



Cyprus's contribution to the Country-specific recommendations (CSR) assessment

Semester Cycle 2022

CSR.2021.1

CSR 1 Subpart 1: In 2022, maintain a supportive fiscal stance, including the impulse provided by the Recovery and Resilience Facility, and preserve nationally financed investment.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (11/04/2022 10:12 AM)</p> <p>Investments through national RRP: Significant impulse is expected to be provided by the national RRP in 2022 through the implementation of various investments.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 1 Subpart 2: When economic conditions allow, pursue a fiscal policy aimed at achieving prudent medium-term fiscal positions and ensuring fiscal sustainability in the medium term.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (11/04/2022 10:13 AM)</p> <p>Strengthening of sustainability of public finances: According to</p>

	<p>the latest projections, further improvements are expected in medium-term fiscal position, from excessive deficits during 2020 and 2021 to a surplus by the end of the programming period. At the same time, debt-to-GDP ratio is forecast to continue its downward trend, from 104% of GDP end 2021 to below 90% of GDP end-2025.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 1 Subpart 3: At the same time, enhance investment to boost growth potential. Pay particular attention to the composition of public finances, on both the revenue and expenditure sides of the national budget, and to the quality of budgetary measures in order to ensure a sustainable and inclusive recovery. Prioritise sustainable and growth-enhancing investment, in particular investment supporting the green and digital transition.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (21/04/2022 08:33 AM)</p> <p>Strategic Fiscal Policy Framework 2022 – 2024 (FSAP): The FSAP, includes the Government Strategy Statement which specifies the overall key strategic directions and economic policy priorities of the government that are taken into account for the preparation of the government budget for the next three years. The current FSAP was approved by the Council of Ministers on 19/5/21. The main priority of economic policy in the medium term is set to focus on implementing structural reforms and investments which aim at facilitating recovery, facilitating future sustainable growth and implementing the green and digital transitions. These priorities are reflected in RRP for Cyprus where around 41% of the measures contribute to the green transition and around 23% to digital transformation. Furthermore, 45% of the investments/projects selected for funding under ESIF contribute to the green transition and 15% to digital transition.</p>

Comments
State of play

CSR 1 Subpart 4: Give priority to fiscal structural reforms that will help provide financing for public policy priorities and contribute to the long-term sustainability of public finances, including, where relevant, by strengthening the coverage, adequacy and sustainability of health and social protection systems for all.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (11/04/2022 10:15 AM)</p> <p>Introduction of the requirement of a financial sustainability analysis for all medical equipment purchase requests above €100K: The objective is to invest in areas that strengthen the health system and provide a real added value to each hospital. It also ensures prudent allocation of resources.</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (11/04/2022 10:16 AM)</p> <p>Pension System Reform: Social Dialogue on the reform of the pensions system started in July 2021 in the Labour Advisory Body. The government's aim is to modernize the pension system in order to tackle existing problems and provide adequate income replacement for all.</p>
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (11/04/2022 10:17 AM)</p> <p>Introduction of National Minimum Wage: The introduction of a national minimum wage has entered its final stages of establishment with the commencement of the social dialogue on the measure in July 2021. The relevant impact analyses have been completed and also updated, taking into account the effects of the pandemic as well.</p>

Comments

State of play



CSR.2020.1

CSR 1 Subpart 1: In line with the general escape clause, take all necessary measures to effectively address the pandemic, sustain the economy and support the ensuing recovery. When economic conditions allow, pursue fiscal policies aimed at achieving prudent medium-term fiscal positions and ensuring debt sustainability, while enhancing investment.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 09:56 AM)</p> <p>Economic Support Package: In order to prevent the disruption caused by the pandemic from having a longer lasting impact on the economy and the society at large, the Cyprus Government adopted an Economic Support Package, consisting of a wide range of temporary and one-off measures, aimed primarily at maintaining income and jobs, providing liquidity for businesses and supporting the health care sector and other critical sectors of the economy that were particularly hit by the consequences of the pandemic. The size of the Economic Support Package as a whole is estimated at around €3.4 bln, with measures of fiscal impact on the accounts of the General Government of about 3.6% of GDP in 2020 and 3.6% of GDP in 2021. Going forward, as the support package is gradually withdrawn, the impact of the measures related to the pandemic is expected to sharply decline, estimated at 0.2% of GDP in 2022 and less than 0.1% of GDP in 2023 and 2024. In order to support the recovery, the government aims at utilizing all available instruments, both at the national and EU level, that will promote investments and job creation.</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 10:12 AM)</p> <p>Establishment of a team dealing with the issues related to the obtainment of the European Digital Covid Certificate: A team was established at the level of the Ministry of Health, dealing with issues related to the obtainment of the European Digital</p>

	<p>COVID (EU DCC) Certificate in accordance to respective EU Regulation. At EU level, the participation of the Chairman of the National eHealth Authority to the eHealth Network continued (more than 650 meetings between March 2020 and January 2022). The meetings aim at approving the regulations and technical specifications of the EU DCC and liaising the efforts of the eHN and the national teams for developing the application for the issuing the EU DCC. The efforts are in progress for updating the regulations and technical specifications.</p>
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 10:03 AM)</p> <p>Regularly updated measures for the prevention of the spread of Covid-19: The Minister of Health issued Ministerial Orders for the determination of measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, updated regularly based on the epidemiological status of the Country and following the guidelines of ECDC.</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 10:02 AM)</p> <p>Acquisition of consumables and medical machines for addressing covid: Purchasing of Personal Protective Equipment, other consumables and medical machinery (e.g. ventilators), Medical infrastructure investment (e.g. ICU beds and machines).</p>
Entry 5	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 10:01 AM)</p> <p>Covid-19 awareness campaigns: Awareness campaigns for public, travelers and health professionals, such as measures of physical distancing, cough etiquette, hand hygiene, use of masks, restrictions on public gatherings or house visits, curfew etc.</p>
Entry 6	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 09:59 AM)</p> <p>Control measures for rapid identification and disruption of the virus transmission chains: - Identification of cases through continuous testing of the population focusing on symptomatic</p>

	<p>cases via a GP referral system, on quick referral of close contacts, on periodic testing of Staff/residents in long-term care facilities (LTCFs) and Health workers, but also on asymptomatic citizens via a large-scale population-wide testing program. - Border control measures and a specific testing strategy are applied for travelers at points of entry from high-risk countries. A high-capacity laboratory operates within the airports facilitating minimal RT-PCR test turnaround time. - Identified cases are followed up with enhanced contact tracing and rapid isolation of close contacts to disrupt the transmission of the virus.</p>
Entry 7	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 09:57 AM)</p> <p>Budget for supporting public health: The Council of Ministers decided for allocation of additional budget of €100 mln for supporting public health.</p>
Entry 8	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 09:56 AM)</p> <p>Referral of non-Covid-19 patients from the hospitals of SHSO to private hospitals agreed: Cooperation with private hospitals for referring non-COVID patients from the hospitals of SHSO, under the coordination of the Ministry of Health.</p>
Entry 9	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 09:52 AM)</p> <p>Hospitals receiving the COVID-19 cases and referral hospital for COVID-19 cases: Determination of the hospitals of State Health Services Organisation (SHSO) that will receive the COVID-19 cases in their specially equipped Units and establishment of a referral Hospital (Ammochostos General Hospital) for COVID19 cases, that was extended and refurbished in order to accommodate more COVID-19 beds and High Dependency Unit for COVID patients.</p>
Entry 10	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 09:44 AM)</p> <p>Centre of ambulance control: Coordinating Centre for</p>

	Ambulance Control and interconnection with 4-digit telephone line.
Entry 11	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 09:42 AM)</p> <p>Access of all confirmed COVID-19 cases to health care: Easy access has been established of all confirmed COVID-19 cases to Health care either through their personal GP or in case of moderate and severe symptoms directly to hospitals. A call center was also established to aid in the identification of cases that need health care. The identification of people at risk and their transfer to hospitals so that they can receive proper care as soon as possible may have aided in their prognosis.</p>
Entry 12	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 09:31 AM)</p> <p>New Vaccination Plan: The vaccination plan was announced on the 27th of December 2020 and until the end of January 2022, the vaccination coverage in Cyprus is at 87.9% for the adults' population (ages 18 plus) for 1st dose and 84.2% for two doses. The immunization coverage for all ages is 74.8% and 71.3%, respectively. The vaccination coverage for the ages between 16-17 years is at the 51.3%, while the vaccination of the ages 12-15 years reflects to a coverage of 42.2%. For the ages between 5-11 years is 4.7%. 77.4% of those eligible received a booster dose.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 1 Subpart 2: Strengthen the resilience and capacity of the health system to ensure quality and affordable services, including by improving health workers' working conditions.

