



Networking Platform Activity Report

2013



JASPERS (Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Regions) is a partnership between the European Commission (DG Regional Policy), the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

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Kopernik Science Centre, Poland

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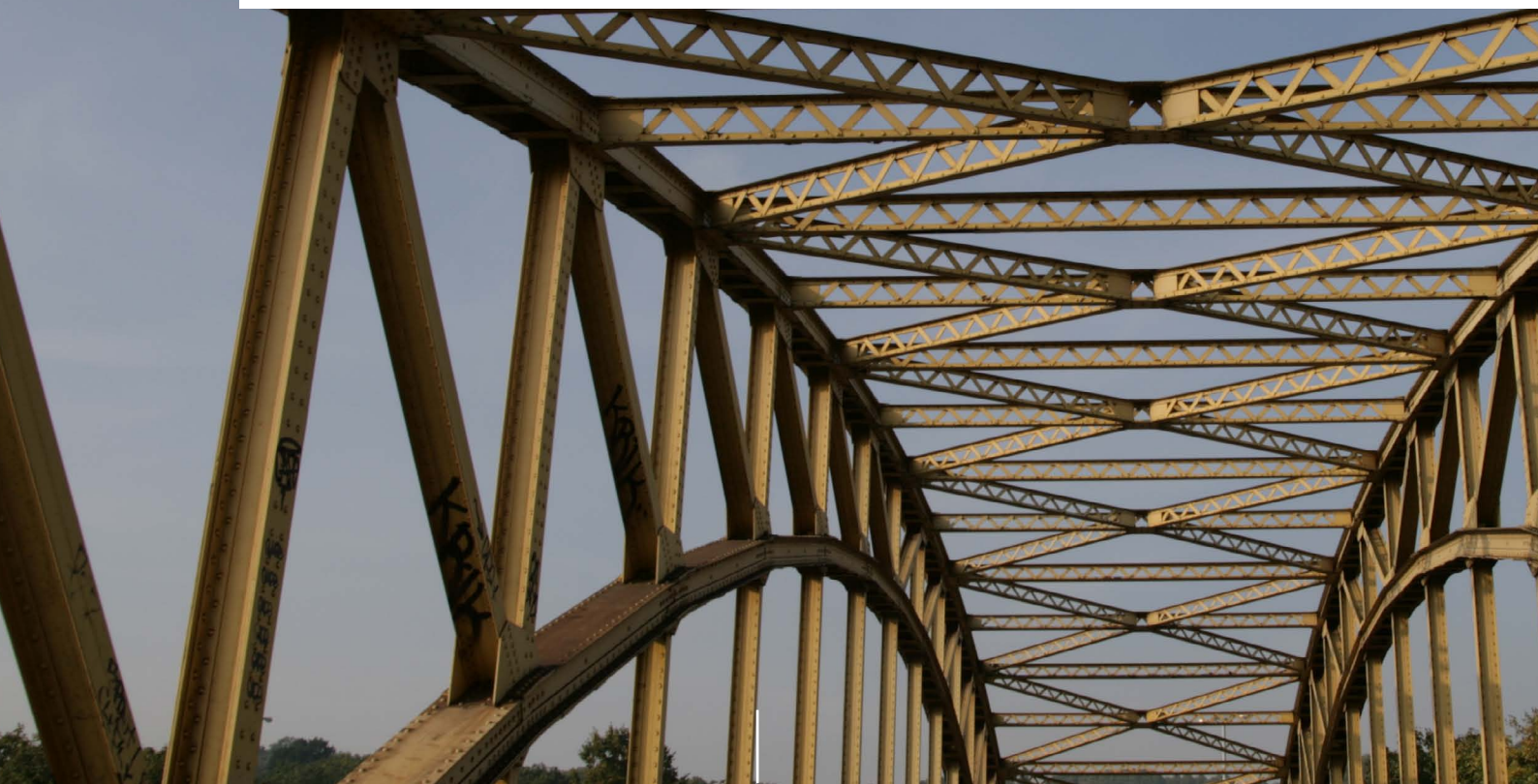


The JASPERS Networking Platform was established to complement JASPERS' project advisory operations by addressing specific project preparation issues of a horizontal nature, enhancing knowledge-sharing activities, disseminating best practices and exchanging experiences among JASPERS stakeholders, as well as implementing capacity building activities.



Networking Platform Activity Report

Introduction



Since the start of its operations in 2006, JASPERS has built up a considerable amount of knowledge and experience in project preparation and implementation, working closely with the European Commission and with our partners in the respective countries.

The number of countries in which JASPERS is operating has expanded over the years to include Croatia, Greece and pre-accession countries (Serbia, Montenegro and FYROM).

