

## Overview of changes to the Programme Manual V.5

Location of change	Introduced changes	Justification of changes
<p>The Programme Manual: page 12, Chapter I, Section 3 Complementarities with other Interreg Programmes</p>	<p>The wording corrected to: At the same time, the Programme anchored itself well in the existing structures, being complementary with other instruments at different levels (regional, national, and international).</p>	<p>Technical correction.</p>
<p>The Programme Manual: pages 37-38, Chapter II, Section 4 PRIORITY 4 – Active South Baltic – improving cooperation governance</p>	<p>The following information was added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential beneficiaries of this measure include a wide group of actors, especially local actors considered to be newcomers to cross-border cooperation <b>or newcomers in the South Baltic Programme e.g. the Olsztyński subregion</b>, creating ample opportunities for networking and developing relationships between them.</li> <li>• The indicative list of cross-border activities includes the <b>activities that support the cross-border cooperation building and finding cross-border partners for local actors suffering the consequences of suspension of cross-border cooperation programmes with Russia, including partners from the Olsztyński subregion.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Changes are introduced to align the description of the Priority 4 with respective changes in the Programme.</p>
<p>The Programme Manual: page 43, Chapter III, Section 1, sub-section 1.3. Operations of strategic importance</p>	<p>The following information was added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The first</b> strategic projects shall have the potential to significantly contribute to combating the pollution and eutrophication of the Baltic Sea.</li> <li>• In its initial stage, the Programme <b>considered</b> Measure 2.2 of particular relevance for strategic projects. The projects funded <b>under this Measure are expected</b> to contribute with tangible and visible results, ones that can be seen, touched, and photographed and can therefore be used by the Programme and the European Commission in visibility measures. &lt;...&gt; <b>In the next stages, the Programme may recognize other relevant projects to expand the focus.</b></li> <li>• Separate operations of strategic projects are planned <b>for projects with partners from Olsztyński subregion. Special</b></li> </ul>	<p>Changes are introduced to align the description of the OSI with the respective changes in the Programme.</p>

	<b>efforts can be made to enable Programme actors, including partners from Olstżyński subregion, to overcome the negative consequences caused by Russian military aggression in Ukraine.</b>	
The Programme Manual: page 48, Chapter III, Section 3, sub-section 3.3. Lead Partner	The wording corrected to: Bodies governed by public law (as defined in Art 2(1) of Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement and repealing Directive 2004/18/EC (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014). <b>This means bodies that have all of the following characteristics.</b>	Correction is introduced in line with the wording used in the Directive 2014/24/EU.
The Programme Manual: page 81, Chapter IV, Section 7, sub-section 7.2. Conflict of interest and anti-corruption	The mailbox is updated: Nieprawidlowosci.EWT@mfipr.gov.pl	Technical correction.
The Programme Manual: page 86, Chapter IV, Section 9, sub-section 9.2. State aid in the Interreg South Baltic Programme	The wording corrected to: State aid or de minimis aid can be awarded directly <b>by the Managing Authority to the project partner. Indirect state aid can be awarded by the project partner</b> to the final recipient (an undertaking conducting economic activity in compliance with the definition of State aid).	Correction is introduced to differentiate the types of State Aid granted by the MA and by the project partner(s).
The Programme Manual: page 101, Chapter VI, Section 3, sub-section 3.1. Communication obligations for project partners	The wording supplemented with: d) placing permanent information boards or commemorative plaques with the Programme logo in public places. This should take place immediately after the commencement of the project implementation, <b>which includes physical investments or the purchase of equipment, or after the installation of the purchased equipment. It applies to projects with a total value of more than EUR 100,000.</b>	Correction is introduced in line with the Interreg Regulation (EU) 2021/1059 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021.

<p>The Programme Manual: page 101-102, Chapter VI, Section 3, sub-section 3.1. Communication obligations for project partners</p>	<p>Newly added information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs for equipment purchased, rented, or leased by the beneficiary shall be limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) office equipment;</li> <li>b) IT hardware and software;</li> <li>c) furniture and fittings;</li> <li>d) laboratory equipment;</li> <li>e) machines and instruments;</li> <li>f) tools or devices;</li> <li>g) vehicles;</li> <li>h) other specific equipment needed for operations.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Costs for the purchase of second-hand equipment may be eligible under the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) no other funds for the equipment have been received;</li> <li>b) the price is fair compared to the market.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Information is introduced in line with the Regulation (EU) 2021/1059 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021.</p>
<p>The Programme Manual: page 102, Chapter VI, Section 3, sub-section 3.1. Communication obligations for project partners</p>	<p>Footnote 51 moved and corrected: Points a) to f) on the basis of article 36 paragraph 4 and article 43 of the Interreg Regulation.</p>	<p>Technical correction; introduction of the relevant reference document.</p>
<p>The Programme Manual: pages 104-105, Chapter VI, Section 3, sub-section 3.1. Communication obligations for project partners</p>	<p>The wording corrected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 a) Place permanent information boards or commemorative plaques in public which contain the Programme logo – in projects involving physical investments or the purchase of equipment, with a value above EUR 100 000.</li> </ul> <p>Point added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 b) for projects that do not fall within the scope of point 3 a), placing at least one poster in public with a minimum size of A3 or a similar size electronic display with information about the project and the support received from the Programme;</li> </ul>	<p>Technical correction; introduction of the previously available information.</p>
<p>Throughout the Programme Manual</p>	<p>Correction of the document's title to the <b>Communication Guidelines for Project Beneficiaries.</b></p>	<p>Technical correction.</p>
<p>Annexes to the Programme Manual: page 8, Annex II, Section 2 Staff costs eligibility assessment if calculated as real costs</p>	<p>Point 5 was removed.</p>	<p>In the 2014-2020 programming period, the Audit Authority has made several findings in which it recommended the implementation of verification by the FLC of how the Beneficiary's employee complies with the 276</p>

		hours limit. In view of the fact that the only possible form of implementation of the AA's recommendations is the collection of employee statements on compliance with the limit of 276 hour, the MA decided to remove the above limit completely in the South Baltic Programme in the 2021-2027 programming period.
Annexes to the Programme Manual: page 9, Annex II, Section 4 Equipment lease	The wording added with:  If the tax law stipulates the issue of a single invoice when the lease agreement is concluded, and reimbursement is made to the lessee, the repayment schedule, proof of incurring the expenditure <b>is the repayment schedule</b> . The schedule contains the list of payments and account statements.	Technical correction.
Annexes to the Programme Manual: Page 23 and 26, Annex IV, Section 1 Data controller and Section 10 Contact with the Data Collector and the Data Protection Officer	The address is updated:  Center of European Projects located at ul. Puławska 180, 02-672 Warsaw.	Technical correction.
Annexes to the Programme Manual: page 41, Annex VI, Section 2 State aid and quality assessment.	Sentence deleted: If the project is recommended for rejection, the assessors are expected to provide a recommendation on potentially re-applying to the Programme.  The projects will be placed on the ranking list of projects <b>presented</b> to the Monitoring Committee according to the sum of consolidated points calculated.  The ranking list of projects <b>presented</b> to the Monitoring Committee and the projects' consolidated assessments shall serve as supporting documents for the Monitoring Committee decisions.	Technical correction; introduction of the previously corrected information.
Annexes to the Programme Manual: page 42, Annex VI, Section 3 Strategic projects	The wording corrected to:  Contribution <b>to challenges</b> relevant for strategic projects.	Correction is introduced in line with the Programme's progress in the OSI granting.