

IR - Tables 8, 9, 10 & 11 - Zero values

For tables 8, 9 & 10 the tables need to be filled out with '0' even if this value is due to the fact that the corresponding provisions wasn't used in the regulatory framework. The Commission cannot check whether these provisions were applied or not, **as this information is not part of the Operational Programme**. However, if there are 0 values in the financial tables on the number of selected operations, it can be concluded that the blanks in tables 8-10 can only mean a 0 value.

With regard to table 11, as the use of flexibility under the YEI has to be indicated in the Operational Programme, a blank is possible in the following two situations: (1) when there's no support from the YEI or (2) when the Operational Programme did not make use of the provision for using 10% in non-eligible regions.

To sum up, the rule is that unless it is clear from the Annual Implementation Report that the blank spaces can only mean a '0' (e.g. case of not receiving support from the YEI, for table 11) then the Annual Implementation Report is inadmissible when spaces are left in blank. **The reason for this is the impossibility to interpret the meaning of a 'blank space' on the basis of the information available in the Annual Implementation Report and Operational Programme.**

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