



PERFECT literature review and green infrastructure gap analysis guidance

Introduction

The objective of PERFECT is to raise awareness of policy makers of the multi-benefits of green infrastructure and, through this, partners and stakeholders will develop action plans to deliver increased and targeted Structural Funds investment. All partners have identified a relevant Policy Instrument (PI) concerned with green infrastructure.

As one of the first activities in the project, PERFECT partners are required to undertake a literature review of their policy instrument and other strategies/policies related to the delivery of green infrastructure. Linked to this, partners will also complete a green infrastructure gap analysis to identify the starting point for the improvement of their self-defined performance indicator. For your information a full list of the indicators is attached, from which you will see that there are different types of indicator chosen by different partners and this guidance and questionnaire has been designed to capture all relevant information across the partnership.

Therefore, there are three parts to the task which are explained in this guidance:

Part 1: Review of the partner's policy instrument in more detail, to understand how effective it is currently in securing investment in well-planned green infrastructure which can contribute significantly to the socio-economic and environmental success of an area.

Part 2: Identification and review of other policies and strategies relating to planning and investing in green infrastructure. This is a key starting point in order to understand how green infrastructure is currently being valued across sectors at a regional level; to feed in to the SWOT analysis, and to influence the formation of the Peer Groups.

Part 3: Each partner has chosen a self-defined performance indicator linked to their policy instrument. Meeting this indicator is the focus of each partner's role in PERFECT and which will be delivered through the Action Plan in Phase Two. Partners therefore need to complete a green infrastructure gap analysis of the starting point for their performance indicator, and review the availability of quantitative and qualitative data on green infrastructure in your area.

The following guidance documents explain the three parts and provide templates for the tasks. Partners are welcome to tailor these to the requirements of their own specific area. It is important to note that the literature review also relates directly to the baseline surveys and the two tasks should be undertaken in synergy.

Please submit all information to jessica.fieth@tcpa.org.uk before Friday 14th April.

This guidance document has been prepared by the Town and Country Planning Association as the Lead Partner in the PERFECT project. PERFECT is a five-year long project funded by

INTERREG Europe looking at the multiple benefits of green infrastructure for climate change adaptation, health and energy.

TCPA website: <https://www.tcpa.org.uk/>

PERFECT website: <http://www.interregeurope.eu/perfect/>

Part 1: Review of Policy instrument

Introduction

Each partner is required to review their policy instrument in more detail to understand the process used to develop it, who is involved in its development and its implementation. Partners should use the information already supplied for their policy instrument under section B of the application form.

1. Name of policy instrument:

2. Is your policy instrument a Structural Funds Operational Programme?

Yes.....

No.....

3. Which areas of green infrastructure does the policy instrument address? If the policy instrument is a Structural Funds programme, please focus on the specific Operational Programme and Thematic Objective as listed in the application form.

Health.....

Recreation.....

Biodiversity.....

Land use planning.....

Energy.....

Transportation.....

Climate change adaptation.....

Ecosystems services.....

Other.....

If other, please give details:

4. Which organisation and department is responsible for producing the policy instrument?

5. Is there a delivery plan for the implementation of the policy instrument?

Yes.....

No.....

If yes, describe briefly the delivery plan and its objectives:

6. Is there a mechanism set out for monitoring the implementation of the policy instrument?

Yes.....

No.....

If yes, describe briefly the mechanisms for monitoring:

7. Is there evidence that the policy instrument was prepared with wider input from other departments/stakeholders?

Yes.....

No.....

If yes, please list the departments:

If your policy instrument is a Structural Funds Operational Programme, please answer questions 8 – 9:

8. Which organisations can apply for funding under the Thematic Objective?

9. Is the process for applying for funding easily accessible?

Part 2: Review of other policies and strategies relating to green infrastructure

Introduction

Municipalities across Europe have responsibility for various aspects of green infrastructure, often dispersed amongst the organisation. The result can be a number of plans for health, land use planning, biodiversity, transport and other areas that set out the benefits individually for improved green infrastructure. There can be a lack of co-ordination amongst policy makers and decision makers as a result, which means that opportunities are missed for new investment to be secured.

Securing investment in multi-functional green infrastructure depends on departments at a local level working well together to influence investment programmes to maximise the socio-economic benefits of green infrastructure.

The below list shows where policies and strategies at a local level are likely to be found that include green infrastructure. The task for PERFECT partners is to review these, for their own partner area, to understand the current state of play in the area.

Policy areas

- Health, e.g. public health strategies
- Environment, e.g. air quality strategies, biodiversity strategies
- Planning, e.g. regional/local plans
- Climate change, e.g. adaptation action plans
- Transport, e.g. walking and cycling plans
- Tourism strategies
- Economic investment, e.g. inward investment strategies
- Inclusivity, e.g. equality strategies

When considering which strategies are most relevant to green infrastructure, it is important to consider the following questions

- Which strategies have the greatest potential to influence investment in green infrastructure, according to scale (regional/local) and relevance?
- Which strategies are currently relevant to, or could be relevant to, the policy instrument?

Partners should use the information already supplied in other areas of section B, particularly on territorial context.

Each partner is required to identify and review 5-10 of the most relevant strategies and policies on green infrastructure in their partner area, according to the following template:

1. Name of strategy/policy:

2. Organisation and department responsible for preparing strategy/policy:

3. Which topic (s) of green infrastructure does this strategy/policy address?

- Health.....
- Environment.....
- Planning.....
- Climate change adaptation.....
- Transport.....
- Tourism.....
- Economic investment.....
- Inclusivity.....
- Community cohesion.....
- Other.....

If other, please give details:

4. Is there evidence of partnership working involved in preparation of this strategy/policy? If so, between who?

- Yes.....
- No.....

If yes, between who?

5. Does the strategy/policy contain reference to evidence supporting investment in green infrastructure?

6. Do the strategy/policy contain investment plans, identifying funding opportunities for new projects?

7. Is there evidence of how the strategy links to the partner's policy instrument?

Part 3: Green infrastructure gap analysis

Introduction

Partners are also required to carry out a gap analysis of existing green infrastructure and green infrastructure policies. To do this, partners need to review their self-defined performance indicator as listed in the application form (Section B), to assess what is influencing their indicator currently, and how this can be changed through the work of PERFECT.

Linked to this, partners need to review the state of play in regards to existing quantitative and qualitative evidence on green infrastructure in their partner area.

It is important for each partner to review other sections of the application form (section B.2) when answering this question, particularly their response to the question “how do you envisage the improvement of this policy instrument”?

Self-defined performance indicator (partner to copy from application form)

1. What topic does your performance indicator currently address?

Increase in quality and area of green infrastructure..

Increase in community use of green infrastructure...

Increase in number of bids for green infrastructure..

Improvements to the policy instrument.....

2. Is there a spatial audit or plan of existing green infrastructure and its uses in the partner area?

3. Is there quantitative evidence available of who uses green spaces, parks, playgrounds, football pitches etc. in the partner area?

4. Is there qualitative data available on existing green infrastructure in the partner area?

5. What evidence is available of the current performance of the policy instrument in relation to this indicator?

6. How will you improve the policy instrument through the work of the project, according to section B of the application form?

New project supported.....

Improved governance.....

Structural change to the policy instrument.....

7. What is the current “gap” in information – what more evidence is required in terms of how the policy instrument is being implemented? How can this evidence be accessed?

8. What is the current “gap” in terms of achieving this improvement?