

# Managing and maximising your EU-funded projects

# ERAC.

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## What if.....

- You leave here today **knowing practical strategies** for better managing your project
- You can share what problems you have faced and **hear from other project leaders** how they have overcome

Question 1: What do you think is the most common mistake made in executing EU funded projects?

Question 2: What elements do you need for a great project?

Question 3: What do you think is the most important element to a succesful EU funded project?



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What do you think is the most common mistake made in executing EU funded projects?

1 response

No project administration



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# What elements do you need for a great project?

All responses to your question will be shown here

Each response can be up to 200 characters long

Turn on voting to let participants vote for their favorites

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What do you think is the most common mistake made in executing EU funded projects?

Script administrator

What elements do you need for a great project?

Script administrator

What do you think is the most important element to a successful EU funded project?

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What do you think is the most important element to a succesful EU funded project?

leader  
bold  
creative  
focus  
fast  
transpiration  
inspiration



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What do you think is the most important element to a succesful EU funded project?  
Responses

What do you think are 3 key success factors to a succesful EU funded project?  
Responses



# Workshop

## Agenda

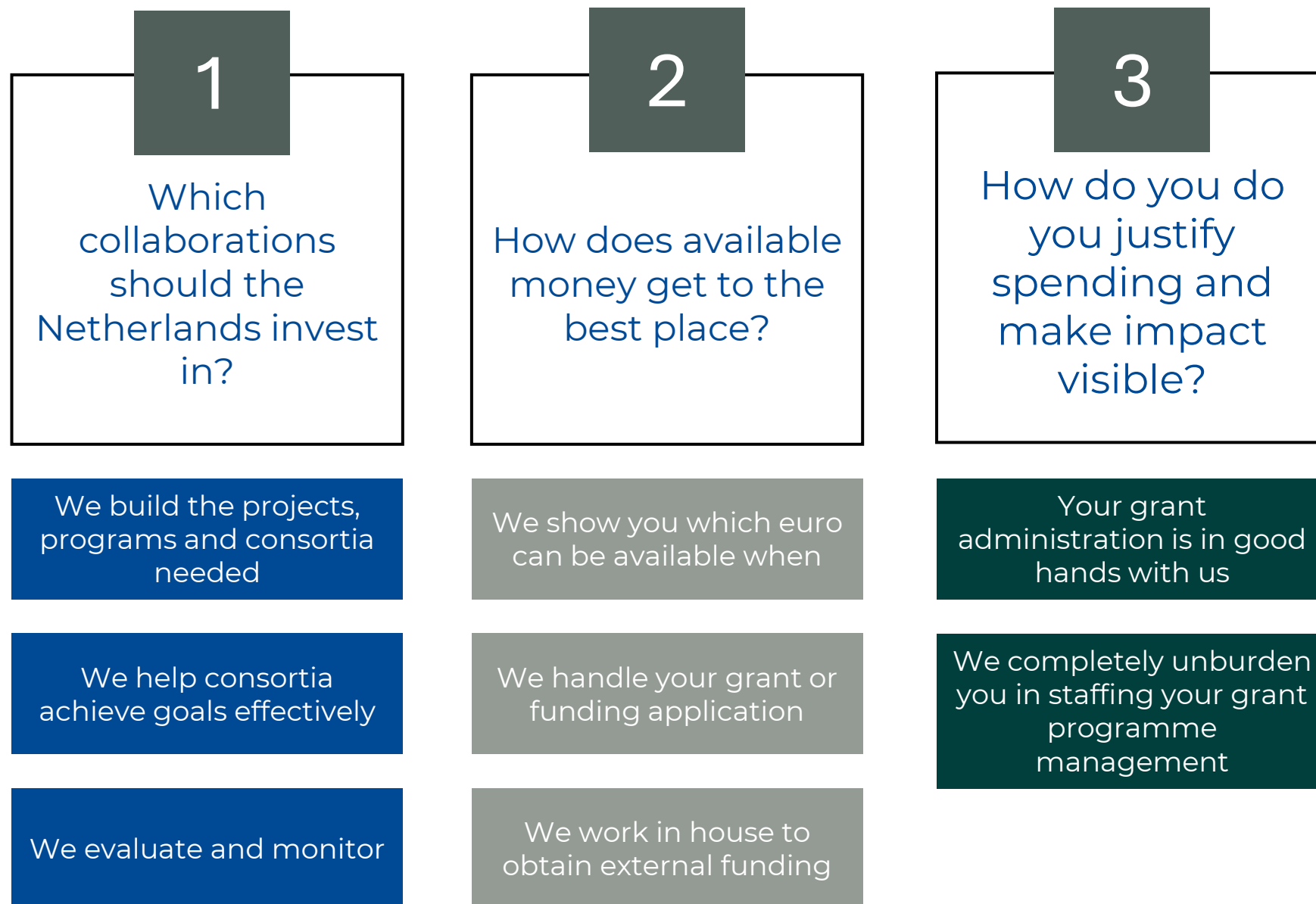
- 1 Introduction presenters and ERAC
- 2 “Managing and maximizing your EU-funded projects: The impact of good governance & smart project control”
- 3
  1. Managing and governance
  2. Smart control
- 4 Workshop – discussion in groups

