

Key actions - Task Force on Implementation under Operational Programme "Environment 2007-2013"

| | | All amounts in EUR EU share | Baseline 1/1/2015 | by 31 March 2015 | Y/N and effect on de-commitment | by 15 June 2015 | Y/N | by 30 September 2015 | Y/N | by 30 December 2015 | Y/N | by 31 March 2016 | Y/N | Current status (all amounts EU share) |
|--|-------------------|---|-------------------|--|---|--|---|---|--|---------------------|-----|------------------|-----|--|
| OP Environment | 1 | 2 | | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | |
| Priority axis 1 (CF): Improvement and development of water and wastewater infrastructure and improvement of ambient air quality | financial targets | RAL | 489.200.787 | 425.225.066 | | 315.523.142 | | 159.979.526 | | 45.801.428 | | -57.329.264 | | 179.967.833 |
| | | payment forecast (on the ground) | n/a | 602.141.207 | | 711.843.131 | | 867.386.747 | | 981.564.845 | | 1.038.894.109 | | 847.398.438 |
| | | 2015 payment benchmark | 52,38% | 58,61% | | 69,29% | | 84,43% | | 95,54% | | 1.027.366.273 | | 82,48% |
| Priority axis 2 (ERDF): Improvement and development of waste treatment infrastructure | financial targets | RAL | 154.519.699 | 119.808.189 | | 69.034.735 | | 22.026.890 | | -66.885.083 | | -85.870.697 | | 27.529.875 |
| | | payment forecast (on the ground) | n/a | 131.439.006 | | 182.212.460 | | 229.220.305 | | 318.132.278 | | 337.117.892 | | 223.717.320 |
| | | 2015 payment benchmark | 40,64% | 50,49% | | 70,00% | | 88,06% | | 122,21% | | 260.308.793 | | 85,94% |
| Priority axis 3 (ERDF): Preservation and restoration of biodiversity | financial targets | RAL | 52.616.235 | 31.925.114 | | 18.921.768 | | 3.914.945 | | -17.986.327 | | -19.310.356 | | 6.683.005 |
| | | payment forecast (on the ground) | n/a | 46.825.128 | | 59.828.474 | | 74.835.297 | | 96.736.569 | | 98.060.598 | | 72.067.237 |
| | | 2015 payment benchmark | 40,08% | 53,32% | | 68,13% | | 85,22% | | 110,16% | | 87.811.839 | | 82,07% |
| Priority axis 4 (ERDF): Technical assistance | financial targets | RAL | 12.743.838 | 8.323.843 | | 4.127.922 | | 1.495.159 | | -89.383 | | -89.383 | | 2.462.988 |
| | | payment forecast (on the ground) | n/a | 29.692.124 | | 33.888.045 | | 36.520.808 | | 38.105.330 | | 38.105.330 | | 35.552.979 |
| | | 2015 payment benchmark | 67,53% | 75,64% | | 86,33% | | 93,04% | | 97,08% | | 39.253.267 | | 90,57% |
| TOTAL OPE | | RAL | 709.080.559 | 585.282.213 | | 407.607.568 | | 187.416.520 | | -39.159.365 | | -162.599.701 | | 216.643.703 |
| | | Payment forecast (on the ground) | n/a | 810.097.464 | | 987.772.109 | | 1.207.963.157 | | 1.434.539.042 | | 1.512.177.949 | | 1.178.735.974 |
| | | 2015 payment benchmark | 49,88% | 57,26% | | 69,82% | | 85,38% | | 101,40% | | 1.414.740.172 | | 83,32% |
| | actions in 2015 | I. Elaboration of mechanism/matrix for physical and financial implementation of on-going projects | | by 31 March 2015 MA of OPE will submit to the EC a template of the matrix (YanaBel matrix - a sophisticated table for financial and physical implementation and forecasting on on-going projects) | N | by 30 April 2015 MA of OPE will fill in the data for financial and physical implementation of on-going projects | Y- the new matrix will present more accurate forecast for project implementation. This will help the MA to identify the exact amount of components which cannot be finished within the eligibility period and which will effect decommitment of funds | N/A | N | N/A | N | N/A | N | The matrix was sent to the EC in July 2015 |
| | | II.Reducing the high overlooking in grant agreements to the level of actual commercial contracts signed under the grants and decreasing the scope of projects (biodiversity, TA and etc.) | | | This measure will reduce the amount of overlooking by 434,4MEUR (364,4 MEUR for call 19 and 60 MEUR savings) | by 31 May 2015 | | N/A | N | N/A | N | N/A | N | The annexation process is completed with only few exceptions. 139 annexes to the grant contracts have been signed leading to 562 MEUR reduction of contracted amount. |
| | | II.a. Withdrawing the 4 Major projects currently submitted at the EC (due to lack of time to implement them in 2007-2013 period) | | by 31 March 2015 | | | Y-this will allow the MA and the beneficiaries to focus on the implementable projects under 07-13 and not putting additional burden on the state budget by committing to projects which cannot be finalised in this period | N/A | N | N/A | N | N/A | N | All 4 Major projects have been withdrawn. |
| | | II.b. Canceling projects which are not in process of implementation | | | | by 31 May 2015 | | N/A | N | N/A | N | N/A | N | There are projects with a significant delay in their implementation; beneficiaries of these projects do not agree to cancel grant contracts; the MA of the OPE has informed them that all expenditures exceeding the eligibility period will be at their expense. |
| | | III. Enhanced Monitoring of risky projects with a view not to reduce even more the 1st phase to be implemented under 2007-2013 period - MA of OPE has identified 12 projects with delay in physical implementation (Vratsa MP and 11 non MP). | | in February 2015 MA of OPE has started meetings with the beneficiaries of risky projects in order to ensure that any possible actions for speeding up their physical implementation will be undertaken | Y - the more actions are financed under 1st phase of these already identified 12 risky projects and the less projects remain in this category as risky projects, less decommitment will be at closure | N/A | N | N/A | N | N/A | N | N/A | N | The action is under implementation; the MA holds regular meetings with the beneficiaries of risky projects to speed up their implementation. In July 2015 the MA started regular on-site visits. As a result of these visits the implementation of risky components has been speeded up. |
