How to create, validate & send an Annual Programme for EBF, ERF, EIF and RF?

Contents of this guide:

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Purpose of this functionality

This functionality enables Member States to create, validate and submit an Annual Programme (AP) for EBF, ERF, EIF and RF to European Commission (EC) officials.

Regulation source

Article 19 of Decision N° 435/2007/EC of the Council for the European Fund for the Integration of third-country nationals (EIF)

Article 20 of Decision N° 573/2007/EC of the European Parliament and the Council for the European Refugee Fund (ERF)

Article 23 of Decision N° 574/2007/EC of the European Parliament and the Council for the External Borders Fund (EBF)

Article 21 of Decision N° 575/2007/EC of the European Parliament and the Council for the Return Fund (RF)

Concerned Funds

EBF	ERF	EIF	RF

User roles and permissions needed

Member State Responsible Authority (MSRA U+S)

Before you start, check that…

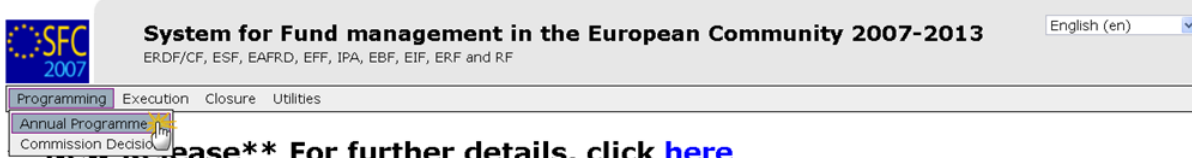The applicable Common Code Identifier (CCI) has been previously created within the system.

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1. Create an Annual Programme

Step by step

1. Go to the PROGRAMMING > ANNUAL PROGRAMME menu.

   The search pane screen and the AP list appear.

2. Click on **Create a new Annual Programme**.
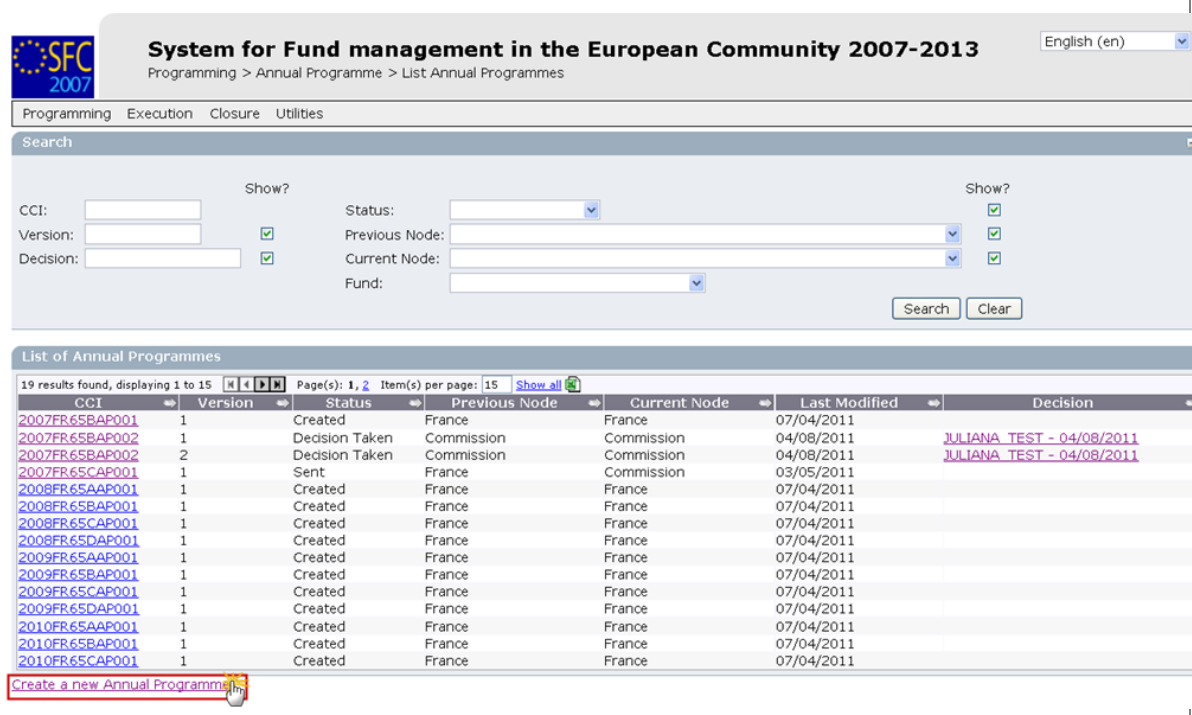
The Create Annual Programme wizard appears. It is divided in two steps:

Step 1: Provide General Details

3. Click on the three-doted button ⬚ to enter the CCI number applicable to the AP **(1)**. The list of existing CCI numbers is displayed.