Measures

<p>Entry 1</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:25 AM)</p> <p>Amendment of the Strategy for Health: The Ministry of Health having recognized the structural challenges in the healthcare sector, proceeded with the inclusion of a respective objective within its Strategy, including the restructuring of the Health System of the Country. Challenges such as the until recently absence of a National Health System (NHS), -the outdated mode of operation of public hospitals, the heavy bureaucratic hierarchy among hospitals' staff with limited opportunities for professional growth and recognition of performance and more generally the opportunities to modernise staff management, - the absence of an ehealth Competent Authority etc., were to be addressed. Simultaneously, the outdated operation of primary healthcare centres has been recognised as well as the need for restructuring in terms of its organisational structure, working hours, processes, accessibility and efficiency. The strategy of the Ministry issues on a 3 years' basis its national health strategy which is being updated accordingly year by year.</p>
<p>Entry 2</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:25 AM)</p> <p>National Health System (NHS): The successful implementation of the final stage of NHS (Phase II) within 2020, despite the outbreak of COVID-19 crisis, is reflected through a survey which has taken place on behalf of Health Insurance Organisation (HIO) at the 2nd anniversary of NHS launch. The survey shows a high satisfaction of beneficiaries with regards to the services offered by NHS, with 80% of beneficiaries to be very satisfied by the quality of the services offered and convinced that through NHS, equal treatment and access of all citizens to qualitative healthcare services have been established. In addition, the capacity of providers of NHS has been increased on a continuous basis resulting in NHS participation exceeding 85% for most healthcare providers. More specifically, according to data at the end of Q2 2022, 1930 Outpatient Specialists, 578 Personal Doctors for Adults, 203 Personal Doctors for Children, 149 Laboratories, 1333 Allied Health Professionals, 674 Dentists, 8 A&E Departments, 54 Hospitals and 554 Pharmacies, have been</p>

	offering services to NHS beneficiaries.
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:24 AM)</p> <p>Measures related to health budget by NHS: - Temporary budget cuts on specific healthcare provider segments, which are regularly reviewed based on the actual recovery of the economy. - Expansion of the implementation of separate global budgets per specialty for Outpatient Specialties. As a result, 14 outpatient specialties which account for more than 80% of the total OS activity, operate now under separate global budgets per specialty.</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:23 AM)</p> <p>Minimize misuse/abuse of the NHS: Measures to address and minimize misuse/abuse of the system by either healthcare providers and/or beneficiaries, including the following: - Intensified audits on claims submitted by healthcare providers, - implementation of specific restrictions and guidelines with regards to claims submission by healthcare providers, - enforcement of higher penalties where applicable, - utilization of the IT system capabilities for data analytics for the detection and prevention of misuse/abuse of the system.</p>
Entry 5	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:23 AM)</p> <p>Awareness communication campaigns for the use of NHS: Launch of several awareness communication campaigns targeted mainly at beneficiaries, with the aim to inform/educate about the “proper” use of healthcare services within NHS and about the importance of establishing a long-term relationship with PDs so as to, create the needed culture that will prevent mis-use/overuse of services and safeguard the long-term sustainability of the system.</p>
Entry 6	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:22 AM)

	<p>Business Plan for the functioning of the public hospitals by SHSO: SHSO has adopted a detailed business plan with the support of external advisors which defines the focus activity areas for the next five years, aiming at financial sustainability. Additional actions have already been started to be implemented aiming also at better servicing the customers, as well as at improving the working conditions of health workers. Such actions include the development of its organisational structure and the recruitment of new staff in needed areas, the preparation of a detailed review of the organization's IT systems' requirements (hardware and software), systems' upgrades at a financial, operational and patient management level which are under process, the setting up of its own Purchasing Department for the improvement of the time cycle for the execution of purchases of Medical equipment, Consumables and Service, the safeguarding of Public Health (e.g. COVID 19), the provision of Health services in remote areas and Services of General Economic Interest.</p>
<p>Entry 7</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:22 AM)</p> <p>Restructuring plan for primary care: A restructuring plan for primary care has been implemented and efforts are ongoing with the adoption and implementation of several measures to enhance the ability of primary healthcare centres to support the patient and help the hospitals under the SHSO organisation to be upgraded. The plan for healthcare centres in rural areas has been implemented since 22/11/2017 and that for urban since 25/7/2018.</p>
<p>Entry 8</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:21 AM)</p> <p>eHealth: The Ministry of Health has proceeded with the adoption of respective Law in 2019, in the framework of which the National eHealth Authority (NeHA) has been established. The NeHA is responsible for the institutionalization of the framework of use of electronic health for the prevention of diseases, the promotion of health and the effective and safe provision of health services to the citizens, the implementation of Electronic Health Record and the regulation of the storage and use of</p>

	biomedical information and telemedicine. The efforts extend to cover cross-border healthcare.
Entry 9	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:20 AM)</p> <p>COVID-19 CY National eHealth Platform of the Ministry of Health: COVID-19 CY National eHealth Platform of the Ministry of Health for Inpatient and Home-monitoring and Treatment is designed to inform healthcare professionals towards administering healthcare for hospitalized Covid-19 patients in Cyprus. The Platform's workflow is dictated by the official Covid-19 Clinical Protocol Guidelines proposed by the Scientific Monitoring Advisory Committee and approved by the Minister of Health. It provides a detailed overview of a patient's current clinical status and associated health indicators that have been identified as crucial for Covid-19 patients' treatment. This system is intended to provide a support tool to the clinicians pertaining to the treatment of patients.</p>
Entry 10	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:20 AM)</p> <p>CovTracer: CovTracer - Exposure Notification (CovTracer-EN) has been developed under the coordination of the National Electronic Health Authority, and the advisory role of the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy (DMRID) together with the Ministry of Health. CovTracer is the official application of the Cypriot Government which was created to detect contacts based on your phone's Bluetooth technology. The application aims to support the efforts of the Epidemiological Surveillance and Control Unit of the Ministry of Cyprus to limit the spread of COVID-19 in the Cypriot community.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR.2020.2

CSR 2 Subpart 1: Provide adequate income replacement and access to social protection for all.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (12/04/2022 08:53 AM)</p> <p>Scheme supporting pensioners' households with low income: This is a financial support plan aimed at households of pensioners whose total annual income is below the poverty line (according to the Statistical Service's EU-SILC study, is €10,324 for a single-person household). The household must consist of at least one pensioner, who receives pension from the Social Insurance Fund, and/or social pension, and/or pension from an occupational pension scheme in Cyprus. The amount of the grant depends on the number of people living in the household and the household income. The allowance is paid on a monthly basis. The total amount spend in 2021 was €92.217.974 covering 23.048 family units. The benefit is funded by the state budget.</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (12/04/2022 09:01 AM)</p> <p>Child benefit and single parent benefit: The child benefit is granted to families who have had their legal and continuous residence, in the areas under the effective control of the Cyprus Government for at least the last five (5) years prior to the submission of the application. Single parent families receiving child benefit are also entitled to a single parent benefit for each dependent child. The total amount spend in 2021 was €108.976.265 covering 60.000 people regarding Child Benefit and 11.500 people for single parent benefit. The benefit is funded by the state budget.</p>
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:44 AM)</p> <p>Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI) benefit: The GMI has been established since 2014, with the aim of ensuring a socially</p>

