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| **Partner X** |
| Role of the partner in the project | *Partner* |
| Name of organisation in original language | *Provincie Gelderland* |
| Name of organisation in English | *Province of Gelderland* |
| Department/unit/division (if applicable) |  |
| Legal status | *Public body* |
| Type of partner | *Regional public authority* |
| Countries represented *(only for EGTCs)* | *Selection of countries represented* |
| Address | *P.O. Box 9090,*  |
| Town | *Arnhem* | Postcode | *6800 GX* |
| Country | *The Netherlands* |
| NUTS 1 level  | *Eastern Netherlands* |
| NUTS 2 level | *Gelderland* |
| NUTS 3 level | *Veluwe NL221* *South West Gelderland NL224* *Achterhoek NL225* *Arnhem & Nijmegen NL226* |
| Legal representative | *Michiel Scheffer* |
| Contact person 1 | *Reinier Zweers* |
| Phone (office) | *+31 26 359 9848* | Mobile | *+31 26 359 9848* |
| E-mail | *r.zweers@gelderland.nl* | *Website* | *www.gelderland.nl* |
| *Contact person 2 (optional)* |  |
| *Phone* | *+31 6 28909183* | *E-mail* | *henri.janssens@oostnv.nl* |
| Partner financed through the Investment for Growth and Jobs programme  | *(yes/no)**No – the province of Gelderland is the managing authority of the ERDF-Programme for Growth and Jobs in the East-Netherlands and Programma partner of the Interreg 5a- Germany-Netherlands prorgramme* |

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| B.2.1 Policy instrument 1 |
| B.2.1.1 Definition and context |
| 1. **Definition**
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| Please name the policy instrument addressed |
| Circular economy innovation instruments |
| Please describe the mains features of this policy instrument (e.g. objective, characteristics, priority or measure concerned) and the reason(s) why it should be improved.  |
| *[1500 characters]* ***Measures to encourage and support the take up of new and innovative products and processes in the circular economy.****Objective** Designing regional policy instruments that support the take up of new and innovative products and processes that have reached TRL 6 in circular economy markets – domestic and abroad;
* Improving the effectiveness of policy instruments aimed at the technological development of new and innovative products and processes until TRL 6 in the circular economy.

*Characteristics** Several types of circular economy instruments that address TRLs 6 and higher should be compared and assessed ; for instance demonstration sites, field labs, pilot lines, commercialisation programmes, investment readiness support, etc.
* New circular economy instruments should be processed in the regional action plans and follow up the main innovation instruments positioned lower than TRL6 in each partner region
* aimed at SMEs
* internationalisation of companies

*Priority or measure*Thematic Objective 6: Environment and Resource Efficiency*Reasons why it should be improved** In many regions in Europe, regional governments have aimed innovation support at TRL-levels up till TRL6. They have used a great variety of innovation vouchers, grant schemes for individual as well as collective R&D and financial instruments for this purpose. This has generated a substantial flow of new product prototypes and process models of which only a small part actually reaches the market. In the post-prototype phase however, SMEs encounter hurdles that block successful introduction into the market – see below.

Policy instruments addressing the post TRL6-innovation stages, are slowly being introduced. However there is a need to speed up their use. * Innovation policy instruments aimed at for SMEs in the circular economy sector tend to support their position in domestic markets. Only large companies have the resources to export or set up operations abroad. The success rates of SMEs in the circular economy could be raised if regional governments would encourage and promote their internationalisation efforts through dedicated policy instruments.
 |
| Is this policy instrument a Structural Funds operational programme (i.e. Investment for growth and jobs or European territorial cooperation programme)? | *(yes/no)**Yes* |
| Is the body responsible for this policy instrument included in the partnership? | *(yes/no)**Yes* |
| Name of this responsible body | *[300 characters]* *Province of Gelderland* |
| Please name the responsible body and provide a support letter from this body. |  |
| How do you envisage the improvement of this policy instrument (e.g. through new projects supported, through improved governance, through structural change)? |
| *[1500 characters]*1. *Articulate the demand of SMEs in the circular economy field for innovation measures in the TRL-chain after TRL 6*
2. *Survey and analysis of existing innovation measures in the regions and the EU as a whole*
3. *Design of circular economy measures (post TRL-6) under ERDF-programmes of the partner regions*
4. *Implement and monitor pilots under ERDF programmes in the regions in parallel*
 |
| Proposed self-defined performance indicator (in relation to the policy instrument addressed) | *[200 characters]** # of innovation instruments analysed
* # of regions involved in the pilots
* # of pilot initiatives developed
 |
| 1. **Territorial context**
 |
| What is the geographical coverage of this policy instrument?  | *Drop down list (1/ local; 2/ regional; 3/ national; 4/ cross-border; 5/ transnational)** *Regional*
* *Transnational*
 |
| What is the state of play of the issue addressed by this policy instrument in the territory? What needs to be improved in the territorial situation? |
| *[2000 characters]** What needs to be improved in the territorial situation is that SMEs must have the tools to overcome the hurdles that block the successful introduction of their new products and processes into the market. These hurdles relate to market and system failures :
	+ Potential clients have a clear need to use new and sustainable products and processes, but are hesitant to use them if the SME supplier scan not show any track records
	+ For the successful use of new and sustainable products and processes public framework conditions need to be changed first.
	+ Potential clients lack the skills and knowledge to use new and sustainable products and processes and need to be informed and trained before they decide to invest on a large scale in these products and processes.

Therefore the potential of many new business activities is not fulfilled. Governments spend tax payers money to product and process development leading to prototypes and models that do not deliver growth and jobs.* SMEs in the circular economy sector mainly act in domestic markets. Only large companies have the resources to export or set up operations abroad. The success rates of SMEs in the circular economy could be raised if regional governments would encourage and promote their internationalisation efforts through dedicated policy instruments.
 |
| Is this issue linked to the regional innovation strategy for smart specialisation (RIS3)?  | *(yes/no)**Yes* |
| If yes, how?  |
| *[500 characters]**This issue is linked to the Operational Programme of East-Netherlands.*  |

**See section 4.1. and 4.3.1 of the programme manual**

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| B.2.1.2 Partner(s) relevance for policy instrument 1 |
| **How many partners address the policy instrument 1?** | *pm* |
| **Partner** | *Province of Gelderland* |
| What are the partner’s competences and experiences in the issue addressed by this policy? | *[500 characters]**Since 2015 the province of Gelderland have devised innovation measures such as field lab for collective testing and demonstration of circular economy and other types of applications on a regional level to promote innovation in SMEs and market take up of their innovations.* *The Province will share and exchange the experiences gained with this instrument with other regions.* |
| What is the capacity of the partner to influence policy instrument 1? | *[500 characters]**The province of Gelderland can act in a capacity as:** *managing authority*
* *a principal and funding authority for third parties to manage innovation projects on their behalf*
 |
| How will the partner contribute to the content of the cooperation and benefit from it? | *[500 characters]**pm* |
| **Partner** |  |
| What are the partner’s competences and experiences in the issue addressed by this policy?  |  *[500 characters]* |
| What is the capacity of the partner to influence policy instrument 1? | *[500 characters]* |
| How will the partner contribute to the content of the cooperation and benefit from it? | *[500 characters]* |

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| B.2.1.3 Stakeholder group relevant for policy instrument 1 (See section 4.4.1 of the programme manual) |
| Indicative list of stakeholders to be involved | Role of the stakeholders in relation to policy instrument 1 |
|  *[500 characters]* | *[500 characters]* |
| *pm* | *pm* |
| How will this group be involved in the project and in the interregional learning process? |
| *[2000 characters]**pm* |