

# Monitoring Committee 2021-2027

## Summary of meeting decisions

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## MC 1 - 14 & 15 September 2022 – Saarbrücken (Germany)

### **Item 1 – Official opening**

Welcome speech by Mrs Elena Yorgova-Ramanauskas (Saarland State Secretary for Economics, Innovation, Digital Affairs & Energy) and Mrs Vera Moosmayer (Head of the Directorate for Spatial Planning and Regional Policy at the Federal Ministry for Housing, Urban Development and Building, Germany).

### **Item 2 – Regulatory requirements**

**Decision:** MC took note of the regulatory requirements to be met by the Programme.

### **Item 3 – MC rules of procedure**

#### **Decisions:**

- MC approved the MC rules of procedure (<https://www.nweurope.eu/programme-bodies>).
- MC took note of the list of the members of the NWE monitoring committee (<https://www.nweurope.eu/programme-bodies>).
- MC commented and took note of the planning of the next MC meetings.

### **Item 4 – Decisions and actions NTF18**

The NWE Task Force (NTF) was set up by the 6 NWE Member States to prepare the 2021-2027 NWE Programme. In total, 18 meetings took place from November 2019 and June 2022.

**Decision:** MC approved the NTF18 decisions and actions.

### **Item 5 – Official confirmation of previous NTF decisions**

**Decision:** MC approved the eligibility and quality assessment criteria (see sections 3 & 4 of the Programme Manual).

### **Item 6 – Small-scale projects**

**Decision:** MC approved the main features of the first small-scale projects call.

### **Item 7 – Call 1 step 1**

**Decision:** MC approved 34 project applications (out of 76) which are invited to the second step of the application procedure.

## MC 2 – 22 & 23 March 2023 – Strasbourg (France)

### Item 1 – MC1 minutes

**Decision:** MC took note of the approved MC1 minutes, the follow-up of actions and the update on the written procedures.

### Item 2 – Management and Control System Description

#### **Decisions:**

- MC approved the procedure for partners outside the NWE area (see section 2.5.1 of the Programme Manual).
- MC approved the complaint procedure (see section 7 of the Programme Manual).
- MC approved the framework to deal with State aid (see section 5.7 of the Programme Manual).
- MC approved the project subsidy contract.
- MC approved the risk-based management verification's methodology.
- MC discussed and approved the irregularity and recovery procedure.

### Item 3 – Call 1 step 2

**Decision:** MC approved 14 project applications (out of 32).

More details on <https://www.nweurope.eu/blog/programme-news-1/14-projects-approved-38>

### Item 4 – Planning of calls

**Decision:** MC agreed with the provisional planning of calls presented at the meeting.

## MC 3 – 20 & 21 April 2023 – Lille (France)

### Item 1 – MC2 minutes

**Decision:** MC approved the MC21 minutes.

### Item 2 – Communication

**Decision:** MC approved the 2021-2027 communication strategy.

### Item 3 – Evaluation plan

**Decisions:**

- MC approved the evaluation plan.
- MC agreed to set up an Evaluation Task Force made of representatives from the Member States, the Managing Authority, the Contact Points and the Joint Secretariat.

### Item 4 – 2024-2029 Technical Assistance budget

**Decision:** MC approved the TA budget for 2024-2029.

### Item 5 – Contact Points

**Decisions:**

- MC approved the final version of the MA-MS subsidy contract on CPs.
- MC approved the CP network vision and mission.

### Item 6 – Call 2 step 1

**Decision:** MC approved 27 project applications (out of 76) which are invited to the second step of the application procedure.

More details on:

<https://www.nweurope.eu/blog/programme-news-1/call-2-step-1-27-projects-approved-42>

### Item 7 – Strategic MC reflection on calls beyond 2023

**Decision:** MC took note and commented upon the proposals regarding the two proposed strategic reflections moments aimed at preparing and shaping the next calls.

## MC 4 – 21 & 22 November 2023 – Nantes (France)

### Item 1 – MC3 minutes

**Decision:** MC took note of the approved MC3 minutes, the follow-up of actions and the update on the written procedures.

