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*Template: Interview with Project Coordinator and project participants*

When talking to people that already responded to the questionnaire survey or who belong to a project that is already represented in the survey responses, the aim should be to elaborate more details (explanations, data, etc.) on the existing responses and complement them with any possible further qualifications, i.e. focus on the 'why'. In these cases the interview should not last longer than 30 minutes.

When talking to people that did not respond to the survey or who belong to a project that is not represented so far, the aim is to both record 'what' has happened as well as 'why'. In those cases the interview may take up to 45 minutes or an hour.

It would be good to record the interviews to be able to insert some noteworthy quotes in the case study report later. Please send a short summary of the key points of discussion to each interviewee for feedback/approval.

Ideally you will already have recorded the main data of the project from the information available on websites for instance title, short description, objective/aims, number/type/country of participating organisations, budget or duration. If not, you may take about 10 minutes time to cover any missing project data at the start of the interview with the Coordinator.

Acronym of project being discussed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of interviewee: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation and location (country): \_\_\_\_\_

Role in project (coordinator, partner, other?): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of interviewer and partnership to which the project belongs: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Why did you participate in the specific project? *(you can trigger the discussion citing some of the motivations under Q2 of the survey questionnaire) (Based on the comments made try to select any of the options under Q2 – if not add another one e.g. intensify/strengthen existing collaborations)*
2. Have you participated in other research projects that were nationally or European funded? If so, how does the specific project compare to those? Please explain your views. *(e.g. in terms of administrative burden, quality of research, type of research enabled, ambition of objectives; this could be answered based on the personal experience of the interviewee but also based on views they may have shared with other colleagues having such experiences)*
3. Were there any challenges that you had to face in the specific project? Please explain. How did you overcome them? *(you can trigger the interviewee to think both the early stages of the project, i.e. before its start so that challenges come forth e.g. lack of synchronisation between funding provided by the different national programmes, incompatible rules of participation between the different national programmes, inability to fund certain types of beneficiaries or certain types of research by certain national agencies, delays in securing the total necessary funds for the project, and then during the project where things would surface such as need for double reporting i.e. both to the national agency and the partnership's call secretariat, incompatibility of eligible costs across different national programmes, differences in financing issues across the different national programmes, or more on the content/concept/design of the project and interactions in the partnership, thus about the design/organisation of the partnership itself.)*
4. What kind of assistance did you have by your national agency at the application stage as well as the implementation phase of the project? How would you assess your experience with them for the specific project considering also any prior experience you had with them for other projects?
5. What were the main outcomes (direct results) you expected from the project? To what extent have these been achieved? Why? *(you can trigger the discussion citing some of the outcomes under Q6 of the survey questionnaire; try to retrieve any tangible outcomes in numbers and as much detail possible)*
6. What were the expected impacts on your organisation from participating in the project? To what extent have these been achieved? Why? *(you can trigger the discussion citing some of the impacts under Q9 of the survey questionnaire; try to retrieve any tangible impacts in numbers and as much detail possible to create a narrative of a possible chain of impacts)*

7. Are you expecting any wider impacts from your project on third parties, the society, environment, policy, etc.? Why? *(you can trigger the discussion citing some of the impacts under Q11 of the survey questionnaire; try to retrieve as much detail possible to create a narrative of a possible chain of impacts; the type of answers you get to this question would depend of course to the timing of the project finish; for the 'older' projects it would be meaningful to chase after impacts that occurred after the project ended/surviving the end of the project/ that began form the project after it ended)*
8. Overall, what were the three most important achievements of your project? Please explain why. *(trigger the interviewee to think either about themselves or their organisations or even the wider economic, or policy sector they belong to)*
9. Overall, which were the three most important failures of your project? Please explain why. *(trigger the interviewee to think either about themselves or their organisations or even the wider economic, or policy sector they belong to)*
10. Overall, which do you think were the three most important factors that led to achievements or failures in your project? In other words: What would you have done different if you had another chance to implement the project? *(e.g. internal: resources, managerial, communication with others incl. funding agencies, etc.; external: collaboration with end users, market opportunities, other competing techs, etc. cf. you can trigger the discussion citing some of the impacts under Q11 of the survey questionnaire)*

Thank you for your time!

A summary of the key discussion points will be sent to you shortly for comments/approval.

We also plan to insert some quotes in the case study report.

Please let us know if you want us to leave out your name in the quotes.

**Ask the Coordinator:** Could you please suggest two partners to also interview to capture possible diversity of views and also a couple of funding agencies to record views on the support provided to the projects participants at the national level?