

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

> Brussels, 7.12.2021 C(2021) 9136 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 7.12.2021

amending Implementing Decision C(2014) 10183 approving certain elements of the operational programme "Thessaly" for support from the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund under the Investment for growth and jobs goal for the region Thessaly in Greece

CCI 2014GR16M2OP003

(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,

Having consulted the ESF Committee,

Whereas:

- (1) By Commission Implementing Decision C(2014) 10183, as last amended by Commission Implementing Decision C(2020) 4703, certain elements of the operational programme "Thessaly" for support from the European Regional Development Fund ('ERDF') and the European Social Fund ('ESF') under the Investment for growth and jobs goal for the region of Thessaly in Greece were approved.
- (2) On 10 November 2021 Greece submitted, through the electronic data exchange system of the Commission, a request for an amendment to the operational programme. The request was accompanied by a revised operational programme, in which Greece proposed an amendment to the elements of the operational programme referred to in points (b)(i) to (v) and (d)(ii) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 2 and points (b) and (c) of paragraph 3 of Article 96 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, all subject to Implementing Decision C(2014) 10183.
- (3) The amendment to the operational programme consists mainly in the transfer of the ERDF allocation from priority axes 3 "Environmental protection Transition to an environmentally friendly economy", 4 "Development Modernisation Completion of infrastructure for economic and social development" and 5 "Technical Assistance ERDF" to priority axes 1 "Enhancing the competitiveness and extroversion of companies (especially SMEs), transition to quality entrepreneurship, with innovation

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OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320.

and increasing Regional Value Added at the forefront" and 2b "Infrastructure for support and development of human resources". Consequently, the budget of most thematic objectives and the corresponding output and result indicators, including the performance framework, have been adjusted. The additional COVID output indicators have also been included in the programme.

- (4) In accordance with Article 30(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, the request for the amendment to the operational programme is duly justified by the response to the COVID-19 outbreak and, in particular, by the need to finance measures supporting the business and health sectors. The programme indicators are modified to reflect the transfer of funds. The request for the amendment to the operational programme sets out the expected impact of the changes to the programme on achieving the Union's strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and the specific objectives defined in the programme, taking account of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, Regulations (EU) No 1301/2013² and (EU) No 1304/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council³, and the horizontal principles referred to in Articles 5, 7 and 8 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.
- (5) In accordance with point (e) of Article 110(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, the monitoring committee by written procedure on 10 November 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.
- (6) 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.
- (7) 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.
- (8) Implementing Decision C(2014) 10183 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Implementing Decision C(2014) 10183 is amended as follows:

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

"The following elements of the operational programme "Thessaly" for joint support from the ERDF and the ESF under the Investment for growth and jobs goal for the region Thessaly in Greece for the period from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2020, submitted in its final version on 13 December 2014, as last amended by the revised operational programme submitted in its final version on 10 November 2021, are hereby approved:";

2. Annex II is replaced by the text set out in the Annex to this Decision.

² 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).

³ Regulation (EU) No 1304/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the European Social Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1081/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 470).

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Hellenic Republic. Done at Brussels, 7.12.2021

> For the Commission Elisa FERREIRA Member of the Commission

> > CERTIFIED COPY For the Secretary-General

Martine DEPREZ Director Decision-making & Collegiality EUROPEAN COMMISSION

<u>EN</u> <u>ANNEX</u> "<u>ANNEX II</u>

Total appropriations for the support from the ERDF and the ESF, the national co-financing for the operational programme and for each priority axis and the amounts related to the performance reserve

Priority axis	Fund	Category of region	Basis for calculation of Union support (Total eligible cost or Eligible public expenditure)	Union support		Indicative breakdown of national counterpart		Total funding	Co-financing rate	100% co- financing rate for accounting year 20202021 (3)	For information EIB contributions	Main allocation (total funding less performance reserve)		Performance reserve		Performance reserve amount as proportion of total Union support
						National public funding	National private funding (1)					Union support	National counterpart	Union support	National counterpart ¹	
				(a)	(b) = (c) + (d))	(c)	(d)	(e) = (a) + (b)	(f) = (a)/(e) (2)		(g)	(h)=(a)-(j)	(i) = (b) - (k)	(j)	(k)= (b) * ((j)/(a))	(l) =(j)/(a) *100
1	ERDF	Less developed	Eligible public expenditure	72 000 000	18 000 000	18 000 000	0	90 000 000	80,00%			72 000 000	18 000 000	0	0	0,00%
2.α	ESF	Less developed	Eligible public expenditure	71 880 327	17 970 083	17 970 083	0	89 850 410	80,00%			67 398 438	16 849 611	4 481 889	1 120 472	6,24%
2.b	ERDF	Less developed	Eligible public expenditure	31 273 805	7 818 453	7 818 453	0	39 092 258	80,00%			26 204 850	6 551 214	5 068 955	1 267 239	16,21%
3	ERDF	Less developed	Eligible public expenditure	65 948 400	16 487 100	16 487 100	0	82 435 500	80,00%			65 948 400	16 487 100	0	0	0,00%

¹ The national counterpart is divided pro-rata between the main allocation and the performance reserve.

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4	ERDF	Less developed	Eligible public expenditure	54 000 000	13 500 000	13 500 000	0	67 500 000	80,00%		45 055 777	11 264 444	8 942 223	2 235 556	16,56%
5	ERDF	Less developed	Eligible public expenditure	5 160 000	1 290 000	1 290 000	0	6 450 000	80,00%		5 160 000	1 290 000			
6	ESF	Less developed	Eligible public expenditure	1 094 659	273 665	273 665	0	1 368 324	80,00%		1 094 659	273 665			
Total	ERDF	Less developed	Eligible public expenditure	228 382 205	57 095 553	57 095 553	0	285 477 758	80,00%		214 371 027	53 592 758	14 011 178	3 502 795	6,13%
Total	ESF ²	Less developed	Eligible public expenditure	72 974 986	18 243 748	18 243 748	0	91 218 734	80,00%		68 493 097	17 123 276	4 481 889	1 120 472	6,14%
GRAND TOTAL			Eligible public expenditure	301 357 191	75 339 301	75 339 301	0	376 696 492	80,00%	0	282 864 124	70 716 034	18 493 067	4 623 267	

(1) To be completed only when priority axes are expressed in total costs.

(2) This rate may be rounded to the nearest whole number in the table. The precise rate used to reimburse payments is the ratio (f).

(3) By ticking the box the Member State requests to apply, pursuant to Article 25a(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, a co-financing rate of 100% to expenditure declared in payment applications during the accounting year starting on 1 July 2020 and ending on 30 June 2021 for all /some of the priority axes of the operational programme.

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² ESF allocation without the matching support for the YEI.