

Recommendations on ex ante conditionalities (ExAC) in the next MFF

These recommendations below as developed by some of our People's Budget campaign partners strive for strengthening the ex ante conditionalities in the next MFF.

1. Introduce a new ExAC on sustainability proofing on national level for all internal funding, which would replace the vague article 8 of the current CPR for the ESIF. This would require the development of a national action plan on how sustainability is mainstreamed into the relevant MFF streams throughout planning and implementation and how they contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals.

2. Introduce a new ExAC about the application of the partnership principle, by transposing the key elements of the current Code of Conduct into the criteria of fulfilling this ExAc applicable to all major internal funding streams.

3. Introduce new mechanisms, such as mid-term and ex post evaluations to ensure the durability of the ExAC achievements. The measures and tools developed to fulfil the ExACs need to be implemented throughout the implementation of the programmes. For example, the developed strategic documents should be reflected in the selection criteria for projects, the applied impact assessments and cost benefit analyses should reflect on social, environmental and economic aspects in line with the requirements of sustainability proofing, and the monitoring committees should be involved in the evaluations.