

The Minutes from the written procedure of the Monitoring Committee

16 May 2025 – 30 May 2025

In accordance with Article 9 of the Rules of Procedures of the Monitoring Committee, as well as its Annex 2 Complaint procedure on project selection and Annex 6 of the Programme Manual, the written procedure was held from 16 May 2025 until 30 May 2025 on:

- ▴ Decision on sustaining the rejection of the project submitted under the 4th call for proposals, due to not meeting the criteria of the admissibility and eligibility check:
 - Roots and Roofs - creating network for affordable housing and sustainable communities in South Baltic Sea area,

Background information on project's rejection:

Within the written decision-making procedure held between 26 March – 9 April 2025 the Monitoring Committee of the Interreg South Baltic Programme decided to reject the project Roots and Roofs no. STHB.04.01-IP.01-0007/25 submitted in the 4th call for proposals due to not meeting the criteria of the admissibility and eligibility check. In the result of assessment, the project partner 8 “SC Green Movement” (PP8) has been deemed as ineligible project partner.

The lead partner lodged a complaint on the procedural mistake during the Admissibility and eligibility check. The complaint was deemed to be justified. It was identified that a procedural error occurred during the verification conducted by the JS. Request regarding financial data of PP8 was incorrectly sent directly to the project partner instead of being sent to the lead partner, as required in the Programme Manual. Therefore, the complaint deemed to be justified.

As a part of the complaint review process, the JS repeated a request (to complete the relevant financial data for PP8), which was sent to the lead partner of the project.

The lead partner updated financial tables in SAF, as well as provided additional financial documents of PP8. However, the scope of changes exceeded the JS request: the reference period of financial data was updated from years 2021-2023 to years 2022-2024. At the same time, the financial documents for 2024 were prepared in April 2025, which confirmed that the standing for 2024 appeared well after the deadline for the call, the eligibility assessment and the initial written procedure of the Monitoring Committee. Therefore, the data for 2024 could not have been taken into consideration for re-check. Moreover, the information presented in the PP8's Balance document for 2024 – which indicated a reference data for previous reporting periods - confirmed that initial interpretation of the data was correct. The partner's financial capacities for year 2023 have not changed.

Based on the above, as a result of the re-assessment, the project Roots and Roofs does not meet the criteria of the admissibility and eligibility check. In accordance with ANNEX 6 *Project selection process and criteria* of the Programme Manual, in particular: the Admissibility and eligibility check

as the following criterion was not met by the project: *all project partners are eligible organisations*. PP8 "SC Green Movement" was deemed as ineligible project partner as the financial data of this partner do not demonstrate their ability to meet the financial requirements necessary to implement the project.

According to Article 5, point 2 Annex 2 to RoP the complaint considered to be justified (in this case procedural mistake occurred) requires a decision of the Monitoring Committee and the decision shall be made according to the procedures of the MC.

In this case procedural mistake has been made on the side of the programme, therefore the complaint is justified.

However, after re-verification with completed data and additional documents, still PP8 is ineligible. In consequence, formal decision on rejection shall be made by the Monitoring Committee (in accordance with ANNEX 6 *Project selection process and criteria* of the Programme Manual).

Recommendation:

- It was recommended to reject project Roots and Roofs - creating network for affordable housing and sustainable communities in South Baltic Sea area, submitted under the 4th call for proposals, due to not meeting the criteria of the admissibility and eligibility check.

Outcome of the written procedure:

The **Swedish delegation abstained from voting** on the rejection of project as proposed.

The **Danish delegation approved** the rejection of project as proposed.

The **joint delegation of Euroregions approved** the rejection of project as proposed.

The **Lithuanian delegation approved** the rejection of project as proposed.

The **Polish delegation approved** the rejection of project as proposed.

The **German delegation approved** the rejection of project as proposed.

Decision:

- The decision on rejecting project Roots and Roofs - creating network for affordable housing and sustainable communities in South Baltic Sea area, submitted under the 4th call for proposals, due to not meeting the criteria of the admissibility and eligibility check has been taken by the Monitoring Committee of the Interreg South Baltic Programme 2021-2027.