

## **Note on the need for a transparent communication on cost sharing in SIEFs**

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Cefic reminds its members about the importance of transparency in the cost sharing process in SIEFs.

Operational rules within SIEFs must be fair, transparent and non-discriminatory and comply with competition law rules. In particular, it is recommended that the options for data and cost sharing are explained in a clear and transparent way to the SIEF members at an early stage.

Cost sharing compensation should reflect the work done by the consortium or lead company(ies) in the preparation of the dossier, as well as the administrative work for the SIEF communication, etc. It must be ensured that cost sharing criteria are carefully explained using a coherent and objectively justified methodology that is well documented.

Cefic highly encourages active SIEF members and consortia to explain the cost sharing principles to potential registrants in the SIEF, either via a progress report in the IT platform used in the SIEF, a newsletter or a simple communication by email.

The inclusion of details on cost sharing criteria in contractual arrangements agreed in the SIEF (e.g. via the Cefic model SIEF agreement) can also be useful in view of a better transparency regarding the way the costs will be shared among the SIEF members.

In regard to cost sharing and data sharing, please read also carefully the Cefic guidance on EC competition law, since it is intended to help anyone involved in REACH activities to assess the compatibility of their activities with EC competition law:

[http://cefic.org/Files/Publications/competition\\_law\\_compliance\\_guidance.pdf](http://cefic.org/Files/Publications/competition_law_compliance_guidance.pdf)

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