



Strengthening citizen engagement in cohesion policy: OECD pilot for managing authorities

KICK-OFF EVENT AND MEETING

**15 July 2020 – 10.00-10.30 CET (PUBLIC) AND
10.30-12.30 CET (PRIVATE MEETING)**

The European Commission and the OECD will kick off the first pilot project to stimulate genuine and meaningful citizen engagement in implementing cohesion projects on the ground. The EU's cohesion policy aims to strengthen economic and social cohesion by reducing disparities in the level of development between regions.

As part of this collaboration, authorities managing EU funds will receive top class expertise and tailored assistance in setting up new initiatives to involve citizens and promote transparency and accountability. The authorities were selected on the basis of a competitive call earlier this year.

At this event, we will hear from Normunds Popens, Deputy Director General for Implementation of DG REGIO from the EU and Janos Bertok, Acting Director of the OECD's Public Governance Directorate, as well as a representative from each of the five managing authorities chosen for this pilot.

The pilot is part of a broader action to promote citizen participation in projects co-funded by the EU and was announced during the High-Level Conference on the issue of Engaging Citizens for Good Governance in Cohesion Policy on 6 February 2020 in Brussels, under the political leadership and with the participation of Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, Elisa Ferreira.



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PUBLIC KICK-OFF EVENT

15 July 2020 – 10.00-10.30 CET – **BROADCAST LIVE [HERE](#)**

Moderator

Stefan Appel, Head of Unit “Administrative Capacity Building and European Solidarity Fund”, DG REGIO, European Commission

10.00-10.07

Welcome and introduction

Normunds Popens, Deputy Director General for Implementation, DG REGIO, European Commission

10.08-10.15

OECD introduction about citizen engagement

Janos Bertok, Acting Director, Public Governance Directorate, OECD

10.15-10.18

Cantabria

Paz Diaz Nieto, General Director of European Funds, Regional Ministry of Economy and Finance, Government of Cantabria

10.18-10.21

Emilia-Romagna

Morena Diazzi, General Director and ERDF-ESF Managing Authority, Regione Emilia-Romagna

10.21-10.24

Poland

Joanna Lech, Acting Director, Centre for EU Transport Projects, Governmental Body

10.24-10.27

Interreg Flanders – the Netherlands

Bram De Kort, Director of Joint Secretariat, Province of Antwerp

10.27-10.30

Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria

Ioana Mantog, Head of Unit, Ministry of Public Works, Development and Administration



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KICK-OFF MEETING

15 July 2020 – 10.30-12.30 CET

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Meeting ID: 865 7124 2426 - Password: 649636

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|-------------|---|
| 10.30-10.40 | Welcome and introduction
OECD and DG REGIO
<i>Everyone in the OECD and DG REGIO teams will introduce themselves</i> |
| 10.40-11.00 | OECD introduction about citizen engagement
Alessandro Bellantoni , Deputy Director, Open and Innovative Government Division and Head of Open Government Unit, OECD |
| 11.00-11.15 | Questions & Answers |
| 11.15-11.25 | Introduction: Cantabria |
| 11.25-11.35 | Introduction: Emilia-Romagna |
| 11.35-11.50 | Break |
| 11.50-12.00 | Introduction: Poland |
| 12.00-12.10 | Introduction: Interreg Flanders – the Netherlands |
| 12.10-12.20 | Introduction: Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria |
| 12.20-12.30 | Wrap-up and set out next steps
Alessandro Bellantoni , Deputy Director, Open and Innovative Government Division and Head of Open Government Unit, OECD |