From 2006 to 2013 JASPERS completed more than 800 assignments. In January 2014 463 assignments were still active, and their number is growing.

In many cases these assignments covered horizontal tasks in the form of specific studies, guidelines prepared by JASPERS, as well as capacity building activities in support of the preparation and implementation of the projects financed by Structural and Cohesion Funds.

JASPERS is a knowledge-driven initiative, building on substantial experience acquired across 17 countries in hundreds of successful operations, and drawing on the knowledge its experts bring to its organisation and to our counterparts in the



Member States. This makes the assistance provided by JASPERS unique.

The initiative of developing a JASPERS Networking Platform stems from two considerations:

On the one hand, from the awareness that by addressing a wider dissemination of knowledge, best practices and positive experiences in a more efficient way, the impact of JASPERS assistance could be increased.

On the other, from the eagerness clearly indicated by Member States during a needs assessment carried out with JASPERS stakeholders in 2011, to avail themselves of a tool to address specific problems, increase their administrative capacity and learn from other countries' experience.

Knowledge sharing and capacity building are essential complements to the project advisory operations and have emerged as an important activity

for JASPERS in the European Union's 2014-2020 financial perspective.

The activities under the Networking Platform are expected to support both the short-term goals of improving project quality and increasing absorption of EU Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) and the long-term goal of ensuring that JASPERS operations have a sustainable and lasting impact.

The Networking Platform is open to all EU Member States as well as to pre-accession countries. In this way, Platform members also have the opportunity to network, exchange experiences and discuss lessons learned and best practices with similar institutions across Europe.

Mission and objectives





The JASPERS Networking Platform was established in late 2012 to complement JASPERS' project advisory operations by addressing specific project preparation issues of a horizontal nature, enhancing knowledge-sharing activities, disseminating best practices and exchanging experiences among JASPERS stakeholders, as well as implementing capacity building activities.

Participation in the activities of the Networking Platform is open to JASPERS partners and relevant public authorities from EU Member States and pre-accession countries.

In implementing its activities, the Networking Platform pursues the following objectives:

- Consolidating JASPERS' horizontal activities relevant for several stakeholders and sectors
- Developing and disseminating JASPERS guidance, case studies, best practices, horizontal studies and other relevant knowledge
- Providing a framework for networking and collaboration, and enabling the exchange of information, experiences and best practices among JASPERS stakeholders
- Exploiting synergies to implement effective JASPERS capacity building activities.

Operations are organised around two main pillars of activity:

(a) a core activity focused on the organisation of knowledge sharing and capacity building (roundtables, seminars, workshops and training events), targeted at representatives of the Member States, JASPERS partners and European Commission services;

(b) a dedicated web portal to facilitate networking and collaboration, as well as the dissemination of JASPERS guidance and capacity building documents, horizontal studies and other relevant guidelines and best practices.



Official launch event and 2013 JASPERS stakeholders meeting

The Networking Platform was launched in Brussels in March 2013, in the presence of 120 participants from Member States' authorities, representatives of the European Commission and JASPERS partners.

The event provided the opportunity to present the activities included in the 2013 Networking Platform work programme, launch its dedicated web portal (www.jaspersnetwork.org), clarify the terms of participation, collect feedback and present ideas for future activities.

The concept of the JASPERS Networking Platform and its 2013 activities were also discussed during the JASPERS stakeholders meeting in Malta in April 2013.

On both occasions, Member States' participants expressed unanimous support for the activities of the Networking Platform and there was a general consensus about its usefulness, both in support of the transition between programming periods and as an important pillar of future JASPERS activities during the 2014-2020 financial perspective.

Operational activities



Overview

The first year of operations of the JASPERS Networking Platform focused on the development and implementation of the 2013 work programme, which was endorsed by the JASPERS Steering Committee in December 2012.

The 2013 work programme included the following actions:

- Dissemination of experiences with climate change adaptation for coastal and urban water management
- Capacity building for the preparation and cost-benefit analysis of Research & Development and Innovation (RDI) projects
- Capacity building for the design of energy efficiency programmes
- Flood risk management best practices
- Support in defining an approach to meet environmental ex ante conditionalities for the 2014-2020 programming period
- Sustainable design, construction and maintenance for road projects
- Road safety
- Support for the update of the European Commission's guidance on cost-benefit analysis
- Ad hoc seminars and training events.

Topics were selected on the basis of past experience, Member States' requests and issues emerging during project preparation efforts assisted by JASPERS. The intended focus of these actions was on supporting both the implementation of current projects and the preparation for the 2014-2020 programming period.



JASPERS publications and working papers

The JASPERS Networking Platform regularly publishes working papers, case studies, best practices, training materials and guidance documents relevant to the preparation and implementation of projects to be financed under the Structural and Cohesion Funds.