4. Select the applicable CCI number for the AP **(2)**.

5. Click on NEXT **(3)**.

Step 1: Define Actions

6. Define as many actions as the AP requires by completing the fields below. At least one action shall be defined.

    After completion of the action, click on ADD to send it to the Actions list.

7. Once all actions have been completed and recorded in the list, click on FINISH.

Code	Action Type	TA	RA acts as	Priority	Specific Priority	Type of Additional Costs / Support	Description
TEST1	Normal	☐	Awarding Body	1	1		1 – TEST1
TEST2	Normal	☐	Executing Body	2	2		2 – TEST2
TEST3	Normal	☐	Executing Body	3	3		3 – TEST3
TEST4	Normal	☐		4	4		4 – TEST4

Add a new Action

REMARK	a. In case an action has been incorrectly added after having saved it, please click on 🗑 and start the operation again.

You are redirected to the tabs to be edited.

| NOTE | You are automatically directed to the tabs (cf. Figure 2 - Tab view) to be completed if you edit the AP after finishing the wizard.

If you edit the AP at a later stage, go to the PROGRAMMING > ANNUAL PROGRAMME menu (cf. step 1). The existing AP is displayed in the list under the status "Created". Click on its CCI number to be directed to the display screen. Select any of the **Edit** options. |
|------|--|

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2. Edit an Annual Programme

The contents of the AP are displayed in different tabs, which are to be completed before validation and submission to the EC:

- General,

- Actions,

- Financial table,

- Authorities,

- Documents and

- In Charge.

They can be displayed by tabs or as a list of tables:

Version

CCI:	2011FR65CAP001	**Version:** 1	**Status:** Created ②	**Last Modified:** 22/08/2011	**Commission Decision:**
Member State:	France	**Fund:** European Fund for Integration	**Year Covered:** 2011	

Comments:

Edit

Actions

Code	Action Type	TA	RA acts as	Priority	Specific Priority	Type of Additional Costs / Support	Description
TEST1	Normal	☐	Awarding Body	1	1		1 - TEST1
TEST2	Normal	☐	Executing Body	2	2		2 - TEST2
TEST3	Normal	☐	Executing Body	3	3		3 - TEST3
TEST4	Normal	☐	Executing Body	4	4		4 - TEST4

Edit

Financial Plan of the Annual Programme by Action (in EUR)

Action	Priority	Specific Priority	EU Contribution	National Public Allocation	Private Allocation	Total	% EU	Share of Total
TEST1 - 1 - TEST1	1	1				0.00	0.00	
TEST2 - 2 - TEST2	2	2				0.00	0.00	
TEST3 - 3 - TEST3	3	3				0.00	0.00	
TEST4 - 4 - TEST4	4	4				0.00	0.00	
Total						0.00	0.00	

Edit

Authorities

No Authorities found

Edit

Associated Documents

No Associated Documents found

Edit

Officials in Charge

No Official In Charge found

Edit

Latest Validation Results

No Validation Results found

History

Status	Comment	By Level	Date	User
Created	created by wizard	France	22/08/2011 12:26	w0050372

Figure 1 – List view (Display)

Figure 2 - Tab view

2.1. General

This tab refers to the AP CCI number and the optional comments to be written and saved. As long as the AP has not been validated and submitted to EC officials, the CCI number and the comments can be modified.

2.2. Actions

The properties of the actions defined at the creation of the AP can be edited.

Step by step

8. Click on the ACTIONS tab. The properties of the actions defined at the creation of the AP can be:

   a. modified by clicking on the hyperlinks of the 'Code' column **(1)**,

   b. deleted by clicking on 🗑 **(2)** or

   c. completed by a new action by clicking on **Add a new Action** **(3)**.

9. If the operation is the action's modification, execute the required change(s) (e.g. a specific priority to be corrected) and click on **Update**.

---

10. If the operation is the addition of a new action, please follow step 6.

The ACTION DETAILS tab includes the fields below:

FIELD NAME	Type	Options	N° of characters maximum
CODE	Alphanumeric field	N/A	5
DESCRIPTION	Alphanumeric field	N/A	350
RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY ACT AS	Drop down list	Awarding or Executing	N/A
ACTION TYPE	Drop down list	Normal or Specific Transit Scheme	N/A
PRIORITY	Drop down list	According to the fund	N/A
SPECIFIC PRIORITY	Drop down list	According to the fund	N/A
TYPE OF ADDITIONAL COSTS/SUPPORT	Drop down list	According to the fund	N/A
IS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	Radio button	Tick to activate it	N/A

2.3. Financial Plan of the Annual Programme by Action

Step by step

11. Click on the FINANCIAL TABLE tab.

    Complete the columns related to the financial information ('EU Contribution', 'National Public Allocation' and 'Private Allocation') and click on SAVE.

    The columns 'Total' and '% EU' are automatically calculated by the system.

