



Different ways to Cooperate: strategic and technical recommendations

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When Deciding and Funding activities

In the preparation of the programming, consider that:

- Cooperation activities are important tools to reach your own strategic objectives
- Identification and planning of joint, coordinated , complementary and convergent actions contribute to reinforce efficiency in the implementation and impact of the results

DIFFERENT COOPERATION MODELS

	Type A	Type B	Type C	Type D	Type E
Joint strategic planning	yes	yes	yes	yes	no
Joint decision making	yes	yes	yes	no	no
Joint funding	yes	yes	no	no	no
Joint implementation	yes	no	no	no	no

Less Integrated Cooperation Models

***Convergent actions** through which the objectives targeted by the different partners could be reached by measures and actions decided separately by the Member states , funded and implemented under the sole responsibility of the relevant national/regional authorities; the results of these individual actions contribute to the common benefit of the different regions and states in the area ; E.g. many actions implemented at national level can result in improving the considered environmental sector situation in the whole area in accordance with the commonly agreed objective ...)*

Less Integrated Cooperation Models

***Complementary actions** through which the objectives targeted by the different partners could be reached by different types of measures agreed by the regions/states, but funded and implemented under the direct responsibility of the relevant national/regional authorities: but the results of these complementary actions benefit to all partners (examples: complementary infrastructure or equipment in flood risks prevention and management)*

More Integrated Cooperation Models

***Coordinated actions** request different and highest degrees of coordination process in terms of agreement setting ,planning, etc...but in most cases concrete actions remain to be decided, funded and implemented under the sole responsibility of the relevant national/regional authorities(examples: establishment of coordinated academic curricula and research programmes on common environmental issues , cross-border international flood monitoring and management coordination platforms...)*

Integrated Cooperation Models

***Joint action** are necessary in a small number of cases demanding completely integrated processes (common financial instruments, common management platform for integrated R&DI programmes or for transnational flood or biodiversity management). Due to the complexity and difficulty of implementing and managing the joint approach, my recommendation is to use it only when relevant, realistic and it provides clear added-value.*

When Planning and Implementing Cooperation

- Identify cooperation interests and needs and consider their relevance to address the situation and reach the targetted results.
- Assess the added value of cooperation in the strategic planning phase (benefits, impact and cost effectiveness, but also feasibility and readiness).

When Planning and Implementing Cooperation

- As much as possible mainstream cooperation activities in the usual decisional processes and delivery systems in force at national, regional, local level(just part of the daily job!).
- Select the funding sources, instruments and tools in respect of their specific mission, financial allocation size, eligibility rules restrictions, faisibility and easiness of management, selection process, etc...

When Programming Cooperation

1- Check and keep the implementation system of the Ops open for different cooperation models, e.g.:

- (i) Declaration of willingness,
- + (ii) General principles for promoting, developing and supporting cooperation
- + (iii) Explicit indication of general cooperation tools to be used such as cooperation component solution, majoration of the cofunding rate, possible use of art. 70, support of EGTC, etc....

When Programming Cooperation

2- Specify in broad terms at OP or at Priority Axis level without being exclusive:

(i) your specific thematic cooperation interests, with

(ii) indicative mention of partners to be involved and

(iii) envisaged types of activities,

in order to clearly signal to beneficiaries and potential partners your specific interests and readiness to support cooperation activities and ground and encourage possible actions.

Thank you for your attention

Contact

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