



Brussels, 3.8.2022
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 3.8.2022

amending Implementing Decision C(2015) 903 approving certain elements of the operational programme "Regional Operational Programme of Zachodniopomorskie Voivodeship for 2014-2020" for support from the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund under the Investment for growth and jobs goal for the Zachodniopomorskie region in Poland

CCI 2014PL16M2OP016

(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(2015) 903, as last amended by Commission Implementing Decision C(2021) 9763, certain elements of the operational programme "Regional Operational Programme of Zachodniopomorskie Voivodeship for 2014-2020" 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 Zachodniopomorskie region in Poland were approved.
- (2) On 13 July 2022 Poland 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 Poland proposed an amendment to the elements of the operational programme referred to in points (a), (b)(i) to (v) and (d) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, all subject to Implementing Decision C(2015) 903.
- (3) The amendment to the operational programme consists, firstly, in allocating part of the REACT-EU resources made available to Poland as external assigned revenues in accordance with Article 3(1) of Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094² under the new

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).

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 under the technical assistance at the initiative of the Member State and should cover the year 2022. REACT-EU resources are allocated to priority axes 11 "REACT-EU for Zachodniopomorskie" and 12 "Technical Assistance for REACT-EU".

- (4) The amendment to the operational programme consists, secondly, in introducing a new specific objective "Increased accessibility to quality services provided to people fleeing the war in Ukraine" under the existing priority axis 11.
- (5) The amendment to the operational programme consists, thirdly, in introducing a new project selection mode, a new project type (language courses), a new indicator, and a new type of beneficiaries ("Third country nationals fleeing from the territory of Ukraine due to the military aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, who have legally arrived on the territory of the Republic of Poland since 24 February 2022") in priority axis 8 "Education".
- (6) In accordance with Article 30(1) and 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. It is further justified by the need to urgently address migratory challenges resulting from the military aggression by the Russian Federation and to mitigate their impact on the recovery of the Union's economy after the COVID-19 crisis and to strengthen measures dedicated to energy efficiency and administrative capacity. The request for the amendment to the operational programme sets out the expected impact of the changes to the programme on addressing the migratory challenges as a result of the military aggression by the Russian Federation in accordance with Article 98(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and 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, 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 1301/2013³ and (EU) No 1304/2013⁴ of the European Parliament and of the Council as well as of the horizontal principles referred to in Articles 5, 7 and 8 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.
- (7) In accordance with point (e) of Article 110(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, the monitoring committee by written procedure on 23 June 2022 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.

³ 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).

⁴ 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).

- (8) 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.
- (9) 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.
- (10) Implementing Decision C(2015) 903 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Implementing Decision C(2015) 903 is amended as follows:

1. in Article 1, the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:
"The following elements of the operational programme "Regional Operational Programme of Zachodniopomorskie Voivodeship for 2014-2020" for joint support from the ERDF and the ESF under the Investment for growth and jobs goal for the Zachodniopomorskie region in Poland and benefitting from the REACT-EU resources for 2021 and 2022, submitted in its final version on 22 December 2014, as last amended by the revised operational programme submitted in its final version on 13 July 2022, are hereby approved:";
2. in Article 4, paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:
"2. The total financial appropriation for the operational programme is set at EUR 1 623 476 981, 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 60: EUR 1 178 818 353 (ERDF – Less developed regions);
04 02 60: EUR 422 420 863 (ESF – Less developed regions);
 - (b) the following REACT-EU resources made available to Poland 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 2022:
05 02 05 01: EUR 22 237 765 (ERDF REACT-EU).";
3. Annex I is replaced by the text set out in Annex I to this Decision;
4. 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 Poland.

Done at Brussels, 3.8.2022

For the Commission
Elisa FERREIRA
Member of the Commission

