

CAF Policy Note

As the world learnt to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, the Network of CAF Correspondents has had to reinvent itself and shift to a more digitalised way of working. So far, the Network has achieved:

1. Translation of the CAF2020. As of today, the CAF2020 is available in Bosnian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Macedonia, Polish, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian and Spanish.
2. The CAF Network with the coordination of the EU CAF RC (EIPA) organised online meetings for external stakeholders. So far, the stakeholders invited to the meetings came from OECD SIGMA, OECD Public Governance Evidence Monitoring and Policy Evaluation, and the European Commission Regulatory Scrutiny Board.
3. A guideline for implementing the CAF has been published on the EUPAN website by the Croatian presidency with the help of the CAF Correspondents and the coordination by EIPA.
4. Two CAF National Correspondents meetings in April and September under the Croatian and German Presidency respectively. In the second meeting in particular, the German CAF Correspondent invited Mr Armin Liebig, German CAF Expert, and Prof. Hermann Hill, who presented his ideas about the CAF. Professor Hill was pivotal to the development of the CAF in 2000 at the first European Quality Conference held in Lisbon.
5. Montenegro has been welcomed as an observer to the CAF Network.

Having developed a substantial amount of experience with online working and cooperating. The Network of CAF Correspondents is now looking to achieve the following projects:

1. Finalisation of the CAF/OECD PEM project by Belgium, Greece, Italy and Portugal.
2. Belgium, Italy and Portugal are considering the renewal of the CAF in Education in 2021.
3. Spain is organising a one weeklong training course on CAF for the Madrid City Hall alongside the help and support of EIPA.
4. A collaborative study between the Portuguese and Slovenian presidency is being planned. The study aims to explore the impact of CAF in the improvement of the public sector. The study is not limited to the next two presidencies, but it will involve the contribution of other CAF Correspondents and EIPA.
5. Slovenia plans to organise a three-day conference that will address the current situation through Better Regulation, Innovation and Quality during their presidency in the second half of the year. EIPA explores the possibilities to offer their support.
6. The CAF Network is committed to working more on the External Feedback Procedure (PEF), especially when it comes to performing the procedure online. Indeed, an online PEF procedure is also a result of the new ways that the CAF network had to reinvent itself.

EIPA together with the CAF network is also exploring new links between the CAF and the new Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) published by the European Commission. One of the major objectives of the CAF Network in fact will be to help public administrations interested in the RRF. On this note EIPA is launching a new series of newsletters containing CAF cases that can be linked with two flagship areas of the RRF “Modernise – the digitalization of public administration and services including judicial and healthcare systems” and “Reskill and upskill – The adaptation of education systems to support digital skills and educational and vocational training for all ages”.

In addition, EIPA would like to stress to all the EUPAN members that, as part of the ongoing strategic services realignment, we are exploring the possibility to expand the areas of collaboration with the EUPAN network on CAF and beyond, as for example:

1. Playing a more active role as EUPAN secretariat to collect information at the EU level in the public administration field in order to keep the EUPAN informed.
2. Further contributing to the EUPAN website.
3. Supporting the future presidencies on their publications.
4. Fostering the sharing of information on EU policies with the EUPAN network, as for example the upcoming online conference on public administration and the EU Recovery and Resilience Facility highlighting the challenges and new opportunities that are arising.
5. Supporting the EUPAN network with the organisation of the summer school launched under the German Presidency.

Given the valuable developments of the CAF2020 and of the CAF Network as a whole, the National CAF Correspondents and the European CAF Resource Centre highlight the importance of a substantial support by the EUPAN Directors General to achieve the main goal of the CAF to support good governance and excellence in the public sector.

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