| | | III.a.Phasing of Major Project of Vratsa municipality for component "Rehabilitation of existing water supply system from "Srechenka bara" to Vratsa". | | N/A | N | N/A | | by 30 September 2015 MA of OPE will submit to the EC a request for amendment of the Commission decision for Major project of Vratsa. | Y-by phasing to 2014-2020 OPE and securing the financing for the finishing of the project, the decommitment at closure will be avoided for the completed 1st phase (components in value of 21,3MEUR) | N/A | N | N/A | N | The request for an amendment of the Commission decision for the Major project of Vratsa municipality will be submitted to the EC until 30.09.2015 |
| | | III.b.Phasing of non Major Projects | | N/A | N | N/A | | MA of OPE has established a list with non major projects which could be phased. These are 11 projects and the total amount of all the components concerned amounts to 97 MEUR CF. | Y - Financing the 2nd phase under OPE 14-20 reduces the risk of decommitment at closure the already certified expenditure under 1st phase (currently 47,7MEUR), due to unfinished projects. | N/A | N | N/A | N | The MA of the OPE has a list of risky projects - in total 11 non-major projects; some of them are very likely to be phased, but this will be done after 31 October 2015. All payments made by the beneficiaries to their contractors for work done until 31.10.2015 will be financed by OPE 2007-2013 |
| | | IV. Modification of the OPE | | N/A | N | by 31 May 2015 MA of OPE will submit to the EC a proposal for amendment of the financial plan of the OPE due to decommitment of funds for 2014 and analysis of expected consumption of eligible expenditures under priority axis 2, 3 and 4, co-financed by ERDF | Y- By this the MA will avoid decommitment at closure, also by making best use of the 10% flexibility rule | N/A | N | N/A | N | N/A | N | In April 2015 the MA received a letter from the EC informing about the decommitment of funds for 2014 (19,36 MEUR ERDF); As a result of this the MA of the OPE has proposed a new financial plan to the members of the Monitoring Committee and it was approved. On 10 September 2015 the MA submitted the modified OPE to the European Commission. |
| | | V. Making fully functional the regional offices with a view to speed up the verification process and maintaining the payment flow in the system and also to allow for a smooth closure | | Announcement of a competition for open positions in regional units of GD OP Environment is in progress. In March 2015 vacant positions are planned to be announced. Experts from the regional units will start on-the-spot checks as part of the plan for closure of the OPE | Y- by starting earlier with on-the-spot checks the MA reduces the risk of discovering only at closure the irregular expenditure, allowing itself time to react | N/A | N | N/A | N | N/A | N | N/A | N | All 6 experts for the regional offices were recruited and trained. They are already working at 2 regional offices (Veliko Tarnovo and Stara Zagora towns). |
| | | VI. Securing the budget for the non-eligible expenditures for the projects not finished by 31 December 2015 (currently around 105MEUR of EU share exceeding the eligibility deadline needed to finish the projects) | | N/A | N | By 30 April MA will inform the Ministry of Finance and Central Coordination Unit on the needed financial volume to finish projects after the eligibility deadline | Y- avoiding decommitment at closure for the expenditures certified before December 2015 due to unfinished projects | by 31 August a decision on the national level has to be made in order to secure the smooth project implementation | Y-avoiding decommitment at closure for the expenditures certified before December 2015 due to unfinished projects | N/A | N | N/A | N | The data from YanaBel matrix shows that CF allocation will not be used fully until 31.12.2015 so there is no need for additional national funding for PA 1 with one exception of 4.4 MEUR for BD project, that is call No: BG161P0005/12/1.2002/29 (UMIS No:1.0.10) - this project can not be phased and must be secured by national budget. On the other hand there is a shortage of funds between 80 and 105 MEUR ERDF share for PAs 2, 3 and 4. In order to secure the finalisation of the projects concerned the Council of Ministers adopted a decision No:682/07.09.2015 on granting consent for payments of eligible expenditures above the ERDF budget of the OP Environment 2007-2013 amount to 234MBGN (101,7MEUR ERDF share). |
| | | VII. Creating a cash reserve for maintaining the liquidity in the system for the beneficiaries to continue implementation of projects | | by 31 March MA will inform the Ministry of Finance and Central Coordination Unit about the approximate amount of funds needed for setting up a mechanism which will allow beneficiaries access to funds for liquidity purposes | Y- this will speed up the implementation on the ground and reduce delays because of liquidity problems of the beneficiaries | by 30 April MA will inform the Ministry of Finance and Central Coordination Unit about the exact amount of funds needed for the mechanism which will allow beneficiaries access to funds for liquidity purposes | Y-speeding up the implementation of the projects and increasing the amounts of the invoices received by MA | N/A | N | N/A | N | N/A | N | In March 2015 the MA of the OPE informed the Ministry of Finance and Central Coordination Unit about the approximate amount of funds needed for setting up a mechanism which will allow beneficiaries access to funds for liquidity purposes; the amount of 437 MBGN was estimated to be needed to cover liquidity problems of the beneficiaries; after finalising the annexation of the projects the MA has more accurate figures - 231 MBGN is needed to ensure smooth finalisation of the projects. |