### Item 2 – Programme monitoring

**Decision:** MC took note of the current Programme monitoring state of play (budget and output & result indicators).

### Item 3 – Programme management – controller’s checklist, report and certificate

**Decision:** MC agreed to validate those documents via a written procedure.

### Item 4 – Call 2 step 2

**Decision:** MC approved 17 project applications (out of 26).

More details on:

<https://www.nweurope.eu/blog/programme-news-1/call-2-step-2-17-projects-approved-80>

### Item 5 – Call 3 small scale projects

**Decision:** MC approved 15 project applications (out of 41).

More details on: <https://www.nweurope.eu/blog/programme-news-1/call-3-15-projects-approved-81>

### Item 6 – Member States reflection meeting

#### **Decisions:**

- MC took note of and comment upon the main conclusions and learnings from the 18-19 October 2023 Reflection Meeting.
- MC took note of the follow-up actions planned by the Joint Secretariat to take the results of the 18-19 October 2023 Reflection Meeting further.

### Item 7 – AOB

#### **Decisions:**

- MC took note of the latest information regarding post27 preparations at the Interreg Annual event.
- MC took note of the reasons and legal basis that currently excludes an approved step 1 applicant from submitting a step 2 application under a later call. This information will be conveyed as general reply in case applicants would ask questions around this.

## MC 5 (part 1) – 15 April 2024 – online

### Item 1 – 2024 Technical Assistance

#### **Decisions:**

- MC approved the workplan and the TA budget for 2024.
- The decision on taking EUR 1 million from the reserve to cover the 2024-2029 Technical Assistance funding gap will be discussed at the next MC meeting.

## MC 5 (part 2) – 28 & 29 May 2024 – Limerick (Ireland)

### Item 1 – Previous meetings

#### **Decisions:**

- MC took note of the approved MC4 minutes.
- MC took note of the conclusions of the Reflection meeting No 2.
- MC took note of the approved MC5 (part 1) minutes.

### Item 2 – Programme monitoring

#### **Decisions:**

- MC took note of the budget monitoring.
- MC took note of the Programme indicator profile and recommendations made.

### Item 3 – 2024-2029 Technical Assistance

#### **Decisions:**

- MC approved the 2024-2029 TA budget.
- MC agreed to take EUR 1 million from the Programme reserve to cover the 2024-2029 TA funding gap

### Item 4 – Risk management

**Decision:** MC took note of the risk matrix and its purpose.

### Item 5 – Project modification procedure

#### **Decisions:**

- MC decided that all the modifications related to investments should be treated as “substantial +” (requiring the approval of both JS and MS hosting the partner concerned by the modification)
- MC approved the general project modification procedure (with the above change) including the specific approaches proposed for call 3 Small Scale Projects.

**Item 6 – Terms of reference call 5**

**Decision:** MC approved the terms of reference for call 5.

**Item 7 – Capitalisation strategy**

**Decision:** MC approved the capitalisation strategy.

**Item 8 – NWE Annual Event – 5 & 6 November 2024**

**Decision:** MC took note of the overall concept for the NWE Annual Event.

**Item 9 – Call 4 step 1**

**Decision:** MC approved 42 project applications (out of 101) which are invited to the second step of the application procedure.

More details on:

<https://www.nweurope.eu/blog/programme-news-1/call-4-step-1-42-projects-approved-252>

## MC 6 – 10 & 11 December 2024 – Cork (Ireland)

### Item 1 – MC5 minutes

**Decision:** MC took note of the approved MC5 minutes, the follow-up of actions and the update on the written procedure.

### Item 2 – VB Programme closure

**Decision:**

MC took note of the projects and the VB Programme closure.

### Item 3 – Programme monitoring

**Decisions:**

- MC took note of the budget monitoring.
- MC took note of the Programme indicator profile and recommendations made.
- MC decided to choose for an overcommitment of EUR 23 million ERDF. The overcommitment budget will be actively monitored and regularly reported upon.

### Item 4 – Post 2027 consultation

**Decision:**

MC took note of the and commented the draft stakeholder consultation report an next steps.

