



Selection of operations under cohesion policy

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CPR provisions relevant to selection of operations

- **Recital 60 CPR** – rationale
- **Article 40(2)(a) CPR** – role of the monitoring committee (MC)*
- **Article 72(1)(a) CPR** – managing authority's (MA) responsibility for selection of operations (shared management!)*
- **Article 73(1) and (2) CPR** – MA duties in selection of operations
- **Annex XI** Key requirements of management and control systems (appropriate criteria and procedures for the selection of operations)
- **Annex XIII** Elements of the audit trail (documentation allowing for verification of the application of the selection criteria)
- **Annex XXII** Audit strategy (verification of quality of project selection)

* Disclaimer: This presentation is not exploring the possibilities for local action groups under Article 33(3)

Role of the monitoring committee (MC)

- Article 40(2)(a) CPR sets out that MC approves the methodology and criteria used for the selection of operations, including any changes thereto
 - No differentiation of selection procedures, both competitive and non-competitive selection procedures are covered
 - No differentiation of the level of criteria (general/eligibility/quality/specific...)
 - No 'blank criteria' to specified solely by the MA later on
- MC involvement should not be a formal 'ticking the box' exercise, but to ensure the consultation of the partners, to add value / tap on their experience and ensure transparency in the process
- Different approaches/different administrative cultures in MSs
 - results of the study on the selection criteria

Requirements of Article 73(1)

- Article 73(1) refers to both selection **criteria and procedures**
 - non-discriminatory, transparent, ensure accessibility to persons with disabilities, ensure gender equality, and take account of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the principle of sustainable development and of the Union policy on the environment
 - operations to be selected are prioritised with a view to maximising the contribution of Union funding towards the achievement of the objectives of the programme.

Requirements of Article 73(2)

Basic/eligibility/exclusion
criteria, quality/award
criteria, shape/scope of call

- Article 73(2) refers to **managing authority's duties**
 - The operations have to comply with the programme, be consistent with the relevant **strategies**, provide an effective **contribution to the achievement of the specific objectives** of the programme
 - The operations which fall within the scope of an **enabling condition** are consistent with the corresponding strategies
 - The operations present the **best relationship** between the amount of support, the activities undertaken and the achievement of objectives
 - MA ensures the beneficiary has the necessary financial resources and mechanisms to cover operation and maintenance costs and ensure their **financial sustainability**
 - MA ensures the operations (subject to EIA Directive) are subject to an **environmental impact assessment** or a screening procedure and that the assessment of alternative solutions has been taken in due account
 - MA ensures that selected operations **fall within the scope of the Fund** and are attributed to a type of intervention
 - Rules on ongoing operations, climate proofing, relocation, reasoned opinion, etc.

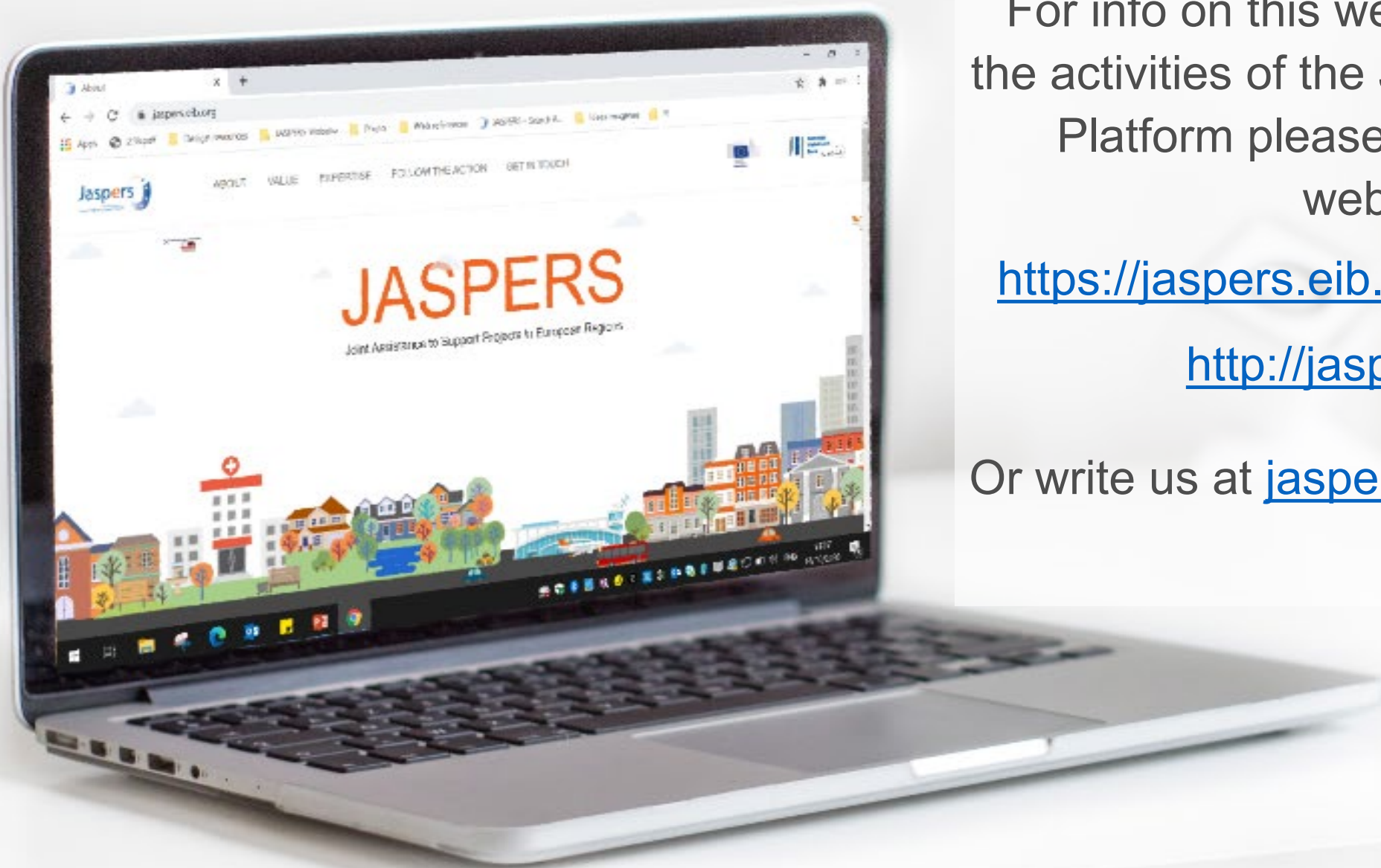
Requirements of Article 73(2) and STEP

- Regulation 2024/795 establishing the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP): possible for managing authorities to grant support from the ERDF or the ESF+ directly, for operations that have been awarded a Sovereignty Seal
 - The operations have to comply with the programme, be consistent with the relevant strategies, provide an effective contribution to the achievement of the specific objectives of the programme
 - The operations which fall within the scope of an enabling condition are consistent with the corresponding strategies
 - MA ensures that selected operations fall within the scope of the Fund and are attributed to a type of intervention

Responsibility of the Commission

- MA responsible for the selection
- Based on Article 40(2)(a) CPR, COM asks systematically about the methodology and criteria (to be sent to COM min 15 wd prior to the MC)
- Provides insight and comments

Thank you



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