



3rd Forum for Managing Authorities on Building Administrative Capacity 2021-2027



AGENDA

19:00 – 21:00 Networking event & dinner (23 April 2024)

A welcome reception will be offered by the European Commission the day before the Conference, on 23 April from 19h00 to 21h00 at the Musée Belvue, Pl. des Palais 7, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgique

Wednesday 24 April 2024, 09:30 – 16:00 CET, Brussels/Hybrid

08:30 – 09:30

- Registrations, coffee and networking

09:30 – 10:10

Cohesion policy: governance matters

- **Introduction** by moderator *Diana MADILL*
- **Opening & welcome, Governance opportunities & challenges for cohesion policy**, *Sofia ALVES, Director, Administrative Capacity Building and Programmes Implementation II, DG REGIO*
- **Insights from the 9th Cohesion report on governance** - highlights for MAs, *Anna WAGNER, Head of Unit, Policy Development and Economic Analysis, DG REGIO*

10:10 – 11:10

Inspiring leadership & power of networking

- **Keynote presentation** on inspiring leadership and power of networking, *Dónal MULLIGAN, Directorate for Public Governance, OECD*
- **Presentation of the cases** from the Member States:
 - Informal Baltic states MA network - *Rūta DAPKUTĖ-STANKEVIČIENĖ, Former Head of Managing authority, Cohesion policy attaché, Permanent Representation of Lithuania to the EU*



- Networking experience from REGIO Peer2Peer Communities - *Liezelotte DESCHRYVERE, Advisor, Flemish agency for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Daniel Lauest VISTISTEN, Chief legal advisor and team leader, Danish Business Authority*
- Presenting the launch of the **Network of Leaders of Managing Authorities**, *Stefan APPEL, Head of Unit, Administrative Capacity Building and Solidarity Instruments, DG REGIO*
- **Panel discussion**

11:10 – 11:30 BREAK

11:30 – 12:30

Transformational powers of technology

Inspiring presentations on the topic of the transformational powers of **technology** (incl. artificial intelligence) & **impact for Cohesion policy governance & implementation**. Exchange of views on how technologies could help us in implementation of Cohesion policy projects, what changes in resources and skills are expected.

- **Keynote presentation** on the transformational powers of technology (incl. artificial intelligence) *Ulrika H. WESTERGREN, Professor at the Department of Informatics, Umeå University, Sweden*
- **Presentation of the cases** from the Member States:
 - Use of AI for management verifications - *Daniela FERRARA, Responsible for the Coordination of ERDF and ESF Funds, Emilia-Romagna region, Italy*
 - AI in information & management system (MIS) - *Patricia BORGES, Member of the Board, Cohesion and Development Agency, Portugal*
 - Case of Estonia - *Urmo MERILA, deputy director general, State shared service centre, Estonia*
- **Panel discussion**

12:30 – 14:00 LUNCH BREAK

14:00 – 15:00

Capacity to change, improve & simplify

- **Strategic approach to administrative capacity building** (ACB roadmaps) – sharing first experiences in implementation of the actions - *Haralds BEITELIS, Head of the Department for Foreign Financial Instruments, Cabinet of Ministers, Latvia*
- Insights & experiences on **simplification actions for capacity building** (experiences from flat rate TA, financing not linked to costs) - *Markus MCDOWELL, Head of Managing Authority Team, Austria*
- **The changes in the organisation of managing authorities** from 2000 until 2020- *Francesco AMODEO, Policy officer, Administrative Capacity Building and Solidarity Instruments, DG REGIO*



- **Panel discussion**

15:00 – 15:50

Capacity building of beneficiaries & partners

Beneficiaries and partners are important members of the cohesion policy ecosystem. Beneficiary capacity to develop and implement projects that are effective and with investment impact is a key factor for successful achievement of programme objectives. In addition, effective implementation of the partnership principle depends on well-capacitated partners that can enhance collective commitment to and ownership of cohesion policy.

- Pilot actions to **support beneficiaries** - *Maria Varinia MICHALUN, Head of Unit, Governance and Strategic Planning, OECD* and case of *Corsica, Alexia VERO, deputy director, Collectivity of Corsica.*
- **Focus on citizens** – REGIO & OECD pilot actions – *Alex SEEMANN, Policy Analyst, Digital, Innovative and Open Government, OECD*
- **Empowering the youth** & EUTeens4Greens initiative - *Joanna JAKUBOWSKA, Just Transition Policy Officer at CEE Bankwatch Network*
- **Panel discussion**

15:50 – 16:00

Concluding remarks

- Summarising the day and looking toward to the future - *Nicola DE MICHELIS, Deputy Director-General (acting), DG REGIO*