	<p>acceptable minimum standard of living for persons (and families) legally residing in the Republic of Cyprus whose income and other economic resources are insufficient to meet their basic and special needs. The benefit varies according to the applicant's income and it takes into account the number of family members and their specific needs.</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:38 AM)</p> <p>Special Scheme to Support Unemployed: This is a part of a series of Schemes that Cyprus has introduced in response to deteriorating labour market situation and declining household incomes following the Covid-19 outbreak, in order to subsidise the wages and earnings of the affected employees, self-employed and unemployed persons. Through this scheme, an amount of €500 was granted to registered unemployed persons whose eligibility for unemployment benefit was exhausted by specific dates. 10.215 persons benefited from the scheme.</p>
Entry 5	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:36 AM)</p> <p>Sickness benefit Scheme for Employees of the private sector & Self Employed Persons that had to abstain from work due to the Covid-19 pandemic & Scheme supporting Companies (their employees) for Total Suspension of their Operations & Scheme supporting Companies (their employees) for Partial Suspension of their Operations & Special Scheme for Self Employed & Special Scheme for Hotel Units and Tourist Accommodation & Special Scheme to Support Businesses (their employees) related to the Tourism Industry or businesses directly affected by Tourism or associated with Businesses that are subject to Mandatory Total Suspension & Special Scheme for supporting businesses (their employees) exercising special predefined activities: This are parts of a series of Schemes that Cyprus has introduced in response to deteriorating labour market situation and declining household incomes following the Covid-19 outbreak, in order to subsidize the wages and earnings of the affected employees, self-employed and unemployed persons. A wage compensation was provided to Self-Employed persons and to a % the employees of the businesses taking part in the scheme provided</p>

	<p>that businesses retained all their employees for a specified period. Support covered 60% of each employee's salary or 60% of the employee's social insurance units earned in the appropriate reference year, whichever was the maximum. There was a maximum limit of €1.214 & a minimum of €360 for a period of one month. For the self-employed the support covered 60% of the person's weekly insurable income with a maximum limit of €900 & a minimum of €300 for a four week period. The support period was considered as a period of simulated social insurance. 249.702 persons and 44.385 firms benefited from the schemes.</p>
Entry 6	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 11:29 AM)</p> <p>Special Leave Scheme for Parents working in the Private Sector for the Care of their Children less than 15 Years of Age or children with disabilities of any age due to the Suspension of Schools, Nurseries, Child Care Centres: This is a part of a series of Schemes that Cyprus has introduced in response to deteriorating labour market situation and declining household incomes following the Covid-19 outbreak, in order to subsidise the wages and earnings of the affected employees, self-employed and unemployed persons. For the period 16/3/2020-12/6/2020, support through the scheme covered 60% of the first €1.000 of the parent's salary and 40% of the subsequent €1.000. For single parents the percentages were 70% & 50% respectively. For the period 10/1/2020-8/5/2021 support was calculated in the same manner as for the schemes (3) to (8) described below. The period of special leave was considered as a period of simulated social insurance. 14,497 persons benefited from the scheme.</p>
Entry 7	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (28/02/2022 11:41 AM)</p> <p>Introduction of a national minimum wage: Please refer to CSR 2021.1 subpart 1</p>
Entry 8	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (28/02/2022 11:40 AM)</p> <p>Pension System Reform: Please refer to CSR 2021.1 subpart 1.4</p>

Comments
State of play

CSR 2 Subpart 2: Strengthen public employment services,

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 10:25 AM)</p> <p>Subsidy scheme for the employment of unemployed people: 3 calls between Oct 2020 – Jan 2022. Total Budget of €25.000.000. Number of participating unemployed up to 31/1/2022: 4.018</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 08:56 AM)</p> <p>Temporary recruitment of 30 employment counsellors extended until the end of 2029: The capacity of the Cyprus PES is being strengthened with the temporary recruitment of the 30 Employment Counsellors which will be extended until the end of 2029. The new qualified staff has a considerable positive and qualitative impact on the PES performance. In particular, the capacity of the PES has been enhanced in dealing effectively with its customers, especially with the most vulnerable, facilitating the implementation of specific policy programs and initiating a positive culture change of clients and officers. The PES increased considerably the provision of individualized guidance and support to vulnerable unemployed, the referrals of unemployed to job vacancies, and their integration into the labour market strengthening the PES position in the local labour markets, enriching and expanding the knowledge of clients and officers as regards the obligations/ responsibilities and rights of each group.</p>
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 08:55 AM)</p> <p>More focused provision of guidance to employees and</p>

	<p>employers by the Employment Counsellors: Employment counsellors focused in depth on quality issues such as provision of guidance and information about available training and employment opportunities, development of a productive dialogue with employers aiming to facilitate the recruitment of unemployed facilitating thus the recovery of the economy especially in those sectors affected most (e.g. touristic, and the entertainment, recreation etc.). increasing thereby the ability to recognize or capture needs for up-skilling (digital skills) or re-skilling.</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 08:54 AM)</p> <p>Digitalization of services of PES (substituting the traditional provision of physical services) and distant services (mostly via telephone): In the beginning of the pandemic the registration of unemployed people was made via the use of emails or faxes for receiving all documents needed for registration supplemented by a telephone conversation between the unemployed and the Employment Counsellor to complete, confirm and finalise the registration. Renewals of existing registrations were done automatically by the system. Since June of 2021, the registration of unemployment and their renewals are made through the online platform of PES by unemployed themselves. PES mediation and matching services are communicated to job seekers via telephone or e-mail as well and the required contact with Employers is done in the same way.</p>
Entry 5	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 08:51 AM)</p> <p>A strategic document for the design and implementation of ALMPs: A strategic document will define PES processes and set operational objectives and targets in district and local levels as well as performance indicators and targets for performance management purposes. It is currently under way. It is expected to be completed during the 1st quarter of 2022.</p>
Entry 6	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 08:50 AM)</p>

	Preparation of a legislative proposal regarding PES operation: Consultations for the legislative proposal are currently conducted with Social Partners.
Entry 7	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 08:48 AM)</p> <p>IT system of PES: The upgrading of the IT system of the PES, with the technical support of the Department of Information Technology Services, remains an ongoing process for further facilitation and enrichment of the PES processes, such as: - Upgrading of the matching electronic tool through the enrichment of the Information gathered regarding the supplied and demanded Labour, - Upgrading of the electronic module for the application of individualised guidance and Support of vulnerable unemployed, - Construction of tables for the measurement of the PES performance through an automated extraction of statistical data every month.</p>
Entry 8	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 08:46 AM)</p> <p>Security Guards Services: The outsourcing of Security Guards Services was promoted through ESF+ funding, as a high priority for the Cyprus PES, ensuring better working conditions and quality of work life for the employees, as well as better operation of the PES.</p>
Entry 9	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 08:46 AM)</p> <p>Subsidy scheme for the employment of unemployed people aged 15-29 (NEETs): 3 calls between Oct 2020 – Jan2022. Total Budget of €15.000.000. Number of participating unemployed up to 31/1/2022: 2.295</p>
Entry 10	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 08:44 AM)</p> <p>Subsidy scheme for detainees: Budget of €4.000.000. Number of participating unemployed up to 31/1/2022: 38</p>

<p>Entry 11</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 08:43 AM)</p> <p>Subsidy scheme for the employment of unemployed people with chronic diseases: The project aims to encourage employers to recruit people with chronic illnesses and is part of the active employment policies promoted by the government to combat poverty and social exclusion, in particular with regard to the active inclusion of vulnerable groups in the labor market. One call with a budget of €2mln has closed on January 2021 where 126 applications were received. A new call with a budget of €2mln was open on 8/11/2021 that will be opened until the exhaustion of the total budget or relevant announcement. The grant will be provided for twenty-four (24) months of employment. Based on the cost unit, the maximum possible subsidy for the 24 months amounts to € 22,360. Budget of €2.000.000. 22 applications were received up to 31/1/2022.</p>
<p>Entry 12</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 08:35 AM)</p> <p>Subsidy Scheme for the Employment of unemployed people with disabilities: The Scheme aims at encouraging employers to hire people with disabilities and to moderate their reluctance to hire people with disabilities either due to the impression that this will not be effective or because the salary is considered too high. Up to now, two calls have been granted. The third call was announced on 8/11/2021 and will be open until the exhaustion of the total budget (€2.000.000) or relevant announcement. The grant will be provided for twenty-four (24) months of employment. Number of participating unemployed up to 31/1/2022: 10</p>
<p>Entry 13</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 07:47 AM)</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of ALMPs: In the beginning of 2019, the IT system for Monitoring and Evaluation of ALMPs was launched. Corrective measures were taken for overcoming identified technical constraints and shortcomings. The project was financed by national resources.</p>

