

E-COHESION PROJECT

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What is e Cohesion ?

“Member States shall ensure that...all exchanges of information between beneficiaries and a managing authority, a certifying authority, an audit authority and intermediate bodies can be carried out by means of electronic data exchange systems” – Article 122 (3) of EU Regulation 1303/2013 (Common Provisions Regulation or CPR)

Managing Authorities

“MAs must establish a system to record and store in computerised form data on each operation necessary for monitoring, evaluation, financial management, verification and audit, including data on individual participants in operations, where applicable”;. – Article 125 (2) (d) CPR

Certifying Authorities

“CAs must ensure that there is a system which records and stores, in computerised form, accounting records for each operation, and which supports all the data required for drawing up payment applications and accounts”... - **Article 126 (d) CPR**

ESI Funding for Ireland 2014- 2020

- FEAD - €22m

Structural Funds - €1 billion, of which

- ESF - €542m
- ERDF - €409m (S&E €249m/BMW €160m)
- YEI - €68m

Other Funds, which are not on e Cohesion system

- ETC - €169m
- EAFRD - €2.2bn
- EMFF - €148m

e-Cohesion Project Summary

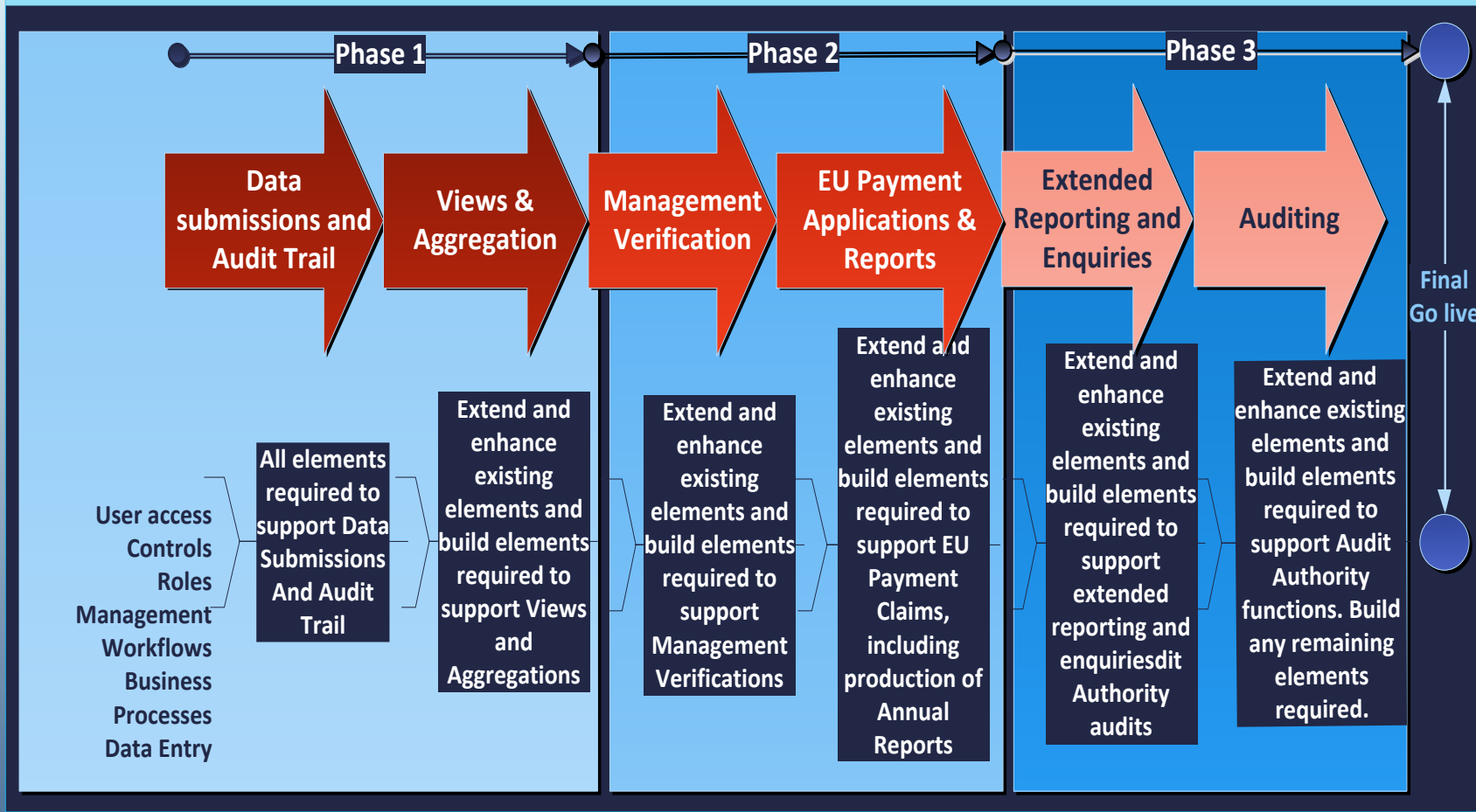
RFT Publication Date:	9th September 2016
Closing date for Tenders:	12th October 2016 (Noon)
Evaluation Period	12th October – 7th November
Contract Award	25th November 2016 (tbc)
Phase One “Go-Live”	February / March 2017 (estimated)
Phase Two “ Go-Live”	April /May 2017 (estimated)
Phase Three “ Go-Live” and Indicative Final Delivery Date	31st July 2017

E Cohesion involves 3 Government Departments and approx 120 Public

E Cohesion Timelines

- Duration of project – early December 2016 – end July 2017
- Workshops for each Fund begin before Christmas
- Three key phases
 - Data upload, data submissions and audit trail
 - Management verifications, payment claims and annual accounts
 - Reporting and auditing
- User testing and sign off at the end of each phase
- Communications via Managing Authority

eCohesion Critical Path



Impact on work of Intermediate Bodies

- Workshops to establish your requirements for compliance with 2014-2020 regulatory requirements
- User testing at each phase of the project to ensure system meets your requirements
- Sample data to design and test the system
- Historical data upload from national systems
- Enhanced (on-system) verification checking
- Improved reporting functionality and audit trail
- Potential reduction in audit burden
- Future proofing for next round?

Contingency ICT System

- Agreement in principle with the Commission to use 2007 – 2013 system for designation of Funds and for initial claims, thus safeguarding Ireland's Funds.
- Fit – Gap Analysis conducted in August
- Business Analyst met each of the four Funds involved to develop “specifications” in October
- Formal joint ERDF / ESF submission on 8th November
- Development work to begin week of 14th November, aiming for Go Live by end year

ESIF Website 2014 - 2020

- ESIF Website under development at present
- Intended to showcase successful projects and to promote the positive impact of EU Structural and Investment Funds
- Best practice examples from each of the 11 Thematic Objectives, countrywide, with text in a number of EU languages
- This complements, but does not replace the Funds own website, which will have more detailed information.
- Go live in late December 2016 or early January 2017

Thank you
for your time and attention