EU share EUR
CF

| | | |
|---------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1.038.894.109 | TOTAL EXPECTED CERTIFICATION | Without Vratsa "Srechenska Bara" |
| 103.343.896 | Total risky components of infrastructure calls | Without Vratsa "Srechenska Bara" |
| 30.459.538 | paid until 31.08.2015 | Without Vratsa "Srechenska Bara" |
| 20.000.000 | more to be paid until 31.12.2015 | Without Vratsa "Srechenska Bara" |
| 4.444.907 | Total risky components of BD Pleven and Plovdiv; cannot be phased | |
| 981.564.845 | Total eligible expenditures to be made until 31.12.2015 | |

PA 2

| | | |
|-------------|---|---------|
| 337.117.892 | TOTAL EXPECTED CERTIFICATION | |
| 26.010.808 | Total risky components of infrastructure projects and EMEPA project | YanaBel |
| 2.025.194 | paid until 31.08.2015 | |
| 5.000.000 | more to be paid until 31.12.2015 | |
| 318.132.278 | Total eligible expenditures to be made until 31.12.2015 | |

PA 3

| | | |
|------------|--|-------------------------|
| 98.060.598 | TOTAL EXPECTED CERTIFICATION | YanaBel |
| 1.324.029 | Total risky components of PA 3 projects | YanaBel - Total_OPE I14 |
| 0 | paid until 31.08.2015 | |
| 0 | more to be paid until 31.12.2015 | |
| 96.736.569 | Total eligible expenditures to be made until 31.12.2015 | |

PA 4

| | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 38.105.350 | TOTAL EXPECTED CERTIFICATION | YanaBel - PA4_projects AQ10 |
|------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|

Certified amounts for risky projectss without Vra

| | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Bansko | 8.021.364 |
| Belene | 4.792.878 |
| Byala Ruse | 3.606.434 |
| Vidin | 9.683.294 |
| Isperih | 3.292.859 |
| Silistra | 6.105.090 |
| Tervel | 969.958 |
| Shumen | 5.998.593 |
| Petrich | 0 |
| Radnevo | 0 |
| Yambol | 4.560.039 |
| total | 47.030.510 |

tsa