This knowledge base is widely disseminated through the Networking Platform web portal (www.jaspersnetwork.org).

JASPERS staff working papers are prepared by JASPERS experts with the aim of facilitating discussions with counterparts in the context of their different assignments, mostly in terms of project scoping and applicable criteria and methodology. These papers usually originate as part of the assessment of a specific project, in which case the version published is edited to be made non-project and non-country specific and therefore easily applicable to other projects in the sector.



Key meetings and events in 2013 were held in Brussels, attended by over 400 people from Member States' authorities, JASPERS partners and various Commission Services.

Details about Networking Platform activities and events during 2013 are provided in the following sections.

Climate change adaptation for coastal and urban water management

This interactive workshop presented concrete experiences and lessons learned about climate change adaptation for both coastal protection and urban water management.

Case studies and project examples were selected by JASPERS from the Scandinavian region with the goal of disseminating lessons learned and ongoing practices to support Member States from the Baltic Sea Region in mainstreaming climate change during the

preparation of strategies and concrete projects for the programming period 2014-2020.

Against the backdrop of the EU strategy on adaptation to climate change and its interfaces with the EU Cohesion Policy, this workshop provided the opportunity to discuss with participants and representatives of the European Commission the extent of public and political awareness regarding climate change, the level of readiness in their respective countries, existing challenges to adopt appropriate adaptation measures, as well as possible tools and actions to overcome these obstacles.

The discussion highlighted the importance of anticipating the future occurrence of extreme weather events while planning for infrastructural projects whose operations span a long period of time. Taking into account the uncertainty that surrounds such events, all infrastructure would need to be assessed and designed to maximise its climate resilience, while at the same time establishing a balance between its estimated cost and expected impact and benefits.



The workshop also provided examples of the importance of taking a flexible and strategic approach to plan and implement climate adaptation measures in infrastructural investments, bearing in mind both short-term limitations and expected long-term needs.

Based on the feedback received and the importance of these topics in the programming period 2014-2020, follow-up activities are planned for the 2014 Networking Platform work programme.

Project preparation for Research, Development and Innovation projects

The objective of this activity was the development and dissemination of a JASPERS working paper providing guidance for the preparation of infrastructure projects in the field of Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) for the programming period 2014-2020.

The working paper was developed taking into account relevant experience JASPERS has acquired during the 2007-2013 financial perspective, and addresses the main analytical steps to be taken for

sound preparation of projects within the RDI remit. While providing an overall framework for the preparation of RDI infrastructure projects, the working paper focuses in particular on research infrastructure, higher education infrastructure and science park projects.

Based on this working paper, the JASPERS Networking Platform organised in June 2013 a dedicated training event targeted at representatives of managing authorities, line ministries and beneficiaries directly involved in the development of RDI infrastructure projects in the current financing perspective or the identification and development of projects for 2014-2020.

This interactive training event was attended by Member States' authorities, European Commission representatives and JASPERS experts, and covered the main analytical steps that a project examiner should consider for a sound ex ante investment appraisal of RDI infrastructure projects, including project scoping, definition of project objectives, demand analysis, option analysis, financial analysis, economic CBA and risk analysis. The training session was complemented by an interactive discussion on concrete case studies prepared by JASPERS.



Given the feedback received and the substantial interest expressed by Member States, new training sessions will be held in 2014 once the legislative framework for the programming period 2014-2020 has been adopted.

Design of energy efficiency programmes in buildings

The goal of this activity was to disseminate to Member States the results of two JASPERS-supported projects to develop energy rehabilitation schemes for public and residential buildings in Romania, which were the basis for an investment programme being implemented with the support of EU funds.

As the subject is relevant for several Member States in the context of preparing the operational programmes and funding priorities for the 2014-2020 financial perspective, JASPERS developed two working papers highlighting the key features and findings of the two schemes.

Following the publication of these working papers on its web portal, the JASPERS Networking Platform organised in June 2013 a training event targeted at representatives of managing authorities and line ministries responsible for the identification and development of energy efficiency projects and programmes in the 2014-2020 financial perspective.

This training event was developed in close coordination with the European Commission and aimed at enabling participants to develop funding schemes for energy efficiency in housing and public buildings, so as to apply this knowledge in the preparation of priorities and schemes for the 2014-2020 programming period.

Representatives from the Romanian authorities involved in the implementation of the schemes presented their experiences and shared insights with participants from other Member States. The main issues encountered in the development of these schemes were addressed, including market assessment and eligibility of investments, financial and socio-economic analysis, assessment of energy, environ-

mental and employment benefits, implementation mechanism, as well as tendering and contracting arrangements.

