



# Designing and implementing green public investment programmes — experience from Austria, Switzerland and the Netherlands

Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021, 09-11h (CEST), Zoom















#### Defining an environmental investment programme

- Programme a series of measures designed to achieve certain public objectives with clearly allocated budget and deadlines for their implementation
- **Public expenditure programme** a mechanism to allocate resources to priority areas in need of public funding, without which the priority measures will not be achieved
- Public environmental expenditure remains key to addressing some major environmental and climate-related problems and, in a broader sense, to promoting a greener model of development















#### Why support programmes are needed

- Many environmental projects are not profitable or profitability is too low in order to attract attention/interest of the private sector
- Thus, the governments have in principle two choices:
  - 1. Sticks -> To force implementation by regulation, though this might not be always possible (e.g. free market principles)
  - 2. Carrots -> To financially support investments of the private sector
- In some cases, even relatively small technical assistance offered can tip the scales of decision-making towards more environment-friendly options (esp. in case of smaller companies)







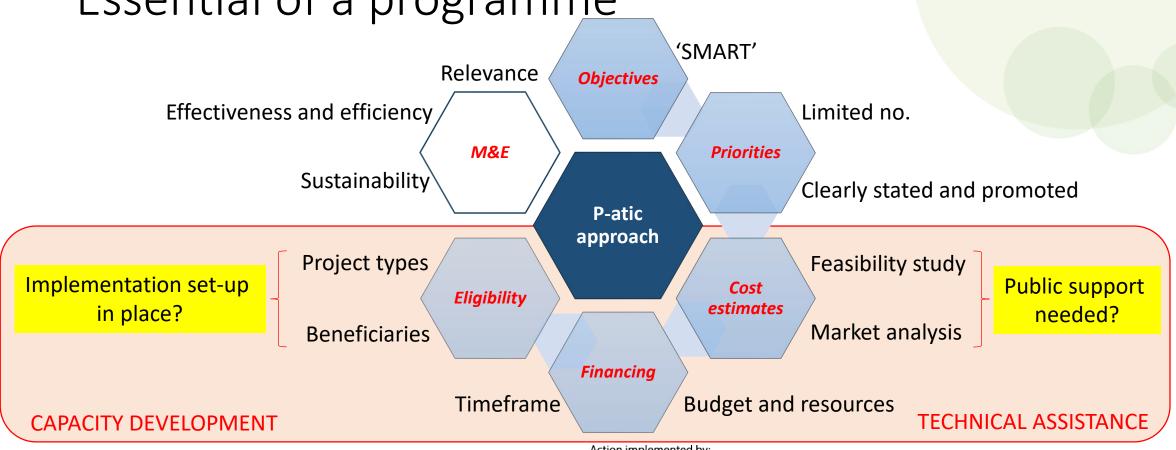






#### **EU4Environment** Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

Essential of a programme



















#### Key principles

- Public funds should not replace private financing
- Expenditure programme needed only if public subsidy is shown to be indispensable to achieve environmental objective
- Funds allocated to expenditure programme strictly justified
- Concentration on the most pressing issues
- Encouraging the private sector to take the lead
- Introducing new techniques and technologies
- Supporting education (awareness) and public participation (ownership)















#### Potential environmental priorities

- Climate-related investments (energy efficiency, renewable energy projects)
- Pollution abatement and control (construction of wastewater treatment plants, introduction of clean public transport)
- Mobilisation of natural resources (water supply)
- Protection of biodiversity and landscapes; prevention of natural and technological risk; environmental and climate-related research and development; training and teaching activities















#### Programme context

<ul> <li>strategy (needs and problems)</li> <li>policy (priority elements)</li> <li>plan (essential activities)</li> <li>framework (legal and institutional)</li> </ul>	=> environmental protection => air, water, nature, solid waste => wastewater treatment, waste collection and treatment => law, regulations, enforcement
<ul> <li>programming (non-expenditure and expenditure programmes)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>=&gt; priorities for programming</li> <li>=&gt; setting programme targets</li> <li>=&gt; costing a programme</li> <li>=&gt; priorities within a programme</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>programme implementation</li> </ul>	=> project selection, appraisal and control => post-implementation appraisal















### Thank you for you attention

## OECD Environment Directorate Green Growth and Global Relations

david.simek@oecd.org









