

Eastern Partnership Territorial Cooperation Programmes: State of Play

Presentation by EaPTC SP Team
Brussels, 18 March 2016
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Issues for discussion

1. State of play programme by programme, observance of programming provisions
2. Progress in achieving objectives and tasks of EaPTC Support Programme, upcoming activities
3. Cooperation with the EaPTC Managing Authority
4. Medium- and longer-term outlook



State of play programme by programme, observance of programming provisions



Armenia – Georgia

Milestone	Status	Date(s)
Approval of JOP by JDMC	Approved	20 June 2014
Call for Proposals	Closed	04.11.2014-02.02.2015
Endorsement of selection results	Endorsed	September 2015
Kick-off event	Held	25 September 2015
Projects implementation	In process	October 2015 onwards
6-month review by JDMC	Held	03.06.2016



Azerbaijan – Georgia

Milestone	Status	Date(s)
Approval of JOP by JDMC	Approved	31 October 2014 (finalised February 2015)
Call for Proposals	Closed	18.09-17.12.2015
Endorsement of selection results	Pending	
Kick-off event	Pending	
Projects implementation	Pending	



Moldova – Ukraine

Milestone	Status	Date(s)
Approval of JOP by JDMC	Approved	06 October 2014
Call for Proposals	Closed	15.04-14.07.2015
Endorsement of selection results	Endorsed	30.05.2016
Kick-off event	Pending	
Projects implementation	Pending	

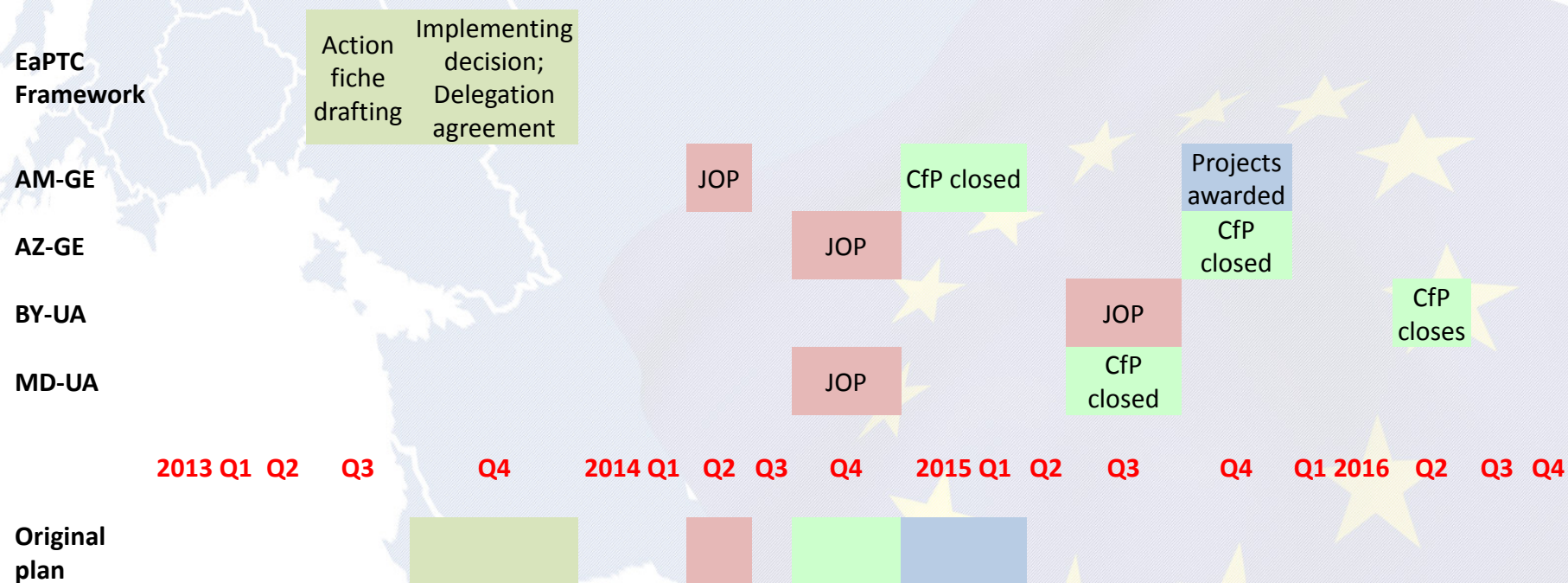


Belarus – Ukraine

Milestone	Status	Date(s)
Approval of JOP by JDMC	Approved	27 November 2014, written procedure finalised in September 2015
Call for Proposals	Closed	20.01-19.04.2016
Endorsement of selection results	Pending	
Kick-off event	Pending	
Projects implementation	Pending	



EaPTC timeline - planned and actual



Observance of programming provisions

- Objectives: Joint Operational Programmes and awarded projects are geared to local development needs and enhance links across the border
- Expected results:
 - Established cooperation pattern: created via JDMC (ownership), open CfPs are launched by the MA, awarded projects are being implemented
 - Increased cooperation between stakeholders: networks and project partnerships have been established via capacity building events and informational support
 - Capacity to operate EU-funded projects at local level: varies across the region, remains an issue in the Caucasus; attended via capacity building activities