2.4. Authorities

Three Member State Authorities must be assigned to the AP:

- Member State Responsible Authority (MSRA),

- Member State Certifying Authority (MSCA) and

- Member State Audit Authority (MSAA).

Step by step

12. Click on the Authorities tab and on **Add a new Authority**.

13. Set the profile of the authority in the 'Type' drop down list. Fill in the mandatory field 'Name' and, optionally, the other fields ('Address', 'Contact', 'Phone', 'Fax', 'Email'). Click on Save.

14. Repeat steps 12 and 13 to create the MSCA and MSAA.

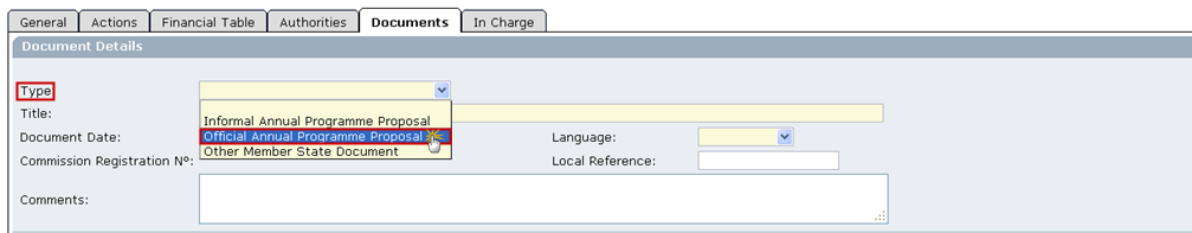| REMARKS	a. In case a Member State Authority has been incorrectly assigned after its creation, please click on 🗑 and restart the operation.
	b. The authority type 'Associated Bodies' is optional.

2.5. Associated Documents

There are three types of documents:

- Informal Annual Programme Proposal,

- Official Annual Programme Proposal and

- Other Member State Document.

Step by step

15. Click on the Documents tab and on **Add a new Document**.

16. Select the document to be uploaded in the 'Type' drop down list.
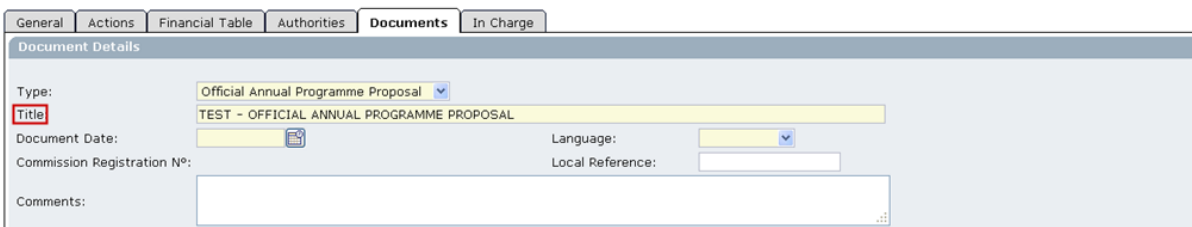
17. Fill in the 'Title' field with 255 characters maximum (alphanumeric field).
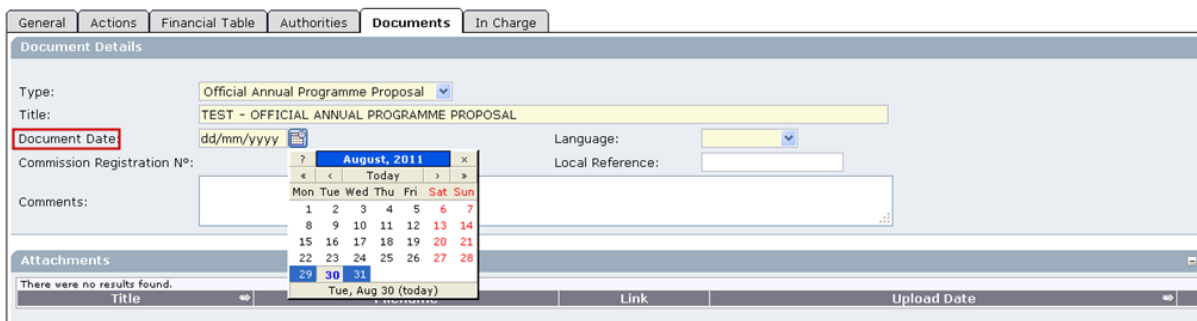
18. Complete the 'Document Date' field manually (dd/mm/yyyy) or double click in the field to have the current date entered automatically or click on 🖱 to open the calendar window to select the corresponding date.
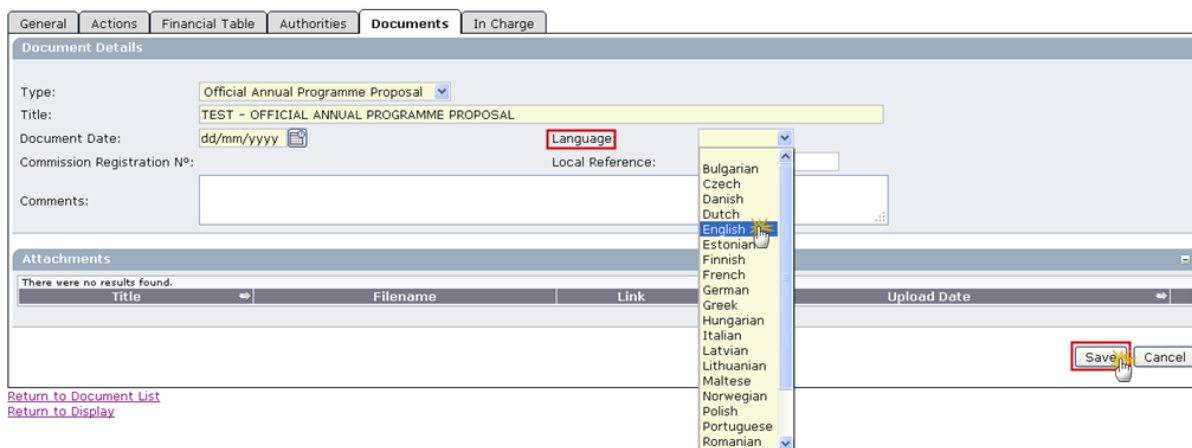
19. Select the 'Language' of the document in the drop down list and click on SAVE.

