



JASPERS Networking Platform

Second Webinar on

State aid for JTF Projects in the 2021-2027 Period

Date: 28th May 2024, from 13:00 to 16:30 CET

Location: Virtual meeting - WebEx Events

The JASPERS Networking Platform was created to complement JASPERS project advisory operations by implementing knowledge sharing and capacity building activities, as well as fostering dissemination of good practices and exchange of experiences among all EU member states, pre-accession countries and other JASPERS stakeholders.

More information is available at <https://jaspers.eib.org/knowledge/index>

Description of the Webinar

The Just Transition Fund (JTF) is a new instrument of the Cohesion Policy 2021-2027, introduced as the first pillar of the Just Transition Mechanism. The Commission set up the Just Transition Mechanism to support the achievement of the European Green Deal's objective of EU climate-neutrality by 2050.

The JTF supports the territories most affected by the transition towards climate neutrality to avoid regional inequalities growing, in line with EU cohesion policy's aim to reduce regional disparities and to address structural changes in the EU.

The JTF will bring wide-ranging benefits. Focusing on economic diversification and reskilling, the JTF aims to support regions facing serious socio-economic challenges due to the transition process. Regions that are heavily reliant on fossil fuels or greenhouse gas-intensive industrial activities will need to phase out certain activities and restructure their industries, while also protecting the environment and providing job and re-skilling opportunities to workers and their families.

State aid rules are essential to help avoid distortions of competition when Member States intervene in support of certain undertakings. Compliance with State aid rules is key to further improving the functioning of the Single market and must go hand in hand with a strong focus on stimulus and growth.

One of the main objectives of the JTF is to develop new or existing economic activities with the aim of providing alternative sources of income in areas in transition which are, or will be, affected by the need to decarbonise the energy generation sector or energy-intensive industries.

JTF resources are considered State resources and their use can provide recipient undertakings with an advantage on a selective basis, for example specific companies or industry sectors, or companies located in specific regions. As a result, competition may be distorted, and the intervention may affect trade between Member States. In this context JTF projects are subject to State aid assessment.

Understanding the available tools for State aid assessment of JTF projects is crucial for the timely implementation of the projects.



In the framework of the 2021-27 mandate with DG REGIO and DG MOVE, JASPERS provides advisory and technical capacity building support to Member States on the preparation of programmes and projects financed by Cohesion Policy, including JTF. JASPERS assistance also covers horizontal subjects relevant to project preparation, such as State aid, climate and environmental consideration, and methodologies for project prioritisation and appraisal.

This webinar is the follow-up of a webinar held on 11th of July 2023 on [State aid issues in JTF projects](#). It aims to address certain State aid issues (in particular decarbonisation, and renewable energy communities) identified as particularly relevant for JTF purposes, based on the feedback of Member States and on the cases assessed by the Commission's services until now. It also aims to present experiences, challenges, and good practices among Member States' JTF authorities involved in the State aid assessment of JTF projects.

The webinar is organised in cooperation with DG COMP and DG REGIO. It builds on joint DG REGIO – DG COMP actions in the area of State aid, including trainings, a community of practitioners on State aid and a Peer-2-Peer tool to facilitate exchanges between Member States on State aid.

For more information about further support available for Member States, please see here: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/policy/how/improving-investment/state-aid_en

The webinar will be held in English and participants will have the chance to intervene in Q&A sessions and discuss needs for further advisory and capacity building support in this specific knowledge area.

Participants are encouraged to register and indicate their questions on the topics when filling the [pre-event questionnaire included in the online registration form](#), as a proposal for debate during the Q&A sessions and final round table.

FINAL AGENDA

13:00 – 13:05	Welcome and introduction Massimo Marra, Principal Advisor, Capacity Building Coordinator, EIB/JASPERS
13:05 – 13:25	Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Werner Schmidt, Director, Urban and Territorial Development, Project Directorate, EIB• Karl Soukup, Acting Director in COMP.H, General Scrutiny and Enforcement, DG COMP, European Commission
13:25 – 13:40	EIB - JASPERS support to Just Transition Mechanism update Luis Hebrero, Head of Division, EIB/JASPERS
13:40 – 14:00	JASPERS experience and observations on applying State aid rules in JTF projects Christos Peolidis, State aid Expert, EIB/JASPERS

For any further information this event and on the activities of the JASPERS Networking Platform please contact us at jaspersnetwork@eib.org or visit our website <https://jaspers.eib.org/knowledge/index>



First Session: Aid for Decarbonisation Investments in ETS sectors under JTF, including Land repurposing

14:00 – 14:40	Applying State aid rules to JTF support to decarbonisation Investments in ETS sectors, including land repurposing Michela Casella, Magdalena Herbots, Roberto Bove, Case Handlers, Unit H2-3, DG COMP
14:40 – 14:50	Q & A
14:50 – 15:00	Coffee Break

Second Session: State aid to Renewable Energy Communities

15:00 – 15:20	Notion of undertaking applied to REC. Aid for RECs. Alice Gallo, Case Handler, Unit B2, DG COMP
15:20 – 16:20	Final Q&A addressing questions sent in advance via online questionnaire and discussion with the audience. Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maria Engstrom, Unit A3, DG COMP,• Michela Casella, Magdalena Herbots, Roberto Bove, Unit H2-3, DG COMP• Alice Gallo, Laura Napolitano, Unit B2, DG COMP• Tess Crean, Marie Laure Wyss, Unit H1, DG COMP
16:20 -16:30	Closing remarks Nicola de Michelis Acting Deputy Director-General, DG REGIO, European Commission
