



Huis van de
EDERLANDSE *Provincies*



**Public Hearing “Moving towards a more
result/performance-based delivery system in
Cohesion Policy”
as van den Barg
ussels, 26 May 2011**

The regional/local levels perspective:
requirements and administrative
capacity to implement a performance
based delivery system:

Commission's proposals (Europe2020,
performance reserve, conditionality);

Multilevel governance/partnership
principle;

Capacity building.



- Moving towards a more integrated territorial/placed-based policy approach
- Functional regions (e.g. Eindhoven Brainport)
- General objectives leading for sectoral policies (more result oriented approach)
- Lack of resources oblige local and regional authorities to combine different funds (EU, national, regional, etc.)
- Establishment of triple helix
- Cohesion Policy can support regional and local authorities towards a more integrated territorial policy approach

Europe 2020: leading for thematic priorities

Yes, but...

- Cohesion Policy is a permanent EU Treaty objective, not just a delivering tool for Europe 2020
- Thematic menu of objectives: flexibility for regions chose the most relevant priorities and indicators (bottom up)
- Regions and cities should be as full partners involved in the **design** of National Reform Programmes

Performance reserve: positive incentives for realizing concrete results

Yes, but...

- Performance reserve at EU level doesn't work, may be at national level
- Performance reserve fits best in longer programming period (5+5)



Conditionality: Member States and regions have to fulfil conditions before investing Structural Funds

Yes, when...

- Conditionality is limited to Cohesion Policy investments (yes to ex-ante conditionality, no to macro-economic conditionality)
- Conditionalities need to be tailored to specific national and regional contexts (subsidiarity and proportionality). Regions and cities should have the competences to influence fulfillment of the conditionalities
- Regions and cities are involved in the design of the Development and Investment Partnership Contract (DIPCo)

A more result-oriented Cohesion Policy

- = better programmes (more focus, clear ex-ante targets, fulfillment of conditionalities)
- = better programmes demand more involved of **all stakeholders** (regional and local authorities, social partners, knowledge institutions, etc.) at all stages of the programmes ➡ local development approach

Solution: real multilevel governance by **a more mandatory partnership principle**

Lack of administrative capacity hampers successful implementation OP's

Commission: capacity building in thematic menu

But we need more:

- Exchange of best practices between regions in programme like Urbact (seduce regions and cities EU15 to exchange practices)
- Enforcement partnership principle



Regional and local authorities support ambitions for more result-oriented Cohesion Policy: more focus, clear targets and indicators, ex-ante conditionality, but flexibility to come to real integrated territorial policy approach

Cohesion Policy is more than just Europe 2020

To improve outcome of Cohesion Policy, regions and cities needs to be involved from the start of NRP, DIPCo and OP's (more mandatory partnership principle)

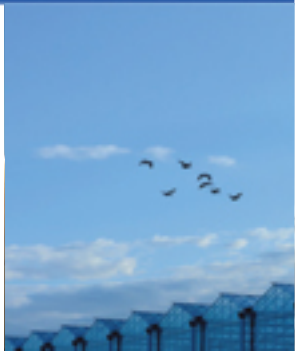
... and **simplification of the regulations!**

Chinese proverb:

Tell me and I'll forget,

Show me and I'll remember,

Involve me and I'll understand."



Thank you for your attention.

Stef van den Barg

Email: barg@nl-prov.eu

Internet: <http://www.nl-prov.eu>

Internet: <http://www.ccre.org>