The fields 'Local Reference' and 'Comments' are optional.

20. The system activates the **Add a new Attachment** link, which enables the upload of the Official Annual Programme Proposal.

21. Enter the name of the document in the field 'Title' **(1)**, tick the type of attachment to be uploaded **(2)**, click on Browse **(3)** to select the location of the file and, after having chosen it, click on Open **(4)** to launch the upload. Record the operation through the button Save **(5)**.

22. After the upload, the Attachments tab displays the document with its title:

a. If the document is not the correct one, click on the ⬛ button to delete it and restart the operation (cf. step 21).

b. If an additional document of the same type needs to be uploaded, click on **Add a new Attachment** and restart the operation (cf. step 21).

c. If both cases are not applicable, click on Save to proceed with the AP creation.

23. For the upload of the 'Informal Annual Programme Proposal' and 'Other Member State Documents', please refer to steps 15 to 22. These types of document require a manual submission after being uploaded:

	REMARKS	
	a. In case the document has to be suppressed after having saved it (to be re-downloaded by an updated one), please click on 🗑 and start the operation again.	

REMARKS

a. In case the document has to be suppressed after having saved it (to be re-downloaded by an updated one), please click on 🗑 and start the operation again.

b. The document types 'Informal Annual Programme Proposal' and 'Other Member State Document' are optional.

c. The recipient of the documents above is automatically notified, unless the checkbox

 is ticked.

d. Any other document related to the AP can be uploaded under the type 'Other Member State Document'.

e. The system does not accept the AP validation unless the Official Annual Programme Proposal has been uploaded accordingly.

2.6. Officials in charge

Following the upload of the document(s) associated to the AP, the MSRA can assign one or several authorities who will be responsible for the programme via the In charge tab. At least one Official in charge must be assigned to the Final Report on Implementation of the AP.

Step by step
24. Click on the In charge tab and on **Add a new Official in Charge**.
25. Complete the mandatory fields ('Name' and 'Email') and click on Add.

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REMARKS	a. Optional fields: - 'Valid From' and 'Until' indicates the period during which the official in charge will be responsible for the AP. - 'Language' refers to the language of notification(s) that will be sent to the assigned official in charge. b. The checkbox 'Automatically Notified' is to be ticked to be active (and unchecked to reverse the process). c. After adding an official in charge of the AP, he/she can be deleted by clicking on 🗑.

3. Validate the Annual Programme

After completion of the AP by the MSRA, the system generates the link **Validate**.

This link is available when opening the AP through the Pʀᴏɢʀᴀᴍᴍɪɴɢ > Aɴɴᴜᴀʟ Pʀᴏɢʀᴀᴍᴍᴇ menu and clicking on the AP via its CCI number.

Step by Step

1. Click on **Validate** to trigger the data validation check, whose rules are presented in the chapter 6, section 6.7 of this guide.
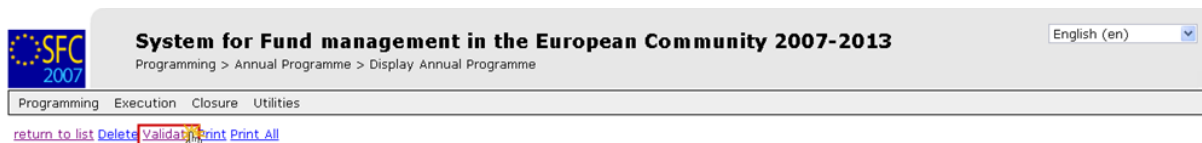
2. In case of inconsistency, the system detects it and presents its details in the Lᴀᴛᴇsᴛ Vᴀʟɪᴅᴀᴛɪᴏɴ Rᴇsᴜʟᴛs tab. **Return to Display** to correct the inconsistent data.

