

Fact Sheet 11: Exchange Rates

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Version 1	14.12.2021	-	n/a

CORE MESSAGE

The North Sea Programme includes countries inside and outside the Eurozone. As a result, costs will be incurred and paid in different currencies. Regardless of the currency in which expenditure is incurred, however, all costs paid must be reported to the Joint Secretariat in Euro. There is only one method for doing this.

Guidance

All expenditure incurred (paid) in a currency other than Euro must be converted into Euro by the partner incurring the expenditure. The partner must use the European Commission's accounting exchange rate for the month when the expenditure was submitted to the partner's Controller for verification¹.

In practice this means that when a partner has completed their report on expenditure, their last step before submitting the report to the Controller for verification is to convert all non-Euro figures into Euro using the Commission's exchange rate for the month when the report is submitted to Control - not when the expenditure was incurred.

The official European Commission exchange rate can be found on the following website:

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/inforeuro/inforeuro_en.cfm

No other exchange rate or conversion method is valid in the North Sea programme. Partners must keep a printed or digital record of the exchange rate used for each claim in case the project is audited at a later stage. Use of incorrect exchange rates is a common but easily avoidable error. Conversion of expenditure is only relevant for partners located outside of the Eurozone, i.e. Denmark, Sweden and Norway.

¹ Interreg Regulation No. 2021/1059 Article 38(5)



When does a cost need to be converted into EUR?

If a project partner located in a Member State and the Eurozone incurs expenditure in another currency, but the amount is defrayed from its bank account in Euro, no conversion is necessary; instead, the amount on the bank statement should be declared. Alternatively, if a non-Eurozone Member State (or third country) partner incurs expenditure in Euro, but the amount is defrayed from its bank account in the local currency, the amount on the bank statement in the local currency needs to be converted. The conversion should then follow the procedure for conversion as outlined above.

References

- Interreg Regulation No. 2021/1059 Article 38(5)