



ReSPA

Regional School
of Public Administration

BUILDING TOGETHER
GOVERNANCE FOR THE FUTURE

Better Regulation and Center of Government Working Group Meeting with study visit to Center of Excellence in Finance

12-14 April 2022, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Venue: Hotel Union and CEF

Provisional Programme and Agenda

ReSPA activities
are funded by the
European Union



Background

In the 2021 EC Enlargement Package, is made a thorough analysis to the state of the art of public administration reform in the Western Balkans. Among other, EC acknowledges that policy planning has improved somewhat, but further efforts are needed to:

- ensure a strong *quality control* by central governments;
- strengthen capacities for *evidence-informed policymaking*;
- enhancing a culture of evidence-based policymaking in the public administration.

In addition, EC notes that some progress was made in *implementing regulatory impact assessments*, improving governance arrangements on public consultations and establishing IT systems for integrated planning. Nevertheless, in general, *policies, legislation and public investments in the region are still often prepared without impact assessments*. Some administrations have initiated or passed legislation through the fast-track procedure, *without adequate public consultations*. Commission notes that administrative capacity and professional standards of bodies in charge of implementing the *EU acquis* need to be strengthened and the independence of regulatory bodies safeguarded.

In this regard, ReSPA will continue its efforts toward improving the implementation of Better Regulation agenda in its members through a set of meetings and networking activities in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Three days meetings of Better Regulation working group will be composed of:

- **Independent meeting of BR Working Group** devoted to practice and quality of RIA implementation and EU law transposition, implementation of SDG Goals in Western Balkans context, presentation of the planned activities during 2022 in BR area, introduction of the draft revised ReSPA Strategy 2019-2024, etc;
- **Independent meeting of CoG Working Group** will be devoted to the presentation of the Programme of the ReSPA Academy on evidence-based policymaking process, which is the first result of the work of the Regional Network of Policy Coordinators, established in 2021.
- **Joint study visit of Better Regulation and Centre of Government** working groups to the Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF). The overall objective of this study visit is to enhance networking and exchange of practices among ReSPA Working Groups and CEF, get them acquainted with the work of the CEF as an institution and the methodologies implemented in CEF's work. During the visit, various aspects of evidence-based policy making and impact assessment shall be tackled, debated and brainstormed among the WGs members with CEF experts and practitioners. The visit is also an opportunity for the members of the working groups to share their own practices with the CEF, and among themselves, highlighting best examples, challenges faced and identify potential avenues of improvement
- **Joint meeting of Better Regulation and Centre of Government** working groups with OECD/SIGMA aiming to make a presentation of the findings of the latest SIGMA Monitoring Report on (a) Strategic Framework of PAR and (b) Policy Development and Co-ordination. This will help to better and deeper understand the results of the latest monitoring reports in the abovementioned areas and identify actions for improvements.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

DAY I: Tuesday, 12 April 2022 Meeting of the Better Regulation Working Group (Venue: Hotel UNION, Miklošičeva cesta 1)

9:15 – 9:30	Registration of the participants with welcome coffee
9:30 – 9:35	<u>Welcome and background note</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Gentian Xhaxhiu, ReSPA Programme Manager (Legal)
9:35 – 10:00	<u>Tour de table – introduction of the participants</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Expectations of the meeting
10:00 – 11:30	<u>Practice and quality of RIA implementation and EU law transposition in Western Balkans – state of art, needs for improvement and way ahead</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Erik Akse, ReSPA external expertExchange of practises: Participants present challenges faced by them when dealing with EU Law transposition. They also explain their institutional architecture related to EU law transposition
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 – 12:15	<u>ReSPA implemented and planned activities in the domain of BR during 2022</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Gentian Xhaxhiu, ReSPA Programme Manager (Legal)Discussion
12:15 – 12:45	<u>Sustainable Development Goals – improving policy coordination in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the Western Balkans</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Elida Reci, Governance and Public Administration Officer, Division of Public Institutions and Digital Government, United NationsDiscussion
12:45 – 13:15	<u>Presentation of the revised ReSPA Strategy 2019-2024</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Inmaculada Perez Rocha, ReSPA external expertDiscussion, suggestions
13:30	<u>Closure of the first day of the meeting and Lunch</u>
19:30	<u>Social gathering</u>