3. Click on **Validate** to restart the data validation check.

4. After correction of all inconsistent data and successful validation of the AP, the system switches the report status from 'Created' to 'Validated'.

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4. Send the Annual Programme

Step by Step

1. If the report is to be sent right after its validation, click on **Return to Display** to access the **Send** button.

2. If the report is to be sent at a later stage, open the report by its CCI number as from the PROGRAMMING > ANNUAL PROGRAMME menu.

3. In both cases, the system displays the **Send** button. Click on it to trigger the submission process.

4. Click on YES to confirm the AP submission.

5. Create a new version of the AP

ATTENTION	The MSRA can create a new version of the AP only after its status has become 'Decision Taken'.

In this case, a copy of the original report is generated. Its version is incremented by one, its status is reset to 'Created', the data becomes editable and the button **Validate** is available again.

Step by Step
1. Go to the PROGRAMMING > ANNUAL PROGRAMME menu and click on the CCI number of the Final Report on Implementation of the AP whose version is to be incremented.
2. Click on **Create a new Version**.
3. Click on YES to confirm the request.

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4. Execute the required modifications on the new version and click on **Validate**.

The report is validated with its incremented version and its status becomes 'Validated'.

5. Click on **Send**.

6. Click on YES to confirm the AP submission.

REMARK	Although the data is editable, the action(s) code, title and type entered in the original AP can't be modified. If an action is no longer applicable by the time a new version is created,

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	the action is to be kept and the amount is to be left blank.

6. General

6.1. Statuses

The summary of the AP statuses is presented in the table below:

REPORT ACTION	Acting authority	Status of the AP
CREATION OF AP COMPLETION OF INFORMATION UPLOAD OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS	MSRA	Created
VALIDATION		Validated
SUBMISSION TO EC OFFICIALS		Sent
THE EC OFFICIAL RETURNS THE AP AND REQUESTS MINOR CORRECTIONS TO BE EXECUTED INTO THE PROPOSAL	EC Operational Agent	Returned - For correction[1]
THE EC OFFICIAL RETURNS THE AP AND REQUESTS MAJOR CORRECTIONS TO BE EXECUTED INTO THE PROPOSAL		Returned - Full Rejection[1]
THE EC OFFICIAL HAS ASSESSED THE PROPOSAL AND OFFICIALLY ACCEPTED IT		Admissible[1, 2]
THE EC DECISION IS READY TO BE VOTED AND LINKED TO THE AP		Ready for Decision[2]
THE EC DECISION HAS BEEN CREATED IN THE SYSTEM AND LINKED TO THE AP		Decision taken
CREATION OF A NEW AP VERSION	MSRA	Created

✓ HAS PERMISSION

✗ HASN'T PERMISSION

* OPTIONAL STAGE

[1] IN CASE OF MISTAKE DETECTED BY THE EC OFFICIAL AT THE RECEPTION OF THE AP (STATUS: 'SENT'). THE PROPOSAL CAN BE CORRECTED (THE AP STATUS RETURNS TO 'CREATED'), VALIDATED (STATUS: 'VALIDATED') AND RESUBMITTED (STATUS: 'SENT'). BEFORE RESUBMISSION, THE OFFICIAL ANNUAL PROGRAMME PROPOSAL IS TO BE UPLOADED AGAIN WITHIN THE AP.

[2] THE EC OFFICIAL CAN DECIDE TO RE-OPEN THE AP PROPOSAL IN THIS STAGES. IF THIS IS APPLICABLE, THE AP STATUS IS RESET TO 'SENT'.

6.2. History & details of uploaded documents

In the HISTORY tab of the AP, all statuses are logged with its respective authority level (MS or EC), date and users:

Status	Comment	By Level	Date	User
Decision Taken		Commission	30/08/2011 16:40	w0050371
Ready for Decision		Commission	30/08/2011 16:37	w0050371
Admissible		Commission	30/08/2011 16:37	w0050371
Sent		France	30/08/2011 16:35	w0050372
Validated		France	30/08/2011 16:03	w0050372
Created		France	26/08/2011 16:12	w0050372

In the ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS tab, all documents are registered with its type, language, date of uploading and submission. If there is a blank in the column 'Sent Date', it means the document has not been automatically sent with the AP proposal as it is to be submitted manually.

The details of the user - who uploaded and sent the documents - can be checked through the button ⊙, which activates a yellow window:

6.3. Mandatory fields

The mandatory fields are highlighted in light yellow (e.g. Language: [▼]).

If any obligatory field is left blank, the system refuses to proceed and displays the warning sign ⚠.

