DESIGNING STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING THE STRUCTURAL FUNDS ABSORBTION DEGREE

PROIECTAREA STRATEGIILOR NECESARE CREŞTERII GRADULUI DE ABSORBŢIE A FONDURILOR STRUCTURALE

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Abstract: *Romania is faced with a phenomenon in this period of acute crisis, which included important components of economic and social right. In fact, it is difficult to conceive at this point, an aspect of social life to all, not filtered through to financial and economic crisis.*

Key words: *structural funds, design strategies, absorption rate, economic development*

INTRODUCTION

At the end of 2008, global economic crisis (and then European) was felt in all EU Member States, and so consequently, and in our country. This can not possibly surprise anyone, given the interdependence between the economies and economic union concept behind the community foundations.

Although this was the pretext and context necessary for the EU to show their ability to respond with one voice challenges posed by the crisis, this was also when Member States, acting alone, had to bend on their policy measures adopted and their impact on vulnerability of national economies in terms of difficulty that exists today.

Thus, when the crisis (economic, financial) may be considered as being also an important milestone in the evolution of a state policy mix. This is because the moments of crisis, on the one hand, require a post-facto analysis of what was taken until the crisis - which should lead mainly to

identify issues less "happy" their on the other hand, is an opportunity to redefine policies so as to ensure sustainability and economic recovery measures derived from them.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The authors have used and applied the methods of work: a selective

bibliography, study foreign and domestic, identification and data collection,

processing, analysis, observation and interpretation.

I think that the absorption is influenced by several factors for Romania, among them being national policy and structural funds management system institutional strategy to promote access to funding, performance and experience of regions in accessing European funds, and allocation system funds from the European Union.

Delays in scheduling

Let us remember what happened in 2007 after the accession. National Strategic Reference Framework is adopted by the European Commission in June 25, 2007, mid, Romania is the 15th of the 27 EU Member States to complete the negotiation of this document. A series of operational programs were still working, not to mention guides applicant who appeared only in 2008. At least 1 year was almost lost.

Inaccessible information, too general and "released" to late. High costs of promotion without results to match.

National Communication Strategy for Structural Instruments was adopted relatively late and changed.

Maze institutional, hierarchical, overlapping tasks

An institution-building rather than complicated: there are 7 management authorities, 46 of intermediate bodies, of which five national and regional rest. Add to this the institutional system of funding for

agriculture and fisheries, where we find that the Managing Authority Ministry of Agriculture, APIA, national APIA at county, regional APDRP its payment centers and these in turn with county offices of payments .

Weak administrative capacity marked by lack of qualified personnel

In addition to this, for a series of intermediate bodies have established regional and county offices with a staff but "borrowed" from other institutions holding ministry and PM.

Reluctance and lack of interest of applicants

In addition to communication failures by the authorities, and of course there were problems from potential beneficiaries, and here we mention ignorance, even some of their disinterest and lack of trust in the government, some of them on the assumption that impossible to access European money without being at a loss without any official bribe and without passing a long time to receive reimbursement of amounts invested.

Failure to comply with the law and guidance to applicants, combined with lack of experience

A number of issues were identified upon submission of projects, applicants often disregard even the most basic requirements in the Guidelines for Applicants or the law - framework.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Romania needs more than ever feasible solutions to absorb as much of the EU funds provided by the EU, as a pillar of wealth redistribution from the center to the periphery. Further, proposing 13 solutions to access as much of the funding.

1. A Strategic Pact political level, to provide that the fundamental objective of Romania in the period 2012-2013 increased the absorption of European funds.

2. Equal and ongoing information about the possibility of accessing all beneficiaries of EU funds, to remove the risk of asymmetric information and positive effects of concentration towards the center.

3. VAT Refund for projects financed from European funds after each request for reimbursement and not to completion.

4. Eligibility for cost differences due to unfavorable exchange rates.

5. Completion of the Ministry of Economy, emergency, assessment of projects submitted to the range from 200,000 to 1,500,000 euros.

6. Outsourcing project evaluation activities financed from European funds for projects related to SMEs.

7. Setting up a special line and counter guarantee for investment projects aimed at accessing the European funds.

8. Ability to ensure the goods purchased to facilitate co-banking projects financed by Structural Funds.

9. Attracting funds from the EIB for interregional co-European projects (at least 50 million euros).

10. Establishing a correlation report budgetary financing of public institutions involved in structural fundraising performances.

11. Declaration of the expropriation procedure as irrevocable, expedite the development of infrastructure projects.

12. Creating public-private partnerships.

13. Using the expertise of commercial banks to access funds.

Only by applying a coherent package of measures will be able to meet EU expert estimates on the positive impact of EU funds in new member countries.

CONCLUSSIONS

Beyond the nuances and subjective or conjectural elements of the debate, the ultimate indicator of effectiveness of communication seems to be very structural funds absorption rate of European funds. Even the background, diagnosis information and communication inefficiency on this theme should be treated, according to some opinions, with some caution. On the one hand because the equation "quantity-quality 'exclusivity from the date quantitative reporting leads often to misunderstandings and a

qualitative assessment of the size of projects financed from structural funds is still premature.

On the other hand, communication between public authorities, consultants, business representatives and journalists are likely to turn into a "dialogue of the deaf" in the steps of mutual blame not lead to any result, because each party believes whether efforts to adapt to applications, recommendations and requirements are not sufficiently recognized and rewarded, whether excessive media negativity emphasizes atmosphere of tension around the subject gained access to European funds. Constant media messages such as "Romania is the champion of fraud" or "No absorbed one euro" lead to suspicion and frustration which paralyzes "ab initio" potential beneficiaries of EU funding initiatives. A generally accepted idea, however, is that the specialized press, prepared to give balanced and objective messages could contribute in an essential to the success of accessing structural funds and cohesion.

Findings confirm the essential role of the public consultation exercise and, in general, communication on all levels involved in completing the contracting route and carrying out projects financed from structural funds. Should be drafted some practical solutions for improving access to information, guides to simplify procedures for applicants and for strengthening and diversification of communication channels between all involved, to improve the regulatory framework for the attractiveness of certain axes, etc.

The necessary condition for overall success in accessing European funds is however beyond the current stage marked by tension and suspicion. Accountability, fault tolerance, trust and cooperation between different categories of actors involved are the safest steps to the opportunities offered by community funds absorption.

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