<p>Entry 14</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 07:45 AM)</p> <p>Online platform for the self-service of Employers: The first evaluation of the operation of the online platform for the self-service of employers has been conducted aiming to promote corrective measures for its improvement. The second evaluation will be conducted in 2022.</p>
<p>Entry 15</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 12:44 PM)</p> <p>Mapping of NEETs: The second exercise of the mapping of NEETs was completed, indicating a decrease of 15% (1.110 persons). An informative leaflet will be prepared about the PES for support and guidance.</p>
<p>Entry 16</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 12:43 PM)</p> <p>Promotion of the profiling of Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs): Cooperation of the Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance with other stakeholders (Human Resource Development Authority, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth, Cyprus Productivity Centre, Employers' Organizations and companies, Youth Board, NGOs, Public and private universities) has been enhanced for the promotion of the profiling of NEETs, outreach and activation support, the enrichment of the training opportunities, and the gathering of information necessary for the analysis of the NEETs' characteristics.</p>
<p>Entry 17</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 12:41 PM)</p> <p>Development of Employers' Unit: The Cyprus Public Employment Service (PES) is currently in the process of planning and developing the services towards employers. The Employer's Strategy envisages to enhance the cooperation between the PES and Employers aiming to attract more and better vacancies taking into considerations the peculiarities of each category of employers such as the employers with family enterprises, the</p>

	<p>SMEs, the self-employed -small unit enterprise, the hotel 's industry employers, etc. Part of this strategy is the outreach of employers through visits to their places, the application of a questionnaire about their needs in personnel and an opinion survey for evaluating the services provided by the PES and through the online Platform for the self-service of employers. The Strategy will be implemented through the establishment of employers' units. In order to ensure the effectiveness of the operation of the units, a manual will be developed outlining the specific activities towards employers and defining the roles and responsibilities of the officers involved. Frequent monitoring will be implemented through the development of specific indicators and predefined statistics. Preliminary development of an Employers Unit in each District Labour Office is being promoted, with two Employment Counsellors each, dealing exclusively with employers' issues and vacancies.</p>
<p>Entry 18</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (28/02/2022 12:37 PM)</p> <p>Program for guidance and support to vulnerable jobseekers: The design, implementation and evaluation of a 4-month Program aiming to provide Individualized Guidance and Support to Vulnerable Jobseekers, were incorporated in the PES policy. The target groups of unemployed are decided according to the current unemployment conditions. Each Program sets different targets for each target group. Targets relate to the participation in individual counselling, job referrals, job placements and the preparation of individual action plans. Results are systematically evaluated and corrective action is taken when needed. So far, three Targeted programs have been implemented (1/10/2018-30/1/2019, 1/3/2019-30/6/2019, 1/10/2019-30/1/2020) with targeted groups the unemployed GMI recipients, young unemployed aged 15-29, long-term unemployed, unemployed with duration of unemployment up to three months.</p>
<p>Entry 19</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (01/03/2022 08:58 AM)</p> <p>Introduction of advanced digital technology: Cyprus PES is in the process of introducing advanced digital technology through ESF+ funding, to cover all the services provided to the clients. This</p>

	transformation of services will be followed by changes in the processes of delivering the daily work. The change will entail modifications in the duties, responsibilities and the culture of PES staff and on behalf of the customers, redesigning of objectives and time schedules, organisation of workshops and training for all PES staff in order to provide the information and knowledge about new procedures and ensuring a high degree of commitment and understanding by the PES staff.
Entry 20	MEASURE TYPE: Announced (01/03/2022 08:48 AM) Surveys – Questionnaires and documents: The design of four Opinion Surveys - Questionnaires is under preparation (for Employers, Unemployed, Social Partners and PES's Officers).
Entry 21	MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (01/03/2022 08:59 AM) Production of informative leaflets, digital/ on line promotion material and user friendly videos and media advertisements: The new future changes towards the virtual era of PES will include among other activities, the production of informative leaflets, digital/ on line promotion material as well as user friendly videos and media (TV, Radio and On line) advertisements'.
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 2 Subpart 3: promote flexible working arrangements and

Measures	
Entry 1	MEASURE TYPE: Announced (01/03/2022 09:09 AM) Subsidy schemes of employment with flexible work arrangements for youth and women: These schemes that will be

	<p>financed by ESF+, are (a) the Scheme Providing Incentives for flexible recruitment of young people aged 15-29 Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs), who have difficulty entering and remaining in the labor market without assistance and wish to work based on some flexible form of employment and (b) the Scheme Providing Incentives for flexible employment arrangements of inactive women who have difficulty entering and remaining in the labor market without assistance and wish to work on the basis of some flexible form of employment. New legislation and the employment schemes will facilitate labour market re-entry of the high share of inactive women due to caring responsibilities and support workers with unforeseen caring responsibilities for children and other dependants; will thus enhance work-life balance and increase employment of the target groups. The schemes are planned to be launched in 2024, after the conclusion of social dialogue in relation to the new legal framework on telework.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 2 Subpart 4: improve labour market relevance of education and training.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (14/03/2022 07:17 AM)</p> <p>Improve the quality of VET: The MoECSY aims to improve the quality of education and make better connections between the school and the labour market. There is a focus on providing students with the necessary skills and competences to be effective in the contemporary and future societies and labour market, with a special emphasis on VET. A project co-funded by the Republic of Cyprus and ESF supporting the improvement of quality in VET has started in October of 2015 and its funding ended in December of 2021 (degree of funding absorption was 100%). The project was approved for co-funding under ESF for</p>

the period 2021-2027, with a total budget of 38 million euros. The overall intended outcome is to further develop and improve technical and vocational education and training in Cyprus. More specifically, the aim is to improve the correlation between technical and vocational education and training and labour market needs, ease the transition from education to work, improve the overall quality of teaching and learning taking place in VET schools and structures and increase student participation in VET education. The project is implemented via Decisions made by the Council of Ministers within the overall context of STVET Strategic Planning. The project is carried out by the Department of Secondary Technical and Vocational Education and Training (STVET) with a clear vision of establishing a comprehensive, flexible, attractive and high-quality education system, tailored to contemporary societal and labor market needs. The project aims to improve all structures operating under STVET such as the Secondary Technical and Vocational Education (morning classes), the Apprenticeship System, Evening Schools of Technical and Vocational Education). The project also aims to educate and provide pupils and students with the necessary knowledge and skills in order to be fully equipped in facing labor market challenges. Indicative actions and initiatives implemented via this project are the following: •

- Introduction of new programmes of study in STVET and Public School MIEEK
- Purchase of and access to modern technical equipment and infrastructures
- Evaluation and improvement of curricula
- Preparation of teaching materials
- Promotional actions to encourage increased student participation in STVET
- Improvement of special rooms and laboratories
- Securing teaching services from business experts and professionals
- Evaluations of STVET structures
- STVET Pupils' and MIEEK Students' work placements in industry
- Inspections of pupils during their work placement
- Actions to increase the general public's awareness about the advantages of STVET in contemporary economical and societal context
- Creation of a national monitoring system tracking SVET graduates' access and success in the labour market
- Creation of a StVET online alumni community platform
- Expansion of Night VET schools
- Expansion of Public School MIEEK
- High quality professional training for SVET educators and professionals.