6.4. Edition and deletion of recorded data

The table below presents the operations that can be executed in the AP throughout its workflow:

REPORT'S STATUS ACTION	Data edition	AP deletion
CREATED	✓	✓
VALIDATED	✓	✓
SENT	✓	✘
RETURNED - FOR CORRECTION *	✓	✘
RETURNED - FULL REJECTION *	✓	✘
ADMISSIBLE	✓	✘
READY FOR DECISION	✓	✘
DECISION TAKEN	✓	✘
CREATED (NEW VERSION)	✓	✓

LABELS

✓   *has permission*

✓   *only documents uploading and Officials in charge modification, addition or deletion*

✘   *hasn't permission*

∗   *Optional stage*

6.5. AP new version

When a new version of the AP is created, all financial data of the original report is kept in the incremented version. However, all documents uploaded in the original version (by the MSRA and EC officials) are suppressed.

Consequently, the system will accept to validate the new version of the AP, provided that Official Annual Programme Proposal has been uploaded again.

Note that:

- the original report is kept in the system (version 1) along with the incremented version (version 2),
- in the new version of the report, the history workflow of the original report is deleted from the HISTORY tab; only the new version workflow is kept.

6.6. Document type 'Other Member State Document'

The document type 'Other Member State Document' can be uploaded and submitted to the EC throughout the different statuses of the AP.

6.7. Validation rules[1]

CODE	VALIDATION RULES	SEVERITY[2]
2.1	At least one action must be defined.	Error
2.2	The financial plan per action must contain EU Contribution for each action. In versions > 1 this EU Contribution can be 0.	Error Warning
2.3	One and only one Responsible Authority must be specified.	Error
2.4	One and only one Audit Authority must be specified.	Error
2.5	One and only one Certifying Authority must be specified.	Error
2.6	The official AP proposal document must be uploaded in the system ('Official Annual Programme Proposal' document type).	Error
2.7	The system validates whether: ▪ The Technical Assistance is only defined for a Normal Action, for an Emergency Measures Action and for a Special Transit Scheme Action. ▪ When the fund is <u>EBF</u>: there must be maximum 1 Technical Assistance for Normal Actions and 1 Technical Assistance for Special Transit Scheme Actions, ▪ When the fund is <u>ERF</u>: there must be maximum 1 Technical Assistance maximum for Normal Actions and 1 Technical Assistance maximum for Emergency Measures Actions, ▪ When the fund <u>is not EBF or ERF</u>: there must be maximum 1 Technical Assistance.	Error

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[1] **Use Case: SFC2007-RQ-292 Use Cases OP-09 AP 1.004.doc**

[2] **An error blocks the Annual Programme submission to EC officials whereas the warning does not.**

2.8	At least one Member State Official in Charge might be provided.	Warning
2.9	Validate that, depending on the Fund Code used in the CCI code, only the following Action Types were used in the Action: ▪ <u>EBF</u>**:** Normal, Special Transit Scheme ▪ <u>ERF</u>**:** Normal, Emergency Measures and Fixed Amount for Resettlement ▪ <u>RF</u>**:** Normal ▪ <u>EIF</u>**:** Normal	Error
2.10	Validate that only Non-Technical Assistance Normal Actions and Non-Technical Assistance Special Transit Scheme Actions refer to Priorities and that only Non-Technical Assistance Normal Actions refer to Specific Priorities. The reference to Priorities for these Actions is mandatory.	Error
2.11	Validate that only Non-Technical Assistance Special Transit Scheme Actions refer to Additional Cost Types.	Error
2.12	Validate that the maximum EU Contribution rates are as follows: ▪ Technical Assistance: 100% ▪ Special Transit Scheme Actions: 100% ▪ Emergency Measures Actions: 80% **or 100% if the MS benefits from the increased co-financing rate*** (valid only for the action) ▪ Fixed Amount for Resettlement Actions: 100% (fixed amounts) ▪ Actions of MS covered by Cohesion Fund (BG, ES, GR, PT, RO, EUR10): 75% **or 95% if the MS benefits from the increased co-financing rate as covered by Cohesion Fund*** (valid for all actions) ▪ Actions referring to Specific Priorities: 75% **or 95% if the MS benefits from the increased co-financing rate*** (valid only for the action) ▪ All other Actions: 50% **or 70% if the MS benefits from the increased co-financing rate***	Error

2.13	For subsequent versions of version 1, the system validates that, compared to the previous version, no Actions are removed or their Action codes, Description, Technical Assistance Indicator or Action Type are modified. Since Actions are not versioned, this validation must be performed on the saving instead of the validation action.	Error

2.14	The validation rule for the EU Contribution ceilings for the Technical Assistance is calculated as follows:
	
	▪ For <u>Normal</u> Actions:
	
	    ○ 2007 to 2010: Maximum **7%** of (Total EU Allocation[3] - EU Contribution for Fixed Amount for Resettlement Actions - EU Contribution for Emergency Measures Actions) + €30.000
	