Examples and case studies of alternative financing structures to fund energy efficiency schemes in different Member States were also presented.

Best practices in flood risk management

This initiative was aimed at raising awareness in Member States about the principles and best practices for the sound planning, development and preparation of flood protection projects, taking into account the requirements of Directive 2007/60/EC on the Assessment and Management of Flood Risks.

In close coordination with relevant European Commission services, the JASPERS Networking Platform organised in September 2013 an interactive workshop targeted at representatives from Member States' authorities dealing with the planning, preparation and implementation of flood risk management projects both in the current and new financing perspective 2014-2020. The workshop covered concrete examples from the 2007-2013 funding period,





including those that received JASPERS support, and an interactive discussion on selected case studies.

The workshop provided the opportunity to clarify the legal requirements linked to the implementation of the Flood Directive and to present principles of good practice for project planning at river basin level, including the use of upstream water retention, the restoration of natural flood plains, as well as possible non-structural measures and the adoption of green infrastructure solutions.

The presentation of case studies demonstrated potential opportunities for incorporating best practices throughout the sector within Member States. The discussion focused on the importance of integrated flood modelling for investment identification, prioritisation and planning, the appropriateness of certain flood measures, and the application of multi-purpose project approaches, integrating other objectives such as drought prevention, ecological improvements and agricultural and green practices.

The workshop concluded with a roundtable that provided the opportunity for an exchange of practical experience among participants and showed that Member States face common problems that call for

similar solutions, allowing for proper combinations of traditional “grey” infrastructure (dykes and embankments) and non-structural measures such as reforestation and better flow management.

Cross-border cooperation and improved coordination of flood prevention activities at supranational level also emerged as an important area for further development in the 2014-2020 programming period, not least in the framework of European territorial cooperation and the implementation of EU macro-regional strategies.

The European Commission and Member States recognised the important role the JASPERS Networking Platform could play in disseminating best practices, facilitating coordination and the exchange of experiences as well as implementing capacity building activities related to flood protection.

Follow-up activities are planned for the 2014 Networking Platform work programme.

Environmental ex ante conditionalities and requirements for 2014-2020

The ex ante conditionalities envisaged in the legislative package for the 2014-2020 programming period require Member States to strengthen their administrative capacity for the effective application of EU environmental legislation related to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) directives.

Based on requests received from several Member States to support their competent environmental authorities in fulfilling the general ex ante conditionality, this initiative focused on the preparation of a standard toolkit for establishing a sound approach to training and capacity building for the implementation of the SEA and EIA directives.

The JASPERS standard toolkit was presented at a Networking Platform workshop held in October 2013 and organised in close cooperation with the European Commission services. The workshop, tar-



geted at the relevant authorities in Member States, aimed at presenting in detail the overall framework for the ex ante conditionalities, the requirements linked to adequate implementation of the EIA and SEA directives, the thematic conditionalities for the water and waste sectors, as well as the application of SEA for plans and programmes required for the 2014-2020 programming period.

Member States were encouraged to prepare questions on the topics covered in the workshop and submit them in advance as a proposal for discussion.

Given the feedback received and the substantial interest expressed by Member States and the European Commission in receiving JASPERS support in meeting environmental ex ante conditionalities, new activities are planned under the 2014 Networking Platform work programme.



JASPERS toolkit for EIA and SEA general ex ante conditionalities

This standard toolkit has been developed by JASPERS to help environmental authorities in Member States to design and implement their own strategic approach and strengthen administrative capacity in applying the EIA and SEA directives, so as to satisfy the requirements of the general ex ante conditionality envisaged for the programming period 2014-2020.

The toolkit is made available in the Publication section of the JASPERS Networking Platform web portal (www.jaspersnetwork.org) and consists of:

(a) a standard set of tools and recommendations to be used for developing a comprehensive training strategy on the application of SEA and EIA directives;

(b) guidelines on the implementation of Article 7 of the EIA directive, concerning transboundary environmental impact;

(c) guidelines for developing EIA reports for projects in the sectors more frequently requesting financial support under the Structural and Cohesion Funds.

Several Member States are using the JASPERS standard toolkit to develop capacity building strategies and related implementing measures in order to meet the requirements of the general ex ante conditionality.

Road maintenance, operations and road safety

This initiative was aimed at raising awareness in Member States about the principles and best practices concerning the planning and implementation of sound maintenance and operations programmes to ensure the sustainability of investment in road infrastructure and provide insights on the importance of road safety measures.

In close coordination with relevant European Commission services, the JASPERS Networking Platform organised in December 2013 an interactive workshop targeted at representatives of managing authorities, line ministries and beneficiaries involved in the implementation of road transport programmes financed by the Structural and Cohesion Funds as well as decision-makers and road administration managers dealing with road infrastructure management.