Comments
State of play

CSR.2020.3

CSR 3 Subpart 1: Secure adequate access to finance and liquidity, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Not Defined (02/03/2022 13:34 PM)</p> <p>Cyprus Entrepreneurship Fund: Phase A: The Cyprus Entrepreneurship Fund (CYPEF) has supported both working capital and investment loans to SMEs. According to the latest figures (June 2021), the loans disbursed via CYPEF to SMEs reached the amount of €137,9 mln (i.e. 98,5% of the committed total loan portfolio). More specifically 536 loans were committed to 453 SMEs. The top industry sectors benefiting from CYPEF funding is Wholesale and retail trade, followed by the Accommodation and food service activities industry and the Manufacturing industry. CYPEF was founded by the Republic of Cyprus in 2014 with the view to support and strengthen entrepreneurship in Cyprus by facilitating access to finance for SMEs. CYPEF's products were deployed in the market via selected financial intermediaries, with favorable terms, including reduced interest rates, reduced collateral requirements, extended loan maturities, along extended grace periods.</p> <p>Phase B: On 27 May 2020, the Cyprus Council of Ministers, within its policy to address the problems caused by the COVID-19 crisis, and promote the re-engineering of Cyprus economy, approved a package of targeted measures to support, amongst others, the provision of adequate financial liquidity in the market, using all the tools and mechanisms provided to Cyprus by the European institutions. In this context, the Council of Ministers approved an additional contribution for CYPEF by up to EUR 400 million. At this point, European Investment Fund, as the fund manager of CYPEF, is carrying out a procedure for the selection of the appropriate financial intermediaries who are interested to participate in the 2nd phase of CYPEF.</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 13:32 PM)</p>

	<p>Investment Funds: The establishment of a modern and competitive legal and regulatory framework regarding the industry of collective investment funds in Cyprus remains a priority. In order to keep pace with developments and specialize and upgrade the current regulatory framework, developed from 2010 onwards, with the view to bring it in line with the best European and international practice for collective investment funds. The following legal changes have been promoted in order to introduce new features and specialization for the collective investment schemes in Cyprus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new law on Alternative Investment Funds (Law 128/2018) was enacted in July 2018, replacing previous legislation of 2014 and aiming at: the introduction of Registered Alternative Investment Fund (RAIF), whose supervision will be done through the AIF Managers Directive; the introduction of limited partnerships with legal personality as an alternative investment fund vehicle (proved to be a versatile and successful vehicle for funds in Europe); the introduction of arrangements for the establishment of Variable Capital Company under the Companies Law (expected to enhance the versatility of the limited company as a corporate vehicle for open ended funds). • A new Law aiming for the introduction of licensed and regulated mini-managers, for the fund managers below the AIF Managers Directive thresholds was enacted on the 3/7/2020. The Law aims also at providing specialisation for below the threshold managers under an appropriate and proportionate regulatory regime. <p>CYPEF was founded by the Republic of Cyprus in 2014 with the view to support and strengthen entrepreneurship in Cyprus by facilitating access to finance for SMEs. CYPEF's products were deployed in the market via selected financial intermediaries, with favorable terms, including reduced interest rates, reduced collateral requirements, extended loan maturities, along extended grace periods.</p>
<p>Entry 3</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 10:58 AM)</p> <p>Competitive Programmes: As per the Annual Financial Reports of the European Commission, the amount of €409.9 mln was allocated to Cypriot beneficiaries participating in EU Competitive Programmes during the current programming period and up to 2020. The allocated amount exceeded the</p>

	<p>estimated amount of absorption for Cyprus, that was around €300 mln for the whole 2014-2020 period. The majority of these funds relate to the Horizon 2020 (€207.8 mln) and the Erasmus+ (€84.9 mln) Programmes. Part of the allocation from the H2020 resources is directed towards the entrepreneurial community, either through the participation of the SMEs in funded projects or through the financing of R&D activities with commercialization potentials.</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 10:57 AM)</p> <p>European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI): Between December 2016 and June 2017, the European Investment Fund (EIF) has signed two EFSI agreements of a total €10 mln each, with two commercial banks under the InnovFin SME Guarantee Facility of the Horizon 2020 Programme for R&I. A third counterpart is currently under appraisal by the EIF. Regarding the first two agreements, under which the two intermediary banks provide attractive loans to innovative SMEs and mid-caps, up to now, loan contracts for an amount of around €9.7 mln have been signed with eligible beneficiaries.</p>
Entry 5	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 10:56 AM)</p> <p>EIB direct lending/Government guarantee scheme: Recognizing the success of the EIB Scheme, on 27 and 28 May 2020, the CoM approved the increase of the Government Guarantee Scheme from €1 bln to €1.5 bln, thus supporting the continuation of the EIB scheme. Until end of 2020, 8 Cypriot banks signed 24 different Loan Agreements with EIB amounting to €930 mln in total, leading to €745 mln allocated by the banks to beneficiaries (SMEs and MidCaps) resulting in around 568 new investment projects.</p>
Entry 6	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 10:52 AM)</p> <p>Crowdfunding: Acknowledging that crowdfunding can serve as an alternative tool to bank financing, hence further facilitate and enhance SMEs access to finance, the Cyprus Securities and</p>

	<p>Exchange Commission (CySEC) issued a Crowdfunding Directive on the 17th January 2020 relating to investment-based crowdfunding through transferable securities. This concerns a set of secondary rules for complementary obligations, including but not limited to: conduct of business rules; management of conflict of interests; holding clients' money and financial instruments and product governance. This set of rules is now supplementary to the Crowdfunding Regulation (EU 2020/1503) that started to apply from the 10th of November 2021. After one year of transition period from the application of the Regulation, the CySEC Directive will be repealed.</p>
<p>Entry 7</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 10:48 AM)</p> <p>Advice for small business facility: Following the recommendations of a study on promoting export performance, the Government signed in May 2017 an agreement with the EBRD for the implementation of the programme "Advice for small business facility". The programme was completed on the 31st December 2020. The objective of the programme was to support Cypriot small businesses in order to improve their competitiveness, strengthen their performance and boost growth. The programme was co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The programme included a series of tools addressing the needs of SMEs such as: □ Business Advisory Services to SMEs: The Facility assisted SMEs in accessing business advice by engaging local consultants. Up to the completion of the programme 124 companies received advisory services in various sectors. □ International Advisory Projects: In order to enhance the competitiveness of promising SMEs the facility offered consulting with international experts. Up to 7 enterprises received advisory services with international consultants. □ Business Clinics Facility: The tool was available to support start-ups and early stage enterprises with viable business ideas and business plans. Thirty companies participated to the Business Clinic. □ Training Courses for SMEs and consultants: the Facility offered training courses to build the capacity of local consultants and local SMEs. More than 200 SMEs participated to the training sessions took place up to the end of 2020. A similar programme regarding the provision of consulting services to SMEs is included in the RRP "Scheme for</p>

	Consulting Services to SMEs". The programme is planned to be launched by Q3 2022.
Entry 8	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 09:52 AM)</p> <p>Grants - New Entrepreneurship Support Plan: The Scheme aims to develop, support and promote entrepreneurship by focusing on specific population groups such as young people and women. The aim of this grant aim is to improve the access to finance for SMEs and enhance the entrepreneurial activity. The policies and actions are in line with the EU policies for enterprises and industry and the corresponding EU guidelines aiming to modernize and green the industrial sector. (end submission calls: 31/01/2021) The scheme was announced in May 2021 and closed in 31/12/2021 for a budget of €30 million. 820 applications were submitted corresponding to a total of €46.9 million and are in the process of evaluation. Approvals are expected to be given frequently during the process.</p>
Entry 9	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 09:50 AM)</p> <p>Grants - Investments in wine enterprises: The measure aims to encourage investments in regional wineries. The measure is included in the National Support Program for the Wine Sector and is 100% financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF). By 15 October 2021, 127 applications have been approved in total, for a grant amount of €15,5mln. A total amount of €12,3mln was paid until 15th October 2021 for the benefit of 40 wineries.</p>
Entry 10	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 09:49 AM)</p> <p>Grants - Scheme for the Enhancement of SMEs competitiveness in the Manufacturing Sector and other specific Economic Activities: The aim of this grant is to improve the access to finance for SMEs and enhance the entrepreneurial activity. The policies and actions are in line with the EU policies for enterprises and industry and the corresponding EU guidelines aiming to modernize and green the industrial sector. The Scheme was</p>

	<p>announced in February 2021 and the total amount to be disbursed through this scheme is € 50mln. The end date of submission calls was 30/09/2021. During the call 653 enterprises were submitted applications electronically for a total investment of €138.7 mln corresponding to a grant of € 71.8 mln.</p>
Entry 11	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (03/03/2022 08:05 AM)</p> <p>Tax relief for investments in start-ups and innovative SMEs: The first tax scheme for investing in start-ups and innovative companies was operated since 2017) and was valid until 30/6/2021. It provided 50% tax relief, up to €150,000 per year, for private investors investing in innovative companies, certified by the DMRID. An extension period until the 30/6/2024 was announced and the relevant bill is expected to be enacted by the House of Representative in March 2022. Furthermore further expansion of the regime is promoted, by extending the tax exemption incentive to corporate investors. The regime has been approved by DG Competition of the European Commission.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 3 Subpart 2: Front-load mature public investment projects