### Item 5 – Call 4 step 2

**Decision:** MC approved 25 project applications (out of 38).

More details on:

<https://www.nweurope.eu/blog/programme-news-1/call-4-step-2-25-projects-approved-612>



## MC 7 – 2 & 3 April 2025 – Luxembourg City (Luxembourg)

### Item 1 – MC6 minutes

**Decision:** MC took note of the approved MC6 minutes, the follow-up of actions and the update on the written procedures.

### Item 2 – VB Programme closure

**Decision:** MC took note of the projects and the VB Programme closure.

### Item 3 – Programme monitoring

#### **Decisions:**

- MC took note of the budget monitoring.
- MC took note of the Programme indicator profile and recommendations made, including the submission of a Programme modification to the EC.
- MC took note of the updated version of the gap analysis and its main conclusions and recommendations.

### Item 4 – 2025 Technical Assistance

**Decision:** MC approved the 2025 Technical Assistance work plan and budget.

### Item 5 – Risk management

**Decision:** MC took note of the risk follow-up approach.

### Item 6 – Staff without employment contract – Simplified Cost Option (SCO)

#### **Decision:**

MC took note and commented on the imminent implementation of this new programme specific SCO for call 5 – step 2 applicants.

### Item 7 – Capitalisation strategy

#### **Decisions:**

- MC took note of the main capitalisation activities for 2025.
- MC approved the indicative timeline for two calls for capitalisation.
- MC confirmed the amount of 10 MEUR ERDF for a capitalisation call and took note of the available alternative sources to eventually add to that amount.
- MC took note and prepared for an informal Member States Reflection meeting by the end of June 2025 which will address modalities of capitalisation calls, in particular, the targets for a capitalisation call and selection criteria.

**Item 8 – Project implementation (calls 1 to 3)****Decisions:**

- MC took note of the project modifications overview.
- MC took note of the update on project CIRCULAR RENO.

**Item 9 – Call 4 – step 2 update****Decisions:**

- MC decided that the “Re-Heat-Appartment” project application did not meet its technical requirements by the set deadline in a substantial manner.
- With this, the MC also decided not to proceed with the signature of the subsidy contract and hence not to fund the “Re-Heat-Appartment” application.

**Item 10 – Call 5 step 1**

**Decision:** MC approved 39 project applications (out of 136).

More details on:

<https://www.nweurope.eu/blog/programme-news-1/call-5-step-1-39-projects-approved-972>

## MC 8 – 18 November 2025 – Basel (Switzerland)

### Item 1 – MC7 minutes

**Decision:** MC took note of the approved MC7 minutes, the follow-up of actions and the update on the written procedures.

### Item 2 – VB Programme closure

#### **Decisions:**

- MC took note of the VB Programme closure.
- MC took note of the project closure follow-up.
- MC took note of the VB Programme bank accounts' situation.
- MC agreed to pay EUR 5,847,601 to the UK as part of the closure of the accounts for the IVB and VB Programmes.
- MC agreed to transfer the balance of the VB ERDF bank account to the Programme reserve account.
- MC agreed to transfer the balance of the VB TA bank account to the VIB TA bank account.

### Item 3 – Programme monitoring

#### **Decisions:**

- MC took note of the budget monitoring.
- MC took note of the Programme indicator profile.
- MC took note of the Call 4 indicator contributions.
- MC took note of the implication of a possible Programme modification.

### Item 4 – Evaluation of the application process

#### **Decisions:**

- MC took note of the evaluation report.
- MC took note of the recommendations' follow-up.

### Item 5 – Risk management

**Decision:** MC took note of the current Programme Health check.

### Item 6 – Audit

#### **Decision:**

MC took note of the 2025 audit campaign and the system audits.

### Item 7 – None

**Item 8 – Project implementation (calls 1 to 4)****Decisions:**

- MC took note of the project modifications overview.
- MC took note of the update on project issues.

**Item 9 – Call 5 step 2**

**Decision:** MC approved 21 project applications (out of 37).

More details on:

<https://www.nweurope.eu/blog/programme-news-1/call-5-step-2-21-projects-approved-1434>