## ERAC.

- **Over 30 years of experience** in realizing sustainable and innovative projects.
- Expertise in **European grants, sustainability, innovation** and the **energy transition**.
- We help **governments, knowledge institutions and companies** take advantage of every opportunity.



# Managing and maximising your EU-funded projects



## “Managing and maximizing your EU-funded projects: The impact of good governance & smart project control”

# Managing and maximising your EU-funded projects

## 1. Good Governance



## Key to success – the impact of good governance

### 1. Start as you mean to go on!

- **Balanced Team Composition:** Select team members not only for their content expertise but also for their ability to navigate the network, establish connections, and maintain consortium cohesion.
- **Effective Stakeholder Communication:** Assign a team member to manage communication with stakeholders, including the consortium and funding provider, ensuring alignment and timely updates.
- **Strong Financial Oversight:** Ensure dedicated financial and subsidy management to prevent funding issues, avoid repayment risks, and support project success.

## Key to success – the impact of good governance

### 2. The funding provider is your friend!

- Keep the funding provider actively informed about project progress, setbacks, and ask for help when needed.
- View the funding provider as a collaboration partner and engage with them while staying focused on your project's goals.
- Funding providers may demand extensive justification—question unclear requests and seek clarification when needed.

## Key to success – the impact of good governance

### 3. Create a project team/consortium with expertise

- **Diverse Expertise:** A well-rounded project team should include members with both content expertise and knowledge of the network and ecosystem to build connections and maintain consortium cohesion.
- **Stakeholder Management:** A dedicated team member should handle communication with stakeholders, including the consortium, funding provider, and key players, ensuring transparency and timely updates.
- **Financial & Subsidy Management:** Proper oversight of financial and subsidy management is essential to prevent funding issues, avoid repayment obligations, and ensure project success.
- Finally – don't hesitate to invest in buying in expertise



## Key to success – the impact of good governance

### 4. Create meaningful and productive consortium

- True collaboration between partners and within the ecosystem (management) is hard work – often public and private partners have different objectives and don't speak the same language.
- Forming a consortium with a group of partners does not automatically mean there is real collaboration.
- Focus on collective goals rather than individual agendas

### 5. Understanding cultural differences and ways of working

- Appreciate that the right decision makers may not always be at the table
- Within academic institutions or large organisations, legal and financial approval can take much longer. Approval for participation
- As coordinator, be sensitive to status within the group and that all stakeholders receive equal attention and are involved in the overall decision making process

# Managing and maximising your EU-funded projects

## 2. Smart project control



## Key to success – smart control

### 1. A good start is half the work

1. Look ahead to the end of the program: audit and determination
2. Prevent surprises at the end of the project
3. Budget is your starting point, plan semi-annual financial monitoring

### 2. Strict financial and grant management

1. It can make or break your project
2. Each grant program has its own rules and conditions
3. Take care of a tool or way to monitor the financial progress

### 3. Bring in the right people from the start

1. Procurement, financial department, the controller or auditor
2. Each grant program has its own procurement rules
3. You must always be able to show sound financial management, even if you are not required to tender
4. Clear guidance and timely information helps navigating through the right process



### 4. Good monitoring of actual performance

1. No grant project is going as planned
2. Progress of your project
3. Mitigate potential risks
4. Prepare a change request

## Key to success – smart control

### 5. Proactive response to changes in the budget

1. Effective monitoring of actual performance against the budget
2. Ensuring budget control and oversight
3. Comparing financial outcomes with the goals of the project

# Workshop

## Group exercise

Discuss in small groups and reflect on one or more of your own projects.

Brainstorm in around 20 minutes the following:

1. What would you do differently now that you have heard these success factors?
2. Are there common problems and/or pitfalls that you have all encountered?
3. Decide together which **3** elements are the most important!

Finally, present your 3 elements on the next slide- using the Mentimeter.



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# What do you think are 3 key success factors to a succesful EU funded project?

All responses to your question will be shown here

Each response can be up to 200 characters long

Turn on voting to let participants vote for their favorites

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