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# SLOVENIAN NATIONAL GUIDANCE ON THE CLIMATE PROOFING OF INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE PERIOD 2021-2027

WEBINAR, 18 FEBRUARY 2024

Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development



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# LESSONS LEARNT FROM THE 2014-2020 PROGRAMMING PERIOD

- Climate Proofing required only for large infrastructure projects which were submitted for approval to the COM.
- The criteria for selection of projects under the Operational Programme 2014-2020 did not include any specific requirement or recommendation related to the climate proofing.
- For a large majority of projects, the mitigation and adaptation measures were adopted as the result of a SEA/EIA procedure (without a specific CP analysis).
- Lack of knowledge at the level of Intermediate/Implementing Bodies (knowledge concentrated at the level of bodies implementing large infrastructure or major projects).

## SELECTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS UNDER THE 2021-2027 PROGRAMME

- According to the CPR Regulation for 2021-2027 the climate proofing of projects is required for investments in infrastructure which have an expected lifespan of at least 5 years.
- The obligation to perform a climate proofing of infrastructure projects is included in the criteria for the selection of operations within the programme 2021-2027.
- In addition to strong legal foundations, a national guidance on the Climate Proofing has been developed and will facilitate the preparation and implementation of projects at the national level.
- The importance of sustainability and resilience of projects is increasingly accepted not only at the level of project promoters but also by the general public (the catastrophic flood events in 2023 are one of the best examples that shows the necessity of designing sustainable projects).

# THE SLOVENIAN CONTEXT OF THE CLIMATE PROOFING OF PROJECTS IN THE 2021-2027 PERIOD

- Appropriate integration of the national regulation related to investments in infrastructure (e.g. Construction Act, Act on Spatial Planning, Environmental Act, Nature Conservation Act).
- Better integration of the results of the SEA and EIA procedures in the process for climate proofing of projects.
- Tailored approach to the screening and detailed analysis, especially for the climate risk assessment and the definition of climate adaptation measures.
- Practical use of available data and information related to climate change from the national Environment Agency (Atlas of climate projections, Water Atlas, Environment Atlas...)

## SOME REFLECTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

- Ensuring the transfer of knowledge among stakeholders in the implementation of the cohesion policy 2021-2027 (especially at the level of project designers, project applicants or beneficiaries and intermediate or implementing bodies).
- Increasing administrative capacity for the appraisal of projects (development of assessment tools and methods for intermediate or implementing bodies).
- Ensuring the integration of existing procedures in the climate proofing analysis and definition of mitigation and adaptation measures.
- Simplification of the CP analysis (by using tailored tools) in relation to smaller projects where it is obvious that the climate hazards will have no direct impact on the project.
- Potential review of the legal requirements related to climate proofing in order to avoid/reduce unnecessary or disproportionate administrative burdens of project applicants (revision of the requirement relating to the 5 years lifespan of infrastructure?)

# THANK YOU

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Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development

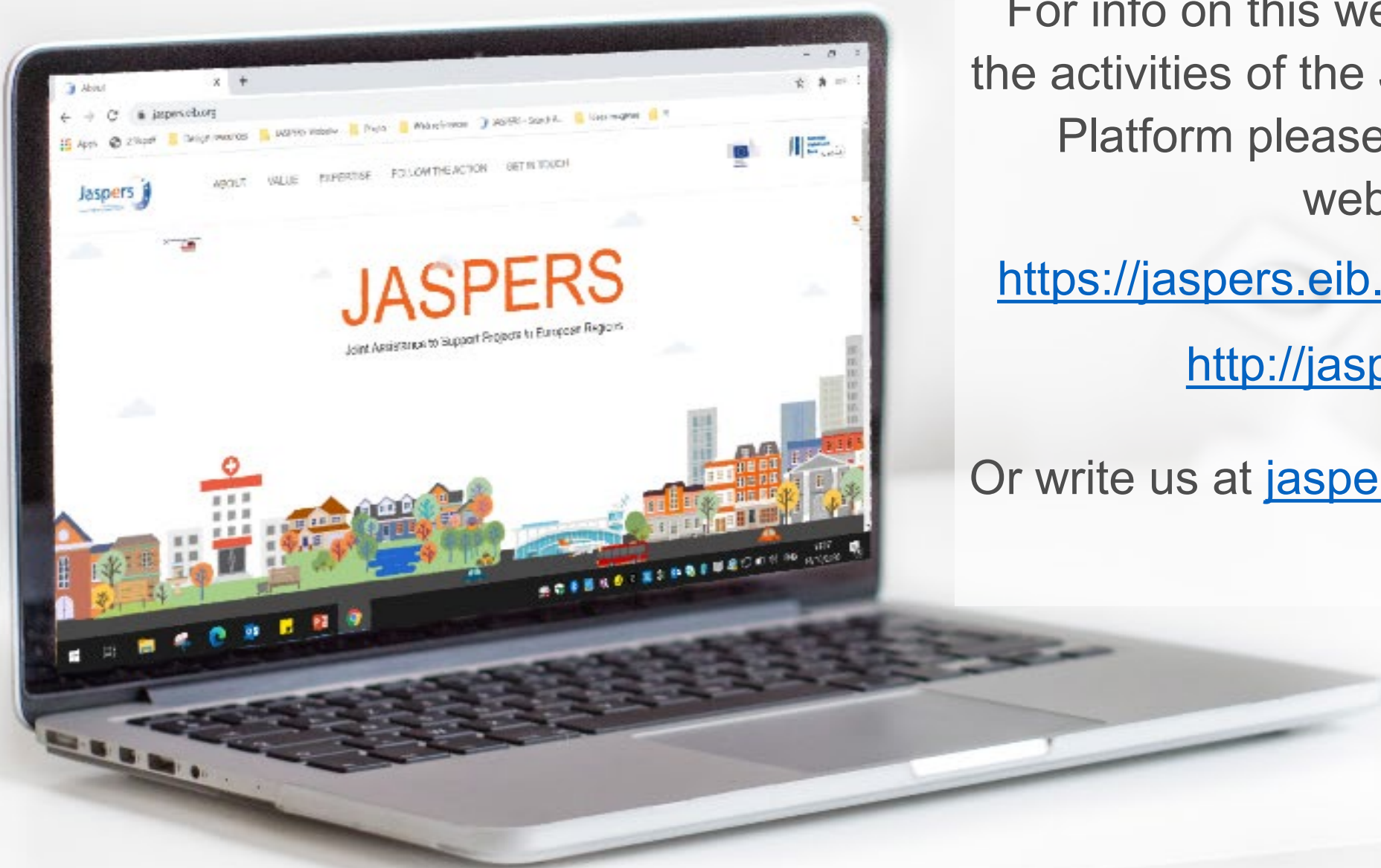
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