

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND TECHNICAL TERMS

ACRONYMS

CBED

Community Based Economic Development

CSF

Community Support Framework

DG COMP

EC directorate responsible for Competition Policy.

DG REGIO

EC directorate responsible for Regional Policy

DEFRA

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

DfES

Department for Education and Skills

DWP

Department for Work and Pensions

EAGGF

European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

EC

European Commission

EIB

European Investment Bank

ERDF

European Regional Development Fund

ESF

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European Social Fund

EU

European Union

FIFG

Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance

GDP

Gross Domestic Product (see Technical Terms)

GNI

Gross National Income (see Technical Terms)

GO

Government Office for an English Region

ODPM

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

OJ

Official Journal of the European Communities

RDA

Regional Development Agency

SME

Small and Medium sized Enterprises (defined by EU in terms of employee numbers, capitalisation and ownership)

SPD

Single Programming Document

VFM

Value for money

TECHNICAL TERMS

Action Plan

Arrangements for implementing Structural Funds programmes that are either composed of Partnership based or Sectoral approaches.

Additionality

Principle that EC funding for projects is additional to, and not in substitute of, national funding. (For a fuller explanation, see [Annex K](#)).

Community Initiatives (CI)

Community-wide programmes covering issues such as labour market inequalities (EQUAL), rural development (LEADER+), urban regeneration, (URBAN) and transnational co-operation (INTERREG III).

Community Support Framework

Document detailing strategy and priorities and co-ordination of structural funds assistance in regions. Used by Spain, Portugal and Greece instead of SPD's.

Cross Cutting Theme

A recurrent idea that has a strategic impact across all priorities and measures in Structural Funds programmes.

Decommitment ("n+2" rule)

The Commission withdraws any funds that are either not committed or claimed from the year's allocation. (For a fuller explanation, see [Annex K](#)).

Defrayed Expenditure

Expenditure actually incurred by the final beneficiaries, usually supported by receipted invoices.

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European Commission

The European institution that initiates proposals for legislation ensures that such legislation is implemented by Member States and manages EU policies and external trade relationships.

European Union

Established by the Treaty of Maastricht and amended by the Treaty of Amsterdam, it is a supranational and intergovernmental decision making body.

Final Beneficiaries

The public or private bodies or firms responsible for commissioning operations. In cases of aid schemes, the final beneficiaries are the bodies that grant the aid.

Financial Tables

Details the funding of Structural Funds Programmes at all levels, the type of fund (both EU & UK) and by year.

Gross Domestic Product

The total value of output in a given economic territory.

Gross National Income

GDP less the net of labour transactions and operating surplus transactions with the rest of the world.

Major Projects

Projects costing in excess of €50m. Require prior notification to the EC.

Natura 2000

A European ecological network of special areas of conservation, consisting of sites to be protected under the "Habitats" directive.

Objective 1

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Development and structural adjustment of regions lagging behind in development, (less than 75% EU average).

Objective 2

Economic and social conversion in regions encountering structural difficulties

Objective 3

Adaption and modernisation of national education, training and employment

Operation

Any project or action carried out by the final beneficiaries of assistance.

Outputs

A measurable outcome resulting from Structural Funds expenditure.

Partnership

Representation of various public, private and not-for-profit organisations concerned with the preparation, financing, monitoring and evaluation of the Structural Funds programmes.

Priority

A strategic priority adopted in either a CSF or an SPD, which is allocated EC and UK funding, and a set of specified targets.

Programme Complement

Details how the measures strategy, aims, finance and outputs will implement the objectives stated in the SPD.

Project

Referred to in EC regulations as operations. It is the activity for which Structural Funds is being sought.

Retrospection

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Eligible project expenditure incurred prior to the agreement of the Commission to the Single Programming Document.

Single Programming Document

The document approved by the Commission detailing the strategy, priorities, objectives and funding of the Objective 1 and 2 programmes.

Sustainable Development

Can be defined as a development that satisfies present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet similar needs.

Technical Assistance

EC funding of managing, monitoring and implementing Structural Funds costs.

Virement

Transfer of funds between measures and within same fund, (e.g. ERDF, ESF etc). Transfers between priorities need EC approval.