	    ○ 2011 to 2013: Maximum **4%** of (Total EU Allocation - EU Contribution for Fixed Amount for Resettlement Actions - EU Contribution for Emergency Measures Actions) + €30.000
	
	▪ For <u>Emergency Measures</u> Actions:
	
	    ○ 2007 to 2010: Maximum **7%** of EU Allocation for Emergency Measures Actions
	
	    ○ 2007 to 2010: Maximum **4%** of EU Allocation for Emergency Measures Actions
	
	For <u>EBF</u> Annual Programmes (if applicable), this rule is to be applied once for Normal Actions (Total EU Allocation = Normal EU Allocation) and once for Special Transit Scheme Actions (Total EU Allocation = Special Transit Scheme EU Allocation).
		Error

2.15	Validate that Priorities and Specific Priorities are for the same Fund as the Fund used in the CCI code. Specific Priorities that are specific for a Priority should match that Priority.	Error
2.16	Validate that the Total EU Contribution of the Annual Programme is: ▪ Not greater than The Total EU Allocation in the Financial Perspectives (MS, Fund, Year).	Error
	▪ Not less than the Total EU Allocation in the Financial Perspectives (MS, Fund, Year).	Warning
	▪ For <u>EBF</u> programmes containing Special Transit Scheme actions, perform a separate validation on normal Actions and one on Special Transit Scheme Actions.	

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[3] **This is the maximum amount allocated each year per Member State and per Fund. The amounts are stored in the Financial Perspectives file and aren't visible in the Front-Office of SFC2007.**

	▪ For ERF programmes containing Emergency Measures, perform a separate validation on non-Emergency Measures and one on Emergency Measures.		
2.17	Validate if a new EC Decision is required for versions > 1. A new EC Decision is required when: ▪ The version contains a new Action, ▪ Total EU Contribution has changed, ▪ The sum of the positive changes in EU Contribution for Actions is greater than 10% of the Total EU Contribution of the previous Annual Programme version. For EBF with Special Transit Scheme, this is true when the validation applied on Normal Actions is true or when the validation applied on Special Transit Scheme Actions is true.		Warning
2.18	Validate that Total EU Contribution in revisions (versions > 1) are not decreased.		Error

* *Please refer to section **6.7.1** for complement of information on the increase of co-financing rates.*

6.7.1. Increased co-financing rates

The system applies the maximum possible rate taking into account the update of the co-financing rates. The new general rule for the increase of the co-financing rates is applicable to the following Member State (MS), as detailed in the table hereunder:

MS	AP Year	Limit Date of Revision	Applied
RO	2011	31/03/2013	
RO	2012	31/03/2013	
RO	2013	31/03/2013	
PT	2011	31/03/2013	
PT	2012	31/03/2014	

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PT	2013	31/03/2015	
GR	2011	31/03/2013	
GR	2012	31/03/2014	
GR	2013	31/03/2015	
IE	2011	31/03/2013	
IE	2012	31/03/2014	
IE	2013	31/03/2015	
ES	2011	31/03/2013	
ES	2012	31/03/2014	
ES	2013	31/03/2015	
CY	2012	31/03/2014	
CY	2013	31/03/2015	

Consequently:

- The increased co-financing rates Member States list has been modified in order to be updateable since it can regularly change,

- In case of Annual Programmes revisions, the system is to check whether the MS and Annual Programme year is in the list and, that the current date is ≤ to the Limit Date of Revision,

- In case of an Annual Programme Closure, it is to be known if the revision with application of the increased rates was applied to the Annual Programme. This information will be maintained in the 'Applied' column. Thus, in Annual Programme Closures, the system is to check whether the MS and Annual Programme year is in the list and that the 'Applied' is true.

6.8. Priorities & Specific priorities

Please find below the priorities and specific priorities related to the:

- External Border Funds (EBF),

- European Return Fund (RF),

- European Refugee Fund (ERF) and

- European Integration Fund (EIF);

6.8.1. EBF - European Border Fund

Priority	Description	Specific Priority	Description
1	Supporting further gradual establishment of the common integrated border management system in the field of controlling persons on external borders and surveillance of these borders	1.1	Upgrading of the national communication systems to make them interoperable with other Member States
		1.2	Purchase and/or upgrading of operating equipment to control external borders which is interoperable with other Member States and takes into account the results of the common integrated risk analysis
		1.3	Purchase and/or upgrading of operating equipment in order to increase the capacity of Member States to take part in and/or contribute to operational cooperation between Member States as coordinated by the Frontex Agency
2	Supporting the development and implementation of the national components of a European Surveillance system and/or a permanent European Patrol Network at the southern maritime borders of the EU	2.1	Investments in establishing or upgrading a single national coordination centre, which coordinates 24/7 the activities of all national authorities carrying out external border control tasks
		2.2	Investments in establishing or upgrading a single national surveillance system, which covers all or selected parts of the external border and enables the dissemination of information 24/7 between all authorities involved in external border control
		2.3	Purchase and/or upgrading of equipment for detection, identification and intervention at the borders (e.g. vehicles, vessels, aircraft, helicopters, sensors, cameras, etc.), provided the need for this equipment has been clearly identified at European level
3	Support for the issuing of visas and the tackling of illegal immigration, including identifying forged or false travel documents through facilitating operations organized by the consular services and other services of the Member States in third countries	3.1	Promotion of systematic and regular cooperation between the consular services of Member States and between the consular and other services of different Member States in the visa field
		3.2	Initiatives to develop and establish limited representation, co-location or common visa application centres for, initially, reception and, at a later stage, processing of visa applications