The workshop provided the opportunity to present to Member States key requirements and practical examples of quantifiable socio-economic benefits resulting from alternative maintenance regimes as well as make concrete recommendations to ensure a sus-

tainable approach to the operation of road infrastructure in the 2014-2020 programming period.

Building on EU requirements for road safety audits and the status of their implementation in various Member States, the workshop also provided examples of best practice in implementing road safety measures, including the possibilities for inclusion of safety improvements on auxiliary networks. The importance of good quality road accident data collection, storage and analysis was also highlighted.

The workshop concluded with a roundtable which gave the opportunity for discussion about the relevance of the topics covered to ensure sustainable road infrastructure investment and an exchange of practical experience among participants. Several Member States presented ongoing activities aimed at ensuring that road safety measures are adequately addressed in investment programmes.

Based on the feedback received and the substantial interest expressed by Member States, a workshop concerning the sustainable design, construction and maintenance of road infrastructure is planned under the 2014 Networking Platform work programme.





Ad hoc seminars and training events

Apart from activities and public events open to wider participation, the JASPERS Networking Platform organised a series of ad hoc internal roundtables to discuss lessons learned and issues of common interest, particularly in anticipation of activities to be performed during the 2014-2020 programming period. These meetings proved a very useful tool to initiate discussions with the European Commission on key topics, as well as to clarify policy issues, with the goal of ensuring a consistent approach to JASPERS' advice and supported activities.

Among other issues, these internal meetings covered:

- methodologies for the preparation of country strategies required for planning transport investment in the 2014-2020 programming period and their assessment as a thematic ex ante conditionality
- approaches to ensure appropriate maintenance of road transport infrastructure in the context of the implementation of the programming period 2014-2020, taking into account EU initiatives on road safety and road charging
- risk prevention, flood risk management and adaptation to climate change within the framework of Thematic Objective 5 for 2014-2020
- the general approach to cost-benefit analysis and sectoral methodologies for the 2014-2020 programming period.

The implementation of ad hoc roundtables and seminars will be continued during 2014.



Networking Platform interactive web portal

Jaspers Network Knowledge and Learning Center

Home About us Resources Forum MyJASPERS

Partners and Members
 JASPERS PARTNERS JASPERS (Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Regions) provides technical expertise for any stage of the project cycle, covering technical, economic and financial questions. It is geared to providing advice, ensuring coordination, developing and reviewing project [...]
 Read more

LATEST NEWS

- 14/01/2014 Presentation of the demo of the new Networking Platform
- 14/01/2014 Happy 2014 from JASPERS Network!!
- 08/06/2012 2011 JASPERS Stakeholders Meeting in BUDAPEST

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2014

mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat	sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

February 24th events:

LATEST PUBLICATIONS

- 13/12/2013 Calculation of GHG Emissions in Waste and Waste-to-Energy Projects
- 31/10/2013 State Aid in public financing of Health Care Infrastructures
- 30/10/2013 CBA framework for broadband connectivity projects

The JASPERS Networking Platform web portal was launched in March 2013 in Brussels and is available at www.jaspersnetwork.org.

This portal is regularly updated and used as the main channel for the dissemination of information, news and documentation related to the Networking Platform operations and its specific activities. Summaries and materials developed and disseminated during Networking Platform workshops and other initiatives are made available on the web portal.

In the first nine months of operations in 2013, the JASPERS Networking Platform portal was extensively used by JASPERS stakeholders and other visitors and some relevant statistics are provided below:

- 3 676 visits (an average of over 400/month), from both JASPERS and non-JASPERS supported countries, with a total of 17 770 page views

- 4 302 downloads in total

- 80 visits to the JASPERS corporate web portal originating from the link on the Networking Platform web portal.

A new release of the Networking Platform portal, allowing for interactive features (e.g. forums), an enhanced knowledge repository and a dedicated members' area accessible only to registered users¹ is planned for early 2014.

¹In full compliance with Regulation (EC) 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and the free movement of such data.



www.jaspersnetwork.org

The Networking Platform web portal facilitates networking and collaboration, as well as the dissemination of JASPERS guidance, capacity building documents, horizontal studies and other relevant guidelines and best practices.

