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ÚRAD SPLNOMOCNENCA VLÁDY  
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# Slovak perspective on partnership for Ukraine's recovery



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# Partnership principle (in the EU)

## **Partnership principle in EU policies (MFF)**

- Not evenly endorsed
- Highest standard – EU Cohesion Policy
- Other policies (e.g. CAP or Recovery and Resilience Facility) with lower standards

## **EU Cohesion Policy**

Common provisions regulation (EU 2021/1060), article 8

Code of Conduct for partnership (Del. Act EU 240/2014)

# Goals for involvement of partners

## **Designing support programmes**

- Safeguarding key principles – sustainability, social accessibility
- Preventing corruption and conflict of interests – transparent and objective selection criteria

## **Project preparation and evaluation**

- Flagging gaps in project quality and risks/weaknesses in project design

## **Monitoring project implementation**

- Fight against corruption
- Preventing/mitigating negative environmental and social impacts

# Partnership in project implementation

## **Teaming up of stakeholders**

- Strong project leader should **team up with partners on the ground**
  - State administration bodies working together with CSOs
  - Municipalities as partners covering wider region
  - Universities provide valuable expertise

# Slovak Experience – Cohesion Policy

## Organizing

- Government council for CSOs – CSO umbrella organizations
- Nomination mechanism – CSO representatives monitoring EU funds

## Advocating

- Partnership principle and CSO support as a priority for technical assistance
- Government resolution on partnership – creating commitment to cooperate

## Building capacity

- Office of the Govt. plenipotentiary for CSD
- **Technical assistance projects „Partnership“**

**Nothing is guaranteed** – huge dependency on individuals and their willingness to cooperate

# Key tasks for partnerships

## Organise

- Gain advocacy strength by organizing and joining forces
- Create structures to help you react
- Define common rules and code of conduct – legitimacy, transparency
- Create expert communities around key topics

## Network

- Join with other umbrellas, networks and bodies  
(company associations, universities, municipality associations)

## Share information

- Create sharing points, mailing lists, online working platforms
- Disseminate information

## **Build capacity**

- Organize workshops, webinars, trainings for network/coalition members
- Share experience

## **Build bridges**

- Communicate with government officials
- Find active administrators ready to cooperate
  - Organize discussions across sectors
- Carry out small actions to build trust and expand cooperation

## **Be ready to react**

- When agreements are not held
- When rules are not followed
- When partnership principle is misused

## UF Pillar III – lessons from EU Cohesion Policy

### Focus on „capacity building and mobilising technical expertise“

- Setup a **priority axis** within the facility/programme
- Ensure **specific allocation** for capacity building:
  - CSO experts and representatives
  - CSOs
  - Umbrella organizations and networks
- Ensure specific allocation for **administration of partnership principle**

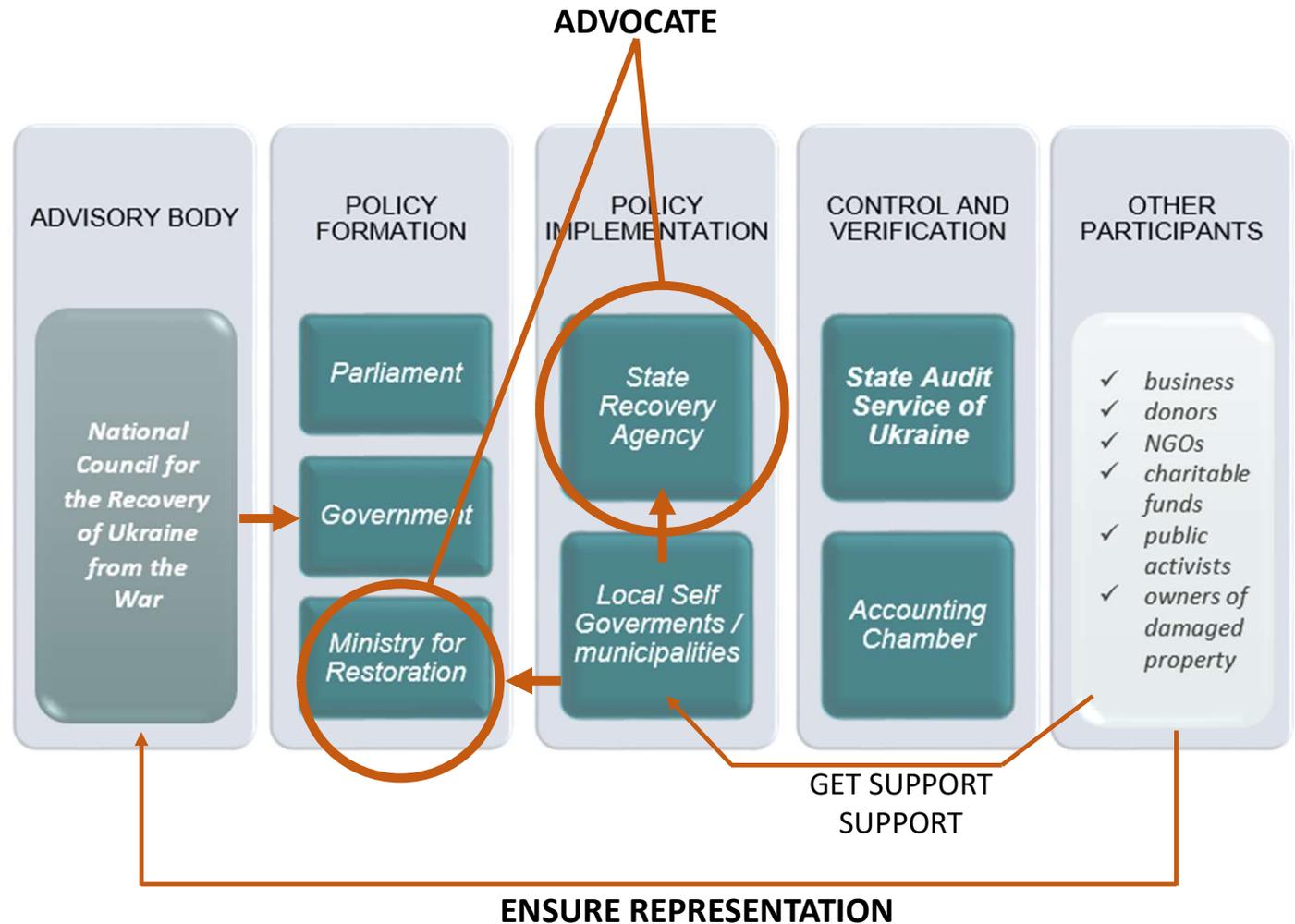
# Partnership principle management system

- Target **national legislation** – partnership principle
- Set up **authority** for system implementation
  - Public authority vs. CSO consortium
- Establish and manage **procedures**
  - Setup binding competences for institutions (Resolution)
  - Setup rules of procedures
- Provide **support** to state administration (facilitation, organizing workshops, commenting procedures, etc.)
- **Network and coordinate** within the CSO sector
- Share **information** and communicate

# ADVOCACY FOCUS

## Focus on:

- Rules of procedures
- Institutional competences
- Representation
- Building coalitions



Thanks and looking forward to the discussion!

 **#standwithukraine**