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:06 AM)</p> <p>Procedure for the establishment of new entities: Article 96(3) of the FRBSL provides that the establishment of a new entity can be approved only when the Minister of Finance considers that the economic and financial benefits outweigh the cost that may occur from its absence. Accordingly, a Circular letter was issued by the Ministry of Finance dated 9/2/2021, that defines a detailed process for the submission of a proposal for the establishment of a new entity. Specifically, the circular provides,</p>

	<p>inter alia, that the proposal should: - Identify, firstly the need and the reasoning for creating the new entity, with the specific legal status, - provide the financial impact that will occur from the establishment of the new entity, - provide a risk assessment report, - outline the initial strategic plan of the new entity, its governance structure and issues of internal control, - provide the consolidated version of the report to the Ministry of Finance for their assessment and views, and -submit the final version of the proposal to the Council of Ministers for initial approval.</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:05 AM)</p> <p>Investment by the SOEs: Pursuant to the provisions of article 3 of the SOEs law (Investments) of 1991 (N.100(I)/91), the Minister of Finance has issued on the 16/9/2019 the investment framework for surpluses of entities defined in Annex I of the aforementioned Law.</p>
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:04 AM)</p> <p>Public investment projects: Based on the percentage of the grant provided by the state covering their total budgets, a number of SOEs (including public Universities which are responsible for the implementation of a series of infrastructure projects) has been included in the general procedure for pre-selection and appraisal of public investment projects, as this is defined under articles 84 and 85 of the FRBSL law.</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:03 AM)</p> <p>Code of public governance: In order to further improve the governance and promote and maximize the services that are being provided by SOEs, the CoM decided (dec. no. 87.869, 25/07/2019) the following: a. to approve the application of the principles of the Code of Public Governance by the SOEs, as provided in the FRBSL, depending on their legal form and activities, b. to authorize the responsible Ministers to request from SOEs, which are under their supervision, to prepare the profile (academic, professional and experience qualifications) that the</p>

	<p>Chairman/Chairwoman and the Members of the Board of Directors should have, and c. to authorize the responsible Ministers to request from SOEs under their supervision, to submit a compliance statement for the Code of Public Governance on a yearly basis. To safeguard compliance, a relevant “self-assessing” questionnaire as to the implementation of the 6 basic Pillars of the Code, along with a compliance certificate to be signed by the Chairman of the Board of each SOE has been circulated to the SOEs which will have to be submitted annually along with their Budget to the competent Minister of each SOE, and subsequently to the Ministry of Finance and to the CoM. It should be noted that the Code attempts to define a unified approach for all the entities under the control of the GoC, without limiting their flexibility to develop their own mechanisms for the internal control of their governance system. It must be seen as a tool for self-control and self-governance.</p>
<p>Entry 5</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:02 AM)</p> <p>Enhancement of the procedure for the approval of SOEs' budgets: Acknowledging the need to provide further guidance to the SOEs with regard to the application of the provisions of the FRBSL, a decision was taken by the Council of Ministers (dec.no.87.226, 09/04/2019) according to which, SOEs are requested to prepare their budgets on a 3-year rolling basis (medium term budgetary framework), defining also an explicit timeline for the submission of budgets by SOEs. The CoM decision also provides that SOEs are obliged to prepare gradually their budget strategic plans interlinked with their budget, in order to adopt an activity-based budget approach, and a self-assessment risks report to be submitted annually to the CoM, for information purposes/ relevant actions, if considered necessary. The new framework provides to the SOEs the tools needed in order to adopt a more modern approach on management issues and to the government the mechanism for enhancing its supervisory role. In this respect, an informative seminar on the provisions of the FRBSL was organized by the Ministry of Finance. In addition, the Ministry of Finance has issued a circular dated 04/05/2020, providing guidance on the procedure of the identification, analysis, evaluation and management of risk and generally on the context of the Self-Assessment Risks report. For</p>

	<p>the year 2020, a number of such reports have been submitted to the CoM. From 2021, the Self-Assessment Risks report will be submitted on a yearly basis within the overall framework of the budget submission of each SOE.</p>
Entry 6	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:01 AM)</p> <p>Effective management of state grants granted to a number of SOEs: The Council of Ministers approved (dec.no.86.013, dat.24/10/2018) the formulation of a specific procedure for the effective management of the state grants in order for the beneficiaries to become accountable for their decisions and to safeguard the improvement of their governance. A relevant circular was issued (18/01/2019) which defines the procedure that must be followed by the Controlling Officers in order for the SOEs to be eligible to receive their grant. The procedure is thorough and requires SOEs to provide information to the competent Ministries/Deputy Ministries, concerning, amongst others, strategic planning, staff recruitment, public procurement procedures etc.</p>
Entry 7	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 10:59 AM)</p> <p>Fiscal Responsibility and Budget System Law: The FRBSL has been enacted in 2014, as the main legislative framework for the implementation of the Public Financial Management (PFM) related processes in the public sector (including SOEs). PFM supports aggregate control, flexibility, prioritization, accountability and efficiency in the management of public resources and delivery of services, which are critical to the achievement of public policy objectives.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 3 Subpart 3: and promote private investment to foster the economic recovery.

Measures
Comments
State of play

CSR 3 Subpart 4: Focus investment on the green and digital transition, in particular on clean and efficient production and use of energy,

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Not Defined (03/03/2022 10:01 AM)</p> <p>Awareness campaigns on energy efficiency: In 2022, a new campaign will be developed and implemented aiming to increase public awareness on the benefits of energy efficiency. A set of measures on the same basis has been implemented since 2020. These include information campaigns on media (TV, radio, social media), billboards and daily press (to be repeated annually using national funds).</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Not Defined (03/03/2022 08:35 AM)</p> <p>Support Schemes for Energy Storage: The measure refers to the development of funding schemes to facilitate the utilization of energy storage systems. The first funding scheme category (storage downstream the meter), will be addressed to consumers with RES systems for own use as well as for hybrid RES systems participating in the electricity market or in other support schemes. The aim is to provide incentives for the installation of energy storage systems to further enhance the penetration of RES in the energy mix of the country. The second funding scheme category (storage upstream the meter) will be addressed to energy storage facilities that are installed upstream</p>

	<p>of the meter, such as energy storage facilities that are not combined with on-site electricity consumption but are connected to the transmission system and participate in the electricity market in accordance with the Electricity Market Rules. The proposal is under evaluation to be funded under Just Transition Mechanism.</p>
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (11/03/2022 07:54 AM)</p> <p>Regulating energy efficiency: In 2020 the Minister of Interior issued a new Order whereby new buildings and renovated buildings which are classified as energy class A and their annual primary energy consumption doesn't exceed 50 kWh/m² can benefit of an increase of the building factor by 5%. These criteria are more stringent than NZEB requirements (ongoing).</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (03/03/2022 11:06 AM)</p> <p>Scheme for energy retrofits in households: In 2021 a new scheme operated for energy retrofits in households, funded by cohesion funds (2021-2026). The scheme financed energy renovations to convert households to almost zero energy buildings or to achieve other criteria for improving energy efficiency, based on the energy efficiency certificate issued before and after the investment (ongoing up to 2026).</p>
Entry 5	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 11:30 AM)</p> <p>Replacement of 6600 HPS luminaires in the military camps with LED luminaires: The Ministry of Defence has signed an agreement with Electricity Authority of Cyprus to replace 6600 High Pressure Sodium (HPS) luminaires in the military camps with LED luminaires by the year 2023. A minimum of 65% saving in energy consumption on the perimeter and street lighting is expected. The replacement of the luminaires will be implemented from the Ministry of Defence's budget.</p>
Entry 6	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 11:27 AM)</p>