The screenshot shows the Jaspers Network website interface. At the top left is the Jaspers Network logo. The main header is 'Knowledge and Learning Center' with a search bar. Below the header is a navigation menu with 'Home', 'About us', 'Resources', 'Forum', and 'MyJASPERS'. A secondary navigation bar includes 'Edit', 'Watch', 'Share', and 'Tools'. The main content area features a 'MyJASPERS' section with a description: 'This is your personal page on the JASPERS Networking Platform website. It provides specific information and tools dedicated to registered users, you can learn how to use and customise this page in the User Quickguide.' Below this is a contact email: 'jaspersnetwork@eib.org' and a 'Read more' link. The interface is divided into several widget sections: 'Your selection' with a list of items like 'Message from JASPERS Network' and 'JASPERS Network News Feed'; 'Document repository' with a search bar and 'Document Repository Home' link; 'Recent forum entries' with a list of entries including 'First presentation of the NP demo on January 27'; 'Message from JASPERS Network' with an information icon and text about important messages; and 'JASPERS Network News Feed' with a list of news items like 'Meeting No. 473 of the Board of Directors'.





Annexes

1 – List of institutions attending Networking Platform activities and events in 2013 (non-exhaustive)

Country/Organisation	Institution/Directorate
European Commission	Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy
	Directorate-General for the Environment
	Directorate-General for Climate Action
	Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport
	Directorate-General for Enlargement
	Directorate-General for Energy
JASPERS Partners	TEN-T Executive Agency
	European Investment Bank
	EBRD
Bulgaria	KfW
	Council of Ministers – Central Coordination Unit
	Permanent Representation of Bulgaria to the EU
	Ministry of Environment and Water
	Ministry of Regional Development
	Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communication
	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
	Road Infrastructure Agency
	National Association of Municipalities
Croatia	Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds
	Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure
	Ministry of Science, Education and Sports
	Ministry of Agriculture
	Ministry of Construction and Physical Planning
	Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection
	Croatian Water Company
	Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund
	National Road Administration
Cyprus	Planning Bureau
	Minister of Communications and Works
Czech Republic	National Coordination Authority
	Ministry of Environment
	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
	Road and Motorway Directorate
	Railway Infrastructure Administration
Estonia	Ministry of Environment
Finland	Ministry of Environment
Greece	Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change
	Managing Authority of the Attica Region
Hungary	Alexander Innovation Zone S.A
	National Development Agency



Country/Organisation	Institution/Directorate
	Permanent Representation of Hungary to the EU
	Ministry of National Development
	Ministry of Rural Development
	Energy Efficiency, Environment and Energy Information Agency
	National Water Directorate
	Hungarian Roads Management Company
Latvia	Ministry of Finance
	Ministry of Education and Science
	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
	Latvian Environmental Investment Fund
	Latvian State Roads
	Riga Technical University
Lithuania	Ministry of Finance
	Ministry of Environment
	Ministry of Education and Science
	Permanent Representation of Lithuania to the EU
Malta	Planning and Priorities Coordination Division
	Transport Malta
Poland	Ministry of Infrastructure and Development
	Ministry of Environment
	National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management
	National Water Management Authority
	Centre for EU Transport Projects
	Polish Academy of Sciences
	Polish National Contact Point for Research Programmes of the EU
	National Roads Administration
	National Road Safety Council
Romania	Ministry of European Funds
	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
	Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure
	Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration
	Ministry of Communications and Information Society
	Ministry of National Education
	National Authority for Scientific Research
	Romanian Waters National Administration
Serbia	PIU Research and Development
Slovak Republic	Office of the Government of the Slovak Republic
	Permanent Representation of the Slovak Republic to the EU
	Ministry of Finance
	Ministry of Transport, Communications and Public Works
	Ministry of Environment
	Ministry of the Interior

Country/Organisation	Institution/Directorate
Slovenia	Slovak Water Management Enterprise
	National Agency for Networking and Electronic Services
	Ministry of Economic Development and Technology
	Ministry of Agriculture and Environment
	Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning
	DRI Investment Management
	DARS Motorway Company



2 – Participation in Networking Platform activities in 2013 and feedback received

