



Brussels, 22.12.2021
C(2021) 9763 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 22.12.2021

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)

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 22.12.2021

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)

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(2020) 9514, 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 26 November 2021 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), (c)(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(2015) 903.
- (3) The amendment to the operational programme consists mainly 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 should cover the year 2021.

- (4) The amendment to the operational programme consists, furthermore, in creating two new priority axes 11 "REACT-EU for Zachodniopomorskie" and 12 "Technical assistance REACT-EU", both co-financed by the ERDF REACT-EU resources, to support investments in energy efficient refurbishment of buildings, measures in the field of health as well as administrative capacity.
- (5) The amendment to the operational programme consists also in the financial reallocations from ERDF supported priority axes 2 "Low-carbon economy" and 3 "Environmental protection and risk prevention" to ERDF supported priority axes 4 "Natural human environment" and 9 "Public infrastructure", as well as from ESF supported priority axes 6 "Labour market" and 8 "Education" to ESF supported priority axis 7 "Social inclusion", and in the subsequent modification of the values of the result and output indicators, including the performance framework indicators.
- (6) 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, and by the need to strengthen measures related to preservation and protection of the environment, enhancement of the access to the information and communication technologies and combating poverty and promoting social inclusion. The indicators were modified following the transfer of the funds. 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, 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 8 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.
- (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. Nevertheless, Poland provided supplementary

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).

information and submitted a modified version of the revised operational programme on 6 December 2021.

(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, submitted in its final version on 22 December 2014, as last amended by the revised operational programme submitted in its final version on 6 December 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 "Economy, innovation, modern technologies" from the ERDF;
- (b) Priority axis 2 "Low-carbon economy" from the ERDF;
- (c) Priority axis 3 "Environmental protection and risk prevention" from the ERDF;
- (d) Priority axis 4 "Natural human environment" from the ERDF;
- (e) Priority axis 5 "Sustainable transport" from the ERDF;
- (f) Priority axis 6 "Labour market" from the ESF;
- (g) Priority axis 7 "Social inclusion" from the ESF;
- (h) Priority axis 8 "Education" from the ESF;
- (i) Priority axis 9 "Public Infrastructure" from the ERDF;
- (j) Priority axis 10 "Technical assistance" from the ESF;
- (k) Priority axis 11 "REACT-EU for Zachodniopomorskie" from the ERDF REACT-EU;
- (l) Priority axis 12 "REACT-EU Technical assistance" 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 1 619 900 085, 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 2021:

05 02 05 01: EUR 18 660 869 (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 Poland.

Done at Brussels, 22.12.2021

For the Commission
Elisa FERREIRA
Member of the Commission