	<p>Installation of Photovoltaic Panels (PV) in the military camps: The Ministry of Defence has initiated discussions with the Directorate General for Growth the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry and the Electricity Authority of Cyprus for the installation of PV systems in the military camps. The installation of PV systems is expected to be completed by the year 2026. The project is funded under the European Structural and Investment Funds.</p>
<p>Entry 7</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:17 AM)</p> <p>PEDIA Project: The PEDIA (Promoting Energy efficiency & Developing Innovative Approaches in schools) project is funded by Horizon 2020 and aims to set the basis for a procedural framework to select existing buildings, based on pre-defined criteria, to implement energy renovations, while providing innovative financial solutions, which minimise transaction costs and engage the private finance community. The project sets the basis for the implementation of a central Energy Management System. The selection process of 25 schools from all the educational levels out of 167 which have applied were selected in December 2021 and will be used as pilots for energy renovations to meet the Nearly Zero Energy Building (NZEB) standard and provide improved indoor conditions. The works will start in 2022. The schools' transformation to zero energy schools will be invested for the period 2021-2025 from state funding, private funding and funding from municipal authorities. The direct energy savings in the operating costs of each school expected to exceed €250,000. The MOECSY (Unit of Education for the Environment for Sustainable Development and Technical Services) is responsible for the project and the coordinator of the project is the Cyprus Energy Agency.</p>
<p>Entry 8</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:16 AM)</p> <p>Improving the energy efficiency of school buildings: The Technical Services of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth (MOECSY) aim to expand the use of renewable sources energy and thermal insulation installation, in order to further improve the energy efficiency of school buildings. In this</p>

	<p>context, the construction of new schools and extensions of existing ones, is being implemented in accordance to the Decree (effective January 1, 2019), requiring that all new buildings have at least Energy Class A in the Energy Performance Certificate as a minimum energy efficiency requirement, whereas all buildings undergoing large-scale renovation must have an Energy Class Certificate of Energy equal to or better than B+.</p>
Entry 9	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:14 AM)</p> <p>Other ongoing measures (also implemented in 2020 and 2021): These include excise taxes on motor fuels, green levy of electricity, motor vehicle taxes based on CO2 emissions (Law on determining the amount of road tax based on CO2 emissions and Euro standard of registered vehicles N.47(I)/2019), measures in the public and wider public sector, replacement of street lamps.</p>
Entry 10	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:13 AM)</p> <p>Support scheme for Electricity Generation from Renewable Energy Sources (RES) in the context of the transitional electricity market regulations to be included eventually in the competitive electricity market: The scheme covers RES projects that will operate under the transitional electricity market Regulations. The application process was initiated in 2018 and a total of 145 projects of 260 MW were approved on the 3/1/2022, 23 PV projects of 40,9 MW have started operation.</p>
Entry 11	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:12 AM)</p> <p>Support scheme for Electricity Generation from Renewable Energy Sources (RES) within the Competitive Electricity Market Framework (2017-18): The scheme covers the licensing of the RES projects that will operate in the Competitive Electricity Market. A total of 120MW of PVs, one plant of Biomass 2,3MW and 12,5 MW of Wind Systems were approved. As of 15/7/21, 74 PV plants (96,1 MW) were in operation, while 10 PV Plants (16 MW) are in the</p>

	construction phase. The scheme will be concluded by 2022.
Entry 12	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 10:50 AM)</p> <p>Support scheme for the production of electricity from renewable energy sources for self-consumption: This Scheme covers the following installations: - Net-metering photovoltaic systems with capacity of up to 10KW for all consumers (residential and non-residential). - Virtual Net Metering Systems for residential and agricultural consumers. - Net-billing RES systems with capacity up to 10MW for all consumers. - Off-grid RES systems. The support scheme has been in operation, with some modifications, since 2013, and will continue until 20/12/2022. Latest modification of the scheme was done on 21/12/2021. Until December 2021, a total capacity of 108MW PVs was installed in the net-metering category, 19,43MW in the net-billing category and 2,5MW for self-consumption. Moreover, one biomass/biogas unit of 2,4 MW is installed in the net-billing category. Financial support is provided for the installation of net-metering PV systems in households from the Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Conservation Fund.</p>
Entry 13	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (03/03/2022 09:57 AM)</p> <p>Revision of the National Policy for RES: The national policy for the promotion of renewable energy is under revision. The new legislation bill has gone through the legal vetting by the Law Office of the Republic and approved by the Council of Ministers in January 2022. It was submitted to the House of Representative in February 2022. The new legislation will introduce, among others, provisions for a simplified licensing procedure for RES projects, operation of one-stop-shop, the introduction of renewable energy communities and support of the self-consumption of RES electricity.</p>
Entry 14	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (03/03/2022 09:31 AM)</p> <p>Cyprus Energy Fund of Funds (FoF) providing loans with beneficial terms for energy efficiency and RES investments: The</p>

	<p>use of financial instruments co-funded by Cohesion Policy Funds is being promoted in the context of the Operational Programme "Competitiveness and Sustainable Development 2014-2020". An amount of €40 mln has been earmarked for this purpose, twice the amount delivered in the 2007-2013 period. Based on the results of the ex-ante assessment for the potential use of such instruments, it has been decided that a single loan instrument will be created in order to support projects in the fields of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources, both for the public and private sector (households and enterprises). The management of the financial instrument (and the respective fund – Cyprus Energy Fund of Funds) has been assigned to the European Investment Bank (EIB). Furthermore - and in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic - it was also decided to expand the investment scope of the instrument by deploying part of its available resources (25%, corresponding to 10 EUR mln) towards supporting working capital and capital expenditures of enterprises, which are adversely affected by the crisis. This was achieved by invoking the relevant provisions of the EU's Temporary Framework for State Aid (and its subsequent amendments). The deliberations for the full deployment of the instrument are currently being finalised: - The Operational agreement with Alpha Bank Cyprus – the financial intermediary selected to provide the end products (loans with preferential terms) of the instrument to the final recipients - was signed in July 2021, following the approval of its basic terms by the Investment Board of the instrument. - Subsequently (end of September 2021), the Investment Board approved the additional terms of the Operational Agreement concerning the granting of working capital loans. - The final legal processes between EIB and Alpha Bank Cyprus have been concluded by end 2021/beginning 2022. - It is expected that the end products will be available to the public by end March 2022. Signature date of the Funding Agreement with the EIB: 18/12/2018</p>
<p>Entry 15</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (01/03/2022 11:19 AM)</p> <p>"Saving – Upgrading Houses" Programme: The programme aims at the extensive energy upgrade of existing houses through the use of incentives in the form of grants. It covers exclusively investments related to the purchase and installation of new</p>

	equipment/materials. The amount that will be allocated for the needs of the programme during the first call for proposals amounts to € 35 million and will be co-financed by ERDF.
Entry 16	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (01/03/2022 11:15 AM)</p> <p>National policy framework for setting an energy efficiency obligation scheme for energy distributors: The national policy framework for setting an energy efficiency obligation scheme for energy distributors (KDP 488/2021) was published on 31/12/2021. It will oblige energy distributors (with more than 15 ktoe of energy sales) to achieve part of the national energy efficiency target, by implementing energy efficiency measures for reducing end use final energy.</p>
Comments	
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CSR 3 Subpart 5: waste and water management,

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:24 AM)</p> <p>The Waste (Sanitary Landfill Sites) (Amending) Regulations (Act 202/2021): The Act transposes Directive 2018/850/EU amending Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste, which aims to ensure a progressive reduction of landfilling of waste, introducing a target for the reduction in the amount of municipal waste land-filled to 10% of the total amount of municipal waste generated to be achieved by 2035.</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:23 AM)</p> <p>The Waste (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment)</p>

	<p>(Amending) Regulations (Act 200/2021) and the Waste (Batteries and Accumulators) (Amending) Regulations (Act 201/2021): The two Acts transpose Directive 2018/849/EU amending Directives 2000/53/EC on end-of-life vehicles, 2006/66/EC on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators, and 2012/19/EU on waste electrical and electronic equipment, which introduced requirements for the reporting of data on an annual basis.</p>
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:22 AM)</p> <p>The Packaging and Waste Packaging (Amending) Law (N. 105(I)/2021): The law transposes Directive 2018/852/EU amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste, which lays down measures aimed at preventing the production of packaging waste and increasing reuse and recycling. It introduces new targets for the recycling of packaging waste at 65% by 2025 and 70% by 2030.</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:21 AM)</p> <p>The Waste (Amending) Law (N. 104(I)/2021): The law transposes Directive (EU) 2018/851/EU amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste, which lays down measures to prevent or reduce the generation of waste and increase reuse and recycling. It introduces long-term targets imposing additional obligations for the reduction of waste and increases in separate collection, reuse and recycling, whereby by December 2023 organic waste must be separately collected and the preparation for reuse and recycling must rise to 55% by 2025, 60% by 2030 and 65% by 2035.</p>
Entry 5	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (01/03/2022 11:30 AM)</p> <p>Sewerage System for Dromolaxia-Meneou Municipality and the communities of Kiti, Pervolia and Tersefanou (Phase C1 of the Sewerage System of Larnaca): The implementation of Phase C1 of the Larnaca Sewerage System is funded under ESIF and includes the construction of the sewerage system for the Municipality of Dromolaxia-Meneou as well as the communities</p>