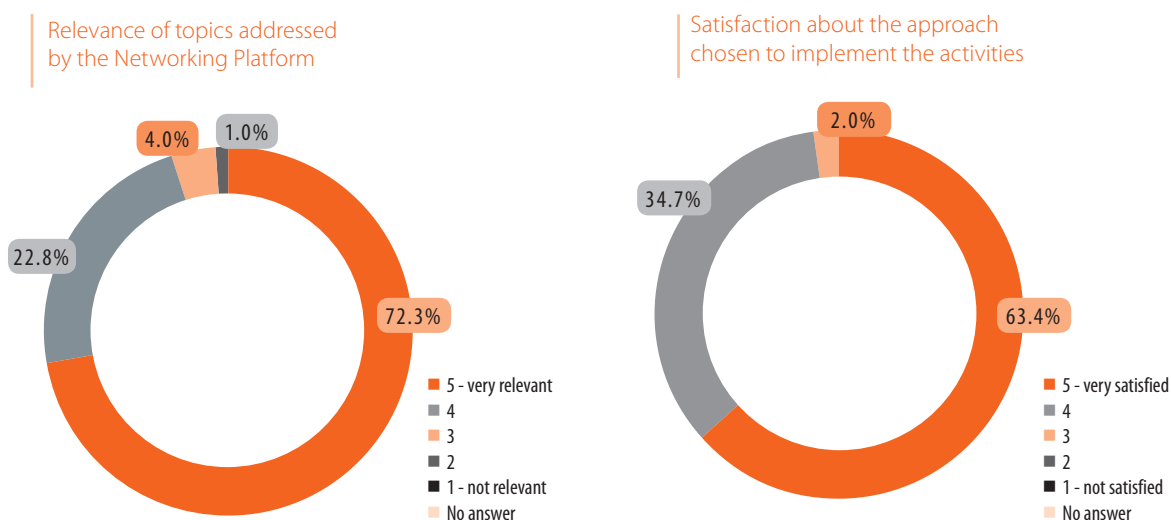
In 2013 the JASPERS Networking Platform organised seven main public events, including its official launch. These events saw the participation of over 320 representatives, largely from Member States' authorities, as well as JASPERS partners and other Commission Services.

Attendance at JASPERS Networking Platform main activities in 2013		
	Participants	%
JASPERS experts	46	14.0%
JASPERS partners	12	3.7%
European Commission	77	23.5%
Member States	193	58.8%
TOTAL	328	100%

In addition to these main events, the Networking Platform organised a series of ad hoc roundtables with the European Commission to discuss issues of general interest, particularly in anticipation of activities to be performed during the 2014-2020 programming period. These meetings involved over 60 European Commission officials as well as JASPERS experts, and proved a very useful tool in initiating discussions on key topics as well as clarifying policy issues.

Feedback was systematically collected on the relevance and usefulness of the activities performed as well as on topics of interest for follow-up operations, and it was overwhelmingly positive.

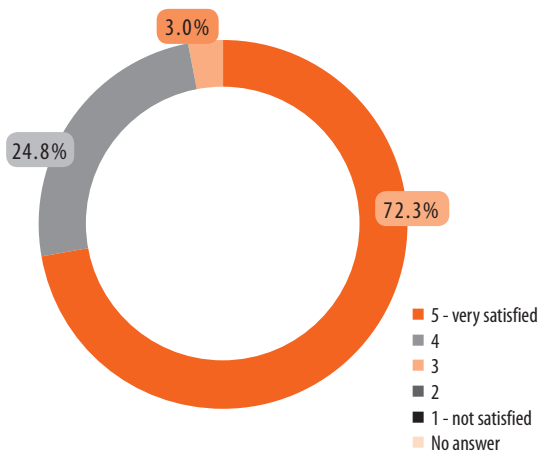
Based on a total of 101 feedback forms voluntarily submitted by participants at 2013 main events, 95% of the respondents judged as very relevant or relevant the topics covered by the JASPERS Networking Platform, and 98% were very satisfied or satisfied with the methodology chosen to address these topics.



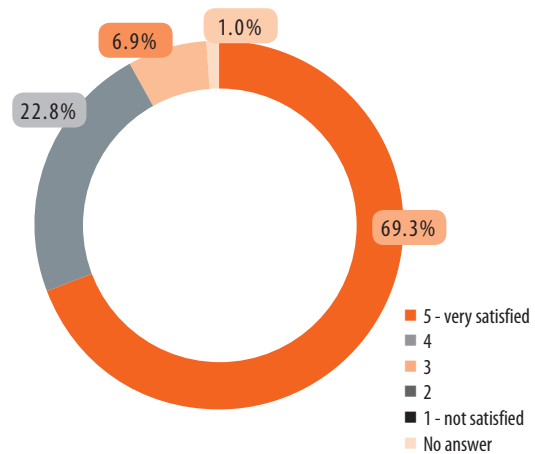


Satisfaction was also high regarding the format of the main events as well as their organisation.

