigger objective. A few sentences on revenue issue would be welcomed.

PRIORITY 3 – MEASURE 1

- Measure** - No reference to Horizontal Principles in this Measure.
- Activities** - Activities in OP are not reflected in the Complement.
- Statement that only assistance for Belfast and Londonderry is available should be included for sake of transparency and that funding for other areas may be available elsewhere eg IFI.
- Should reflect Horizontal Principals.
- Project Selection** - These reflect no Equality consideration.
- Indicators** - These reflect no Equality consideration.
- Categorisation** - To be reviewed.

MEASURE 2

- Rationale** - No reference to ex-ante.
- Categorisation** - Review.
- North/South Co-operation** - Should reflect OP reference.

MEASURE 3

- Indicators** - Expand.
- Include Equality Indicators.
- Financial Summary** - Meuro should agree with OP ie 9 meuro.
- Measure** - Include and encourage voluntary sector contribution. Volunteers expenses should be considered legitimate eligible expenditure. (Commission made general comment of agreement.)

PRIORITY 4

- Indicators** - To be developed further.
- Nature of Aid** - Standardise references to grants/loans.
- Categorisation** - Supplementary list available for Agriculture.

MEASURE 1

- Implementing Bodies** - Clarify.
- Selection Criteria** - Clarify.
- Targets** - Providers of services should be included.
- Indicators** - Complete with numbers.

MEASURE 2A

- Selection Criteria** - These are really eligibility criteria.
- Indicators** - Objective on Environment, but no indicator.
- Should relate back to Objectives.
- Objectives** - These reflect Activities.
- Activities** - These are really target areas.

MEASURE 2B

- Selection Criteria** - Need revision as these are really eligibility criteria.
- Indicators** - Second paragraph, last sentence of Rationale should be related to indicators.

Include some indication of improvement on what has been achieved before.

Measure - Reference to Chapter 7 of Rural Development Regulation is missing.

Targets - New and novel products to be included.

MEASURE 3

Nature of Aid - Specify grant/loan.

Selection Criteria - Need expansion.

MEASURE 5

Indicators - Number of quality assurance groups should be counted.

Activities - Revise to eligible costs.

MEASURES 4, 6-12

MEASURE 6

Title - Define basic service.

Categorisation - Expand.

Outputs - Scale of grant should relate to outputs (all Measures)

Impact - 15% to be dropped.

MEASURE 12

Selection Criteria - To be rewritten (typing errors).

MEASURES 7 AND 13

Indicators - Include numbers, facts and figures.

- Include back information for comparison.

MEASURE 13G

More environmental information to be included. Also sustainability should be addressed. Job information eg net gain should be included if possible.

PRIORITY 5

- Categorisation** - Complete.
- Financial Summary** - Typing errors.
- Indicators** - Include statement that some job creation may be possible.
- Activities** - Should provide signposting to other Department's priorities.

- PRIORITY 6** - Consider splitting Technical Assistance into sub-measures.