4	Supporting the establishment of IT systems necessary for the implementation of Community legislation on external borders and visas	4.1	Investments linked to the Schengen Information System (SIS)
		4.2	Investments linked to the Visa Information System (VIS)
5	Supporting the effective application of the Community legislation on external borders and visas, in particular the Schengen Borders Code and the European Code on Visas	5.1	Implementation at national level of the common core curriculum for border guards' training
		5.2	Enhancing the quality of the national input into the common integrated risk analysis model

6.8.2. RF - European Return Fund

Priority	Description	Specific Priority	Description
1	Support for the development of a strategic approach to return management by Member States	1.1	Assisted voluntary return programmes
		1.2	Cash incentives and measures to address the specific situation of vulnerable returnees
		1.3	Integrated return plans supporting the return of third-country nationals or stateless persons not covered under Community readmission agreements or national bilateral readmission agreements to countries of origin, former residence or transit with which cooperation in the field of return is particularly difficult
2	Support for the cooperation between Member States in return management	2.1	Integrated return plans which have been designed and will also be implemented in cooperation with other Member States, and, where appropriate, with the Frontex Agency, non-governmental organisations and/or international organisations, with the aim of pooling the different skills, experiences and resources of the authorities of the Member States and where appropriate the other organisations involved
3	Support for specific innovative (inter)national tools for return management	3.1	Projects which propose particularly innovative ways and means of informing and counselling potential returnees about the situation in the countries of return and/or other innovative incentives for increasing the number of voluntary returnees based on respect for the dignity of the individuals concerned
		3.2	Projects which test new working methods to speed up the process of documenting returnees in cooperation with the consular authorities and immigration services of third countries

4	Support for Community standards and best practices on return management	4.1	Evaluations and missions to measure progress in return programmes, tools and processes
		4.2	Measures taken at national level to ensure a fair and effective implementation of common standards on return, as established under Community legislation on return, including the training of practitioners

6.8.3. ERF - European Refugee Fund

Priority	Description	Specific Priority	Description
1	Implementation of the principles and measures set out in the Community acquis in the field of asylum, including those related to integration objectives	1.1	Actions aimed at taking into account the special needs of vulnerable people, notably unaccompanied minors, and more specifically measures aimed at improving the definitions and procedures applied by Member States to identify the more vulnerable asylum seekers and to provide an appropriate response to such needs
		1.2	Actions improving the identification of persons in need of international protection and/or the processing of their applications at the borders, notably by the development of specific training programmes
2	Development of reinforcement tools and evaluation methodologies to assess and improve the quality of procedures for the examination of claims for international protection and to underpin administrative structures in an effort to respond to the challenges brought forward by enhanced practical co-operation with other Member	2.1	Measures designed to carry out an independent review on how the national asylum system works and how to make it more efficient
		2.2	Development of tools aimed to enhance consistency in national decision making on the application of the acquis, such as case-law databases accessible to all relevant stakeholders
		2.3	Measures designed to increase the capacity of national asylum services to cooperate with the asylum services of other Member States, and in particular to compile, analyse and assess information on countries or regions of origin for the purpose of sharing this information with other Member States

| 3 | Actions helping to enhance responsibility sharing between Member States and Third Countries | 3.1 | Actions relating to the resettlement of persons from a country or region designated for the implementation of a Regional Protection Programme |
| | | 3.2 | Actions aimed at transferring asylum seekers or beneficiaries of international protection from Member States facing particular pressures on their asylum systems |

6.8.4. EIF - European Integration Fund

Priority	Description	Specific Priority	Description
1	Implementation of actions designed to put the 'Common Basic Principles for immigrant integration policy in the European Union' into practice	1	Participation as a means of promoting the integration of third-country nationals in society
2	Development of indicators and evaluation methodologies to assess progress, adjust policies and measures and to facilitate co-ordination of comparative learning	2	Specific target groups
3	Policy capacity building, co-ordination and intercultural competence building in the Member States across the different levels and departments of government	3	Innovative introduction programmes and activities
4	Exchange of experience, good practice and information on integration between the Member States	4	Intercultural dialogue
		5	Involvement of the host society in the integration process