Observance of programming provisions 2

- Thematic coverage – focus on key local development issues:
 - Priority 1 – youth employment through tourism, analysis of business opportunities, investment attractiveness of regions
 - Priority 2 – emergency preparedness, common approaches to environmental issues e.g. preservation
 - Priority 3 – strong focus on education, youth engagement and exchange incl. in cultural sphere
- Geographic coverage – some specifics
 - Kyiv oblast
 - Azerbaijani districts



Managing mechanism – sequencing

**Commission
implementing
decision**

Nov 2013

**Delegation
agreement
with MA**

Dec 2013

**Strategy
paper**

July
2014

**JDMCs
and
JOPs**

June
2014 -
Oct 2015

**Launch of
CfP by
MA**

Nov 2014
onwards



Assumptions and risks: an overview

Assumptions	Status
Politically, the EaP region remains sufficiently stable	✓
Shared interest of central and local governments in TC	✓ less in AZ
Other donors are cooperative vis-à-vis stakeholders	✓
CSOs and local authorities are allowed to participate in TC	✓ less in AZ
National regulatory frameworks are conducive for TC	generally ✓
Consensus building across borders on priorities	✓
Interest in addressing common challenges at local level	✓
Risks	
Frozen conflicts prevent participation of stakeholders	not materialised
National authorities impede participation of stakeholders	materialised in AZ
Over-participation of experienced organisations	duly attended
Stakeholders' insufficient capacity to prepare and run projects	duly attended



Progress in achieving objectives and tasks of the EaPTC Support Programme



EaPTC SP measurable achievements

- Management method identified and introduced
- Programming completed with due reference to local development needs
- Stakeholders' capacity raised to the level of successful submission of grant applications and project implementation
- National / regional ownership of the programmes ensured, i.a. with the help of advocacy measures
- Public outreach and sufficient visibility ensured



Activities still on agenda in 2016

- Capacity building modules for awardees and support to JDMCs
- Capacity level assessment against the baseline
- Informational support and visibility
- Stand-by on advocacy issues



Cooperation with EaPTC Managing Authority



Framework

- SP and MA functions are defined in the ToR and Delegation Agreement, respectively
- Division of labour between SP and MA pin-pointed at the meeting on 16 December 2013 and has been observed ever since (no arbitration intervention on the Commission side)
- With the TC programmes' progress, MA is taking the lead in relations with the grantees



Instrumentalised cooperation

- Joint actions with shared inputs
 - ✓ JDMC meetings on selection results
 - ✓ B5 Information days
 - ✓ Assessors' missions
- The importance of smooth information sharing
 - Stakeholders may fail to see the difference between SP and MA, e.g. information requests at evaluation stage are addressed to SP
 - Analysis of typical mistakes at application (CfP) stage
 - Assessment of capacity levels
 - Timeliness of information updates on the evaluation process



Medium and longer-term outlook



Upcoming capacity building modules

	AM-GE	AZ-GE	BY-UA	MD-UA
B8 Project clinics (individual support to applicants)	☑ - completed	☑ - completed	☑ - completed	☑ - completed
B9-B10 Grant project management and procurement rules	☑ - completed	☒ - pending	☒ - pending	📅 Late July '16
B11 Support to project implementation	📅 - April – June 2016	☒ - pending	☒ - pending	☒ - pending
M10-M12 JDMC meeting to consider and approve project selection results	☑ - completed	☒ - pending	☒ - pending	☑ - completed
M10-M12 JDMC meetings to monitor programme implementation (consider 6-month reports)	☑ - completed	☒ - pending	☒ - pending	☒ - pending



Support to project beneficiaries at implementation stage – methodology

- Objective for EaPTC Support Programme:
 - Overall capacity of beneficiaries (not limited to contract management);
 - Visibility of the actions and EU support at large;
 - Finding best-case examples / star-performers to show long-term success
- Capacity building actions:
 - Sharing best practice;
 - Networking beneficiaries to get potential synergies of different projects;
 - Networking to deepen and spread knowledge base in the eligible regions;
 - Organisational development of project beneficiaries to enhance internal management procedures and practices
- Methods of implementation:
 - Workshops and seminars; field visits; customised management advice



Informational support and visibility

- Informational support to stakeholders at implementation stage, promotion of successful projects and grantees, media relations (incl. media coverage of programme developments)
- Consultations for grantees on visibility requirements, incl. through a visibility toolbox
- Widest possible information dissemination related to capacity building modules and JDMC meetings
- Closing conference with the analysis of programmes' progress and expected results, lessons learnt and programmes' impact on local development, stakeholders' capacities and public involvement.
- Publication of a brochure on TC programmes' progress and e-bulletin No. 7
- Regular website update on news and events, calendar, country sections, contact database with online registration, online management tools



Outlook till December 2016

- Assessors for AZ-GE and BY-UA programmes should be contracted before summer break
- 3 capacity building modules for award winners under AZ-GE and BY-UA programmes will likely fall beyond EaPTC SP period of operation
- EaPTC SP will produce mid-term assessment of capacity levels and programmes' impact on local development
- Overviews of national legal and administrative requirements for project implementation will be updated
- A networking international conference for representatives of all 4 programmes is planned for October 2016 in Odessa, Ukraine

