

EN

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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(13.4.2026)

As per the Commission's Better Regulation framework, EU added value is considered from two perspectives: a forward-looking dimension (before the regulation proposals), reflected in impact assessments accompanying regulation proposals, and a backward-looking dimension (analysing past implementation and lesson learnt), which is carried out through annual performance monitoring and in the evaluations.

Annual performance monitoring will be conducted through the Performance Regulation¹ framework, which relies on a common set of intervention fields for expenditure monitoring and on harmonised output and result indicators for performance measurement. In addition, EU added value is a key criterion in the evaluations, which allow for a more comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the programmes.

The Commission has proposed streamlining the EU budget to minimise overlaps and maximise synergies, reducing administrative burdens for Member States and others. Shared management and directly managed programmes (e.g. the European Competitiveness Fund² (ECF) and the Connecting Europe Facility³) include provisions for cumulative funding, allowing a single legal commitment and unified rules for actions funded by two programmes. This aims to simplify procedures, reduce audit risk, and improve efficiency and coherence. Specific coordination mechanisms in the ECF Regulation will enhance connections with complementary programmes. A new steering mechanism will strengthen ties between policy coordination and the EU budget, fostering discussions about key financing priorities and enhancing budget flexibility to address evolving EU priorities.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025PC0545>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025PC0555>.

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:02021R1153-20251224>.