



European Commission



European
Investment
Bank



European Bank
for Reconstruction and Development

Jaspers

Joint Assistance to
Support Projects in European Regions



Waldemar Jastrzemski

Warsaw, November 15th, 2006

What is JASPERS ?

- ❖ ‘Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Regions’
- ❖ A technical assistance partnership to prepare major projects between DG REGIO, EIB and EBRD
- ❖ Objective: increasing the capacity of the beneficiary countries to make the best use of EU funding
- ❖ Value added: drawing on past experience and expertise of the EIB and the EBRD in a more structured and coordinated way than in the past.
- ❖ For administrative reasons, JASPERS will be a unit within the EIB but separated from its lending activities

JASPERS activities

- ❖ Concentrate on priority countries: the 10 'new' member states plus Romania and Bulgaria
- ❖ JASPERS concentrates on major projects :
 - Transport and other sectors €50 M >
 - Environment €25 M >
- ❖ JASPERS priorities are :
 - large projects supported by the Cohesion Fund and the ERDF (to be interpreted flexibly in the smaller countries)
 - other Cohesion Fund projects
 - other ERDF projects
- ❖ Horizontal issues covering more than one country/sector

How will JASPERS operate?

- ❖ Assistance can be provided as required from the early stages of a project through to the decision to grant assistance (by the Commission or the Member State depending on the size of project)
- ❖ Preparatory work required to deliver a mature project e.g.
 - Advice on conceptual development and project structuring
 - Advice on project preparation e.g. cost-benefit analysis, financial analysis, environmental issues, procurement planning.
 - Review of documentation: feasibility studies, technical design, tender documents.
 - Advice on compliance with EU law (environmental, competition and others) and conformity with EU policies

JASPERS: free and voluntary

- ❖ JASPERS assistance will be provided free of charge to the beneficiary
- ❖ There is no obligation on the Member States to use JASPERS
- ❖ There is no obligation on a Member State which benefits from JASPERS to borrow from the EIB or the EBRD
- ❖ There is no obligation on the EIB or the EBRD to lend to projects prepared using JASPERS
- ❖ There is no exclusion of EIB or EBRD lending to projects benefiting from JASPERS

Legal Responsibilities



- ❖ JASPERS does not change existing legal responsibilities
- ❖ JASPERS is an input to the preparation of applications for EU funding
- ❖ Member States are the 'owners' of the project, not JASPERS; they submit the standard applications as required by the Regulations
- ❖ Preparation of a project by JASPERS does not guarantee approval of the project by the Commission
- ❖ The ultimate legal responsibility to grant assistance will remain with the Commission

Action Plans

- ❖ Priorities and objectives of JASPERS will be set out each year in an **Action Plan** agreed between JASPERS and the beneficiary country
- ❖ Close coordination of JASPERS operations with DG REGIO country desks
- ❖ Horizontal issues may also be included in the Action Plan
- ❖ Action Plans for the twelve priority countries (the 10 plus Romania and Bulgaria) now agreed

Examples

- ❖ POLAND – Warsaw Ring Road, Public Transport in Krakow and Lublin, Flood Protection, Broadband
- ❖ ROMANIA – Rolling Stock, River Navigation, Multi-modal terminals, Regional Airports, Regionalisation of Water Companies
- ❖ BULGARIA – PPP Motorway, River Navigation
- ❖ HUNGARY – Provincial Urban Transport, 8 Water schemes
- ❖ SLOVENIA – ERTMS installation
- ❖ SLOVAKIA – Motorways, Water Supply and Treatment
- ❖ MALTA – Ports upgrades
- ❖ CYPRUS – New Urban Transport in Nicosia

Main Horizontal Issues

- ❖ 9 horizontal issues identified
- ❖ PPP best practice / model approaches
- ❖ PPP+EU grant blending approaches
- ❖ Support with state aid in new sectors
- ❖ Structuring projects in new sectors (eg. power, energy efficiency, renewables, urban transport, flood protection, rolling stock)
- ❖ Grouping small projects (eg. energy efficiency, water)
- ❖ Guidance on new Regulations (eg. eligibility, revenue generating projects, grant rate calculation)

Case: Broadband Infrastructure

Concept Development



❖ Project: Broadband development in Eastern Poland (covers 9 million people)



OP Development of Eastern Poland

- ❖ JASPERS on-going actions:
 - Help prepare project outline
 - Consultant recruited to develop project concept
 - Review meeting with DG Regio / Competition / Info re structuring and state aid
- ❖ JASPERS 2007 actions:
 - Draft ToR for feasibility study
 - Help supervise feasibility study
 - Help prepare ERDF application