DAY I: Tuesday, 12 April 2022
Meeting of the Centre of Government Working Group
(Venue: Hotel UNION, Miklošičeva cesta 1)

9:00 – 9:30	<i>Registration of the participants with Welcome coffee</i>
9:30 – 9:40	<u>Welcome note</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dragan Djurić, <i>ReSPA Programme Manager - Coordinator</i>
9:40 – 10:00	<u>Tour the table with introduction of the participants</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Expectations of the meeting</i>
10:00 – 10:30	<u>Presentation of the Plan of activities in 2022 in area of Centre of Government</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dragan Djurić, <i>ReSPA Programme Manager – Coordinator</i> • Discussion
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 11:45	<u>Presentation of the Programme of the RESPA Academy on Evidence-based policymaking process</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marko Savić, <i>ReSPA external expert</i> • Discussion
11:45 – 12:15	<u>Presentation of the analysis of structural changes of the governments</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muiris MacCarthaigh, <i>ReSPA external expert</i> • Discussion
12:15 – 12:45	<u>Presentation of the revised ReSPA Strategy 2019-2024</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inmaculada Perez Rocha, <i>ReSPA external expert</i> • <i>Discussion</i>
12:45 – 13:15	<u>Sustainable Development Goals – improving policy coordination in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the Western Balkans</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elida Reci, <i>Governance and Public Administration Officer, Division of Public Institutions and Digital Government, United Nations</i> • Discussion
13:00 – 14:30	<u>Closure of the First day of the meeting and Lunch</u>
19:30	<u>Social gathering</u>

DAY II: Wednesday, 13 April 2022
Working visit to the Center of Excellence in Finance together with
members of the ReSPA WG on Centre of Government
(Venue: CEF, Cankarjeva cesta 18, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

9:00 – 9:30	<i>Welcome</i>
9:30 – 10:00	<u>The 20 Years of the CEF and the Way Ahead</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Presentation</i>
10:00 – 10:45	<u>CEF work with Economic Reform Programme (ERP) coordinators and comparative experience of the ReSPA Working Groups</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Presentation on regional cooperation and bottom-up approach in amending EC Guidance Note on ERP</i> • <i>Improving business environment through better and regular stakeholder consultations</i> • <i>Sharing on similar areas where such approach is implemented by the ReSPA Working Groups</i>
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Coffee break and tour around the CEF premises</i>
11:15 – 12:15	<u>Focus on impact assessment and fiscal transparency of regulations</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Integration of Structural Reforms into Fiscal Frameworks</i> • <i>Improving Impact assessment of the structural reform measures</i> • <i>Facilitated discussion</i>
12:15 – 13:15	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:15 – 14:15	<u>Focus on Centre-of-Government Institutions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Policy drafting and negotiations – CEF's approach to training in this topic</i> • <i>Sharing on experiences by the ReSPA Working Groups</i>
14:15 – 14:45	<u>Increasing Effectiveness of Public Institutions through Learning and Knowledge Sharing</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Interactive presentation</i>
14:45 – 15:00	<i>Coffee and conclusion</i>

DAY III: Thursday, 14 April 2022
Join meeting with Centre of Government Working Group

(Venue: Hotel UNION, Miklošičeva cesta 1)

9:15 – 9:30	<i>Registration of the participants with Welcome coffee</i>
9:30 – 9:45	<u>Welcome notes</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dragan Djuric, ReSPA Programme Manager - Coordinator• Gentian Xhaxhiu, ReSPA Programme manager – Legal• Bagrat Tunyan, OECD/SIGMA expert
9:45 – 11:00	<u>Presentation of the findings of the Monitoring Report 2021 on Strategic Framework of PAR</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bagrat Tunyan, OECD/SIGMA expert• Question and answers
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30 – 12:45	<u>Presentation of the findings of the Monitoring Report 2021 on Policy Development and Co-ordination</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bagrat Tunyan, OECD/SIGMA expert• Questions and answers
12:45 – 13:00	<u>Closing remarks</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dragan Djuric, ReSPA Programme Manager - Coordinator• Gentian Xhaxhiu, ReSPA Programme Manager – Legal
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch break</i>