Satisfaction about the format of events

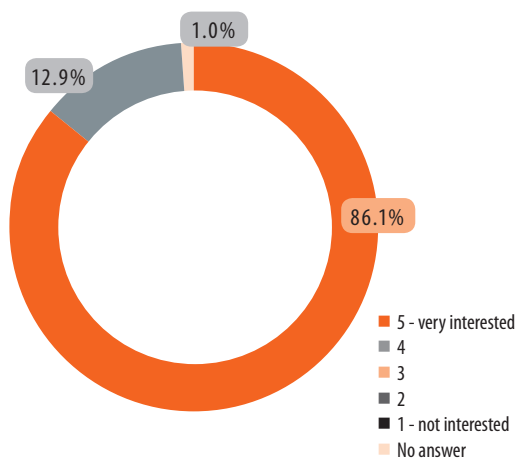


Satisfaction about the organisation of events

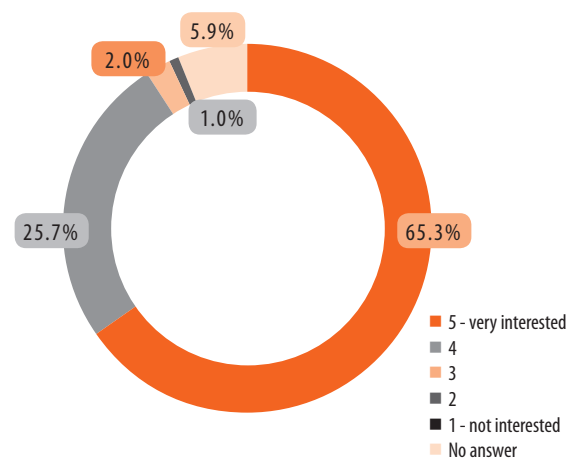


Last but not least, the assessment of the feedback received confirmed very strong interest in the JASPERS Networking Platform and in its future activities (99% of respondents being very interested or interested), including access to the Networking Platform web portal.

Interest in future activities under the Networking Platform



Interest in accessing the JASPERS Network web portal



3 – JASPERS working papers published in 2013

The JASPERS Networking Platform regularly publishes working papers, case studies, best practices, training materials and guidance documents relevant to the preparation and implementation of projects to be financed under the Structural and Cohesion Funds.

All publications are available in the relevant section of the JASPERS Networking Platform web portal (www.jaspersnetwork.org).

The following working papers were published during 2013:

Calculation of GHG Emissions in Waste and Waste-to-Energy Projects

This particular paper describes a methodology for the quantification of GHG emissions saved in projects developing individual facilities or groups of facilities for municipal waste management. It was developed with a view to producing the data basis for the quantification of economic benefits from GHG reductions as required for the cost-benefit analysis of waste projects. The paper comes with a companion spreadsheet for the calculations.

Application of State Aid rules to the public financing of Health Care Infrastructures

The purpose of this paper is to provide guidance for the identification of State aid in the construction and operation of health care infrastructures in the context of Article 107 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as well as providing an understanding of when the aid can be considered compatible.

Cost-Benefit Analysis framework for broadband connectivity projects

This particular paper deals with the practical aspects of the cost-benefit analysis of broadband connectivity projects and includes two spreadsheets that are ready to be used for specific projects. However, this paper should not be regarded as an official guideline and it may be updated and/or complemented from time to time with other papers based on experience gained in new projects.

Toolkit for EIA and SEA general ex ante conditionalities

This toolkit has been developed by JASPERS to help environmental authorities in any interested EU Member State to design and implement its own strategic approach to build EIA/SEA capacity in their administration so as to satisfy the requirements of the general ex ante conditionality envisaged for the programming period 2014-2020.

Key Considerations in Planning Waste-to-Energy Facilities

This working paper aims at contributing to a constructive dialogue between interested parties in defining the most advantageous method of residual municipal waste flow treatment for a specific project. If a soundly performed option analysis results in waste-to-energy technology as the most advantageous, the paper will facilitate further discussions required for determining techniques to be used in the technological process.

Development of an Investment Programme for Buildings Rehabilitation – Residential Buildings

This working paper presents a technical proposal for the thermal rehabilitation of residential buildings in Romania, which was the basis for an investment programme being implemented with the support of EU funds.

Development of an Investment Programme for Buildings Rehabilitation – Public Buildings

This working paper presents a technical proposal for the thermal rehabilitation of public buildings in Romania, which was the basis for an investment programme being implemented with the support of EU funds.

Implementation of R&D Projects – Recruitment Plan

This working paper presents a structured approach to the recruitment of staff during the implementation phase of R&D projects. In particular, the paper aims at: (i) providing a set of guidelines and best practices in respect of the recruitment; and (ii) addressing specific issues and challenges raised by beneficiary institutions.



Implementation of R&D Projects – Staff Development Plan

This working paper provides guidelines based on best practices in staff management and development. It also includes a broader discussion of knowledge management and transfer, emphasising the key role of human resources in this process.

Project Preparation and CBA of RDI Infrastructure Projects

This working paper provides methodological guidance for the development of the feasibility study and CBA for Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) infrastructure projects, with a particular focus on research infrastructure, higher education infrastructure and science park projects.



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For information on JASPERS, please visit:

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