



Brussels, 3.8.2021
C(2021) 5906 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 3.8.2021

amending Implementing Decision C(2014) 10084 approving certain elements of the operational programme "Competitiveness and Sustainable Development" for support from the European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund under the Investment for growth and jobs goal in Cyprus

CCI 2014CY16M1OP001

(ONLY THE ENGLISH TEXT IS AUTHENTIC)

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006¹, and in particular Article 96(10) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) By Commission Implementing Decision C(2014) 10084, as last amended by Commission Implementing Decision C(2020) 7660, certain elements of the operational programme "Competitiveness and Sustainable Development" for support from the European Regional Development Fund ('ERDF') and the Cohesion Fund under the Investment for growth and jobs goal in Cyprus were approved.
- (2) On 12 July 2021 Cyprus submitted, through the electronic data exchange system of the Commission, a request for an amendment to this operational programme. The request was accompanied by a revised operational programme, in which Cyprus proposed an amendment to the elements of the operational programme referred to in points (a), (b)(i) to (iv) and (d) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, all subject to Implementing Decision C(2014) 10084.
- (3) The amendment to the operational programme consists mainly in allocating part of the REACT-EU resources made available to Cyprus as external assigned revenues in accordance with Article 3(1) of Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094² under the new thematic objective "Fostering crisis repair in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and its social consequences and preparing a green, digital and resilient recovery of the economy" and should cover the year 2021.

¹ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320.

² Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 of 14 December 2020 establishing a European Union Recovery Instrument to support the recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis (OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 23).

- (4) The amendment to the operational programme also entails the creation of a new priority axis 8 "Support to Operations through REACT-EU (ERDF)". Specific output and result indicators are introduced in that priority axis. The REACT-EU resources are directed for investments supporting businesses in recovering from the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and to support actions contributing to tackling the effects of climate change.
- (5) In accordance with Article 30(1) and in accordance with the sixth subparagraph of Article 92b(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, the request for the amendment to the operational programme is duly justified by the need to quickly deploy the REACT-EU resources for crisis repair in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and its social consequences and to prepare a green, digital and resilient recovery of the economy within the current programming period. The request for the amendment to the operational programme sets out the expected impact of the changes to the programme on fostering crisis repair in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and its social consequences and preparing a green, digital and resilient recovery of the economy in accordance with the second subparagraph of Article 92b(8) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013. It is consistent with Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Regulations (EU) No 1300/2013³ and (EU) No 1301/2013⁴ of the European Parliament and of the Council.
- (6) In accordance with point (e) of Article 110(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, the monitoring committee by written procedure on 12 July 2021 examined and approved the proposal for the amendment to the operational programme, taking into account the text of the revised operational programme and its financing plan.
- (7) The Commission assessed the revised operational programme and did not make observations pursuant to the second sentence of the first subparagraph of Article 30(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.
- (8) The amended elements of the revised operational programme subject to the Commission's approval under Article 96(10) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 should therefore be approved.
- (9) Implementing Decision C(2014) 10084 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Implementing Decision C(2014) 10084 is amended as follows:

1. in Article 1, the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:

"The following elements of the operational programme "Competitiveness and Sustainable Development" for support from the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund under the Investment for growth and jobs goal in Cyprus for the period from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2020 and benefitting from the REACT-EU resources for 2021, submitted in its final version on 10 December 2014, as last amended by the revised

³ Regulation (EU) No 1300/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the Cohesion Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1084/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 281).

⁴ Regulation (EU) No 1301/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the European Regional Development Fund and on specific provisions concerning the Investment for growth and jobs goal and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 289).

operational programme submitted in its final version on 12 July 2021, are hereby approved:";

2. Article 2 is replaced by the following:

"Article 2

The following priority axes shall be supported by the operational programme:

- (a) Priority axis 1 "Strengthening of the Competitiveness of the Economy" from the ERDF;
- (b) Priority axis 2 "Promoting the use of information and communication technologies" from the ERDF;
- (c) Priority axis 3A "Adaptation to climate change and preservation of the environment" from the ERDF;
- (d) Priority axis 4A "Management of Solid Waste and Water Resources" from the Cohesion Fund;
- (e) Priority axis 5 "Promoting sustainable transport and Reduction of CO₂ emissions" from the Cohesion Fund;
- (f) Priority axis 6 "Sustainable Urban Development" from the ERDF;
- (g) Priority axis 7A "Technical Support for the ERDF" from the ERDF;
- (h) Priority axis 7B "Technical Support for the Cohesion Fund" from the Cohesion Fund;
- (i) Priority axis 8 "Support to Operations through REACT-EU (ERDF)" from the ERDF REACT-EU.";

3. in Article 4, paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

"2. The total financial appropriation for the operational programme is set at EUR 605 181 642, to be financed from:

(a) the following specific budget lines in accordance with the nomenclature of the General Budget of the European Union for 2014:

13 03 62: EUR 299 898 560 (ERDF – More developed regions);

13 04 60: EUR 258 856 192 (Cohesion Fund);

(b) the following REACT-EU resources made available to Cyprus in accordance with Article 3(1) of Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 on the following specific budget line in accordance with the nomenclature of the General Budget of the European Union for 2021:

05 02 05 01: EUR 46 426 890 (ERDF REACT-EU).";

4. Annex I is replaced by the text set out in Annex I to this Decision;
5. Annex II is replaced by the text set out in Annex II to this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Republic of Cyprus.

Done at Brussels, 3.8.2021

For the Commission

Johannes HAHN

Member of the Commission