	<p>of Kiti and Pervolia with provision to serve Tersefanou community. The sewerage system, which cover all these areas, will be connected to the existing sewage treatment plant (STP) of Larnaca Sewerage and Drainage Board. The project is implemented by Larnaca Sewerage and Drainage Board (LSDB), under the supervision and support of the WDD. The connection of the community of Tersefanou with the sewerage system and therefore with the existing STP has been agreed as a compensatory measure for the community (due to the construction of a reservoir within Tersefanou boundaries that will be used for the storage of tertiary treated water, which will be produced by STP, during winter). The construction works of Phase C1 of the Larnaca Sewerage System will begin on June 2022 and estimated to be completed by the March of 2026.</p>
<p>Entry 6</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (01/03/2022 11:26 AM)</p> <p>Sewerage System of Pyrgos – Parekklesia: The Project, which is funded under ESIF, includes the construction of sewerage collection networks in Pyrgos and Parekklesia communities of approximate length 53.3 km and 10.600 PE will be served, as well as the construction of two pumping stations of the conveyance system. The Project Inclusion Decision was issued on June 17, 2021.</p>
<p>Entry 7</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (01/03/2022 11:25 AM)</p> <p>Implementation of a nationwide system for the separate collection of municipal waste: The implementation of a nationwide system for the separate collection of municipal waste, including recyclable and organic waste, in conjunction with a Pay-As-You-Throw scheme, will provide the necessary financial incentives to citizens, in order to reduce waste and will ensure proper separation at source that will facilitate reuse and recycling. It is expected to significantly contribute to the reduction and appropriate management of municipal waste. The bill was adopted by the HoR on 21.10.2021 and was published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Cyprus on 5.11.2021. The relevant regulations will follow.</p>

<p>Entry 8</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (01/03/2022 11:20 AM)</p> <p>Waste management policy - National Circular Economy Action Plan: Cyprus recognizes the importance of a circular economy which aims to redefine growth, focusing on environmental benefits, as well as the importance and need for the establishment of an effective waste management system. The National Circular Economy Action Plan was adopted by the CoM in June 2021. This Action Plan proposes targeted policies and actions on the basis of strengthening and promoting the Circular Economy in Cyprus. It includes actions that focus, inter alia, on creating a culture both among citizens (sustainable consumption) and among the manufacturers/entrepreneurs, effective incentives for industry to invest in the circular economy and creation of the necessary infrastructure. It consists of measures for project promoters, which act as incentives to the industry to invest in the circular economy, including the creation of inter alia: - a circular culture, - demand for circular products, - the necessary infrastructure for sustainable production of new or improved products, - the infrastructure for the utilisation of by-products, co-products and end-of-life products, - the infrastructure to increase the efficiency of available resources, and - a certification infrastructure. The Action Plan then addresses specific priorities such as the promotion of synergies in achieving economies of scale, creating favourable market conditions to boost circular products, boosting new economic activities, restructuring existing modes of operations and regulatory reform requirements. The Action plan also proposes specific legislative and political reforms towards policymakers and the adoption of circular culture in the financial sector. A prerequisite for the success of this initiative is the creation of an enhanced governance system that will ensure the implementation of actions, while also coordinating the multi-level cooperation required by all stakeholders. This role will be assumed by the Technical Committee created under the new governance structure for the Green Deal. The Committee will operate under the chairmanship of the MARDE, the MECI and the DMRIDP, while representatives of DG Growth and of businesses, as well as specialized experts where necessary, will participate in it.</p>
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Comments
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CSR 3 Subpart 6: sustainable transport,

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (03/03/2022 10:10 AM)</p> <p>Regular Public Passenger Transport Services: In the framework of the Concession Contracts for the Provision of Regular Public Passenger Transport Services with the use of buses that were announced in 2019 and will last for ten years , 2020-2030, minimum requirements have been set regarding the type (e.g. Euro VI or better) and age (e.g. bus age should be less than 5 years when are added to the fleet after the first year , average age of the fleet cumulatively shall result to an average age of fleet to less or equal to 10 years) of the buses which must be met by the entire bus fleet of Contractors. Also in the wider context of Energy Sustainability, investments will be made for the electrification of the bus fleet gradually within the next ten years. More specifically, the new concession contracts have been adopted for the Nicosia, Larnaca and Famagusta District and for the remaining districts (Limassol and Paphos), the procedures are in the final stages of adoption.</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (03/03/2022 10:07 AM)</p> <p>Infrastructure Projects on Sustainable Urban Mobilities Plans: The Public Works Department of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works is continuing its efforts to promote sustainable transport by realizing specific infrastructure projects favoring alternative environmentally friendly modes of transport (e.g. public transport, cycling, walking and associated ITS), within the framework of Sustainable Urban Mobilities Plans (SUMPs) in main urban areas. More specifically, the following projects are planned to be implemented: - Improvement of</p>

	<p>bus stations and bus stops/shelters and electrification of bus fleet (Cohesion Fund 2022-2029) (18/01/2022) - Redevelopment of the Nicosia tram corridor with the introduction of bus priority measures along the corridor (Cohesion Fund 2022-2029) - Promotion of cycling through the implementation of targeted actions (public funding 2021-2023) (26/10/2021)</p>
Comments	
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CSR 3 Subpart 7: digitalisation,

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (02/03/2022 09:09 AM)</p> <p>National Digital Strategy for 2020-2025: A new, holistic National Strategy has been completed and is at execution stage, under the sponsorship of the Ministerial Council and the Minister of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy as the competent executive sponsor for its deployment. A solid governance and KPI metrics for safeguarding proper execution and 2021 is acknowledged as a pivotal year for enhanced digital fitness of the society, the entrepreneurial landscape and eGovernment transformation. The Strategy has four dynamic strategic objectives: (i) a vibrant, sustainable and resilient economy, (ii) technology that works for people, (iii) an open, democratic and inclusive society, and (iv) a green, digital transition for Cyprus. Its deployment is based on four portfolios, for targeted and concentrated action: (i) the Digital government, (ii) the digital infrastructure, (iii) the digital economy, and (iv) the digital society portfolio. Solid tangible results -associated with the deployment of the new National Digital Strategy realized in 2021 (and on ongoing strong) in the accelerated deployment of eGovernment citizen services 50-70 new services deployed), new major digital reform projects realized (in the domain of Justice, Education, Town Planning and Lands & Surveys) as well as fast deployment of connectivity and Fiber-to-the-Home FttH</p>

	<p>for nationwide coverage. Also, new technologies (AI and Blockchain have been at the forefront of our focus with excellent results, positioning Cyprus in the leading Member States in Blockchain. Key foundational initiatives such as the new task force for Digital Services Factory, and Enterprise Architecture Team.</p>
<p>Entry 2</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (02/03/2022 09:10 AM)</p> <p>Connectivity- National Broadband Plan 2021-2025: Ensuring adequate access to communication infrastructures for all citizens is essential for the realisation of the opportunities of digital transformation. A number of divides exist in society including differences in access to broadband between rural and urban areas, and divides along gender, age, income and education. In this context bridging the broadband gap is needed to ensure an inclusive digital transformation so that the opportunities are harnessed by all, in this specific sector of the society and the economy. The above considerations are addressed in the new Cyprus Broadband Plan which sets the following strategic objectives for 2025: 1. Gigabit connectivity for all main socio-economic drivers 2. All premises in organized communities (urban or rural) to have access to internet connectivity offering a download speed of at least 100Mbps, which can be readily upgradable to 1 Gbps 3. 100% of the population living in organized communities (urban or rural), and all major terrestrial transport paths to have uninterrupted 5G coverage with a download speed of at least 100 Mbps 4. 70% of households to have an internet connection (take-up) with a download speed of at least 100Mbps Digital transformation can only be fully realised if high quality access to communication networks and services is made available at affordable prices for all people and firms, no matter who they are or where they live. This involves investing in significantly upgrading of digital infrastructures to address the increasing demand for data generated by the millions of devices coming online in the near future.</p>
<p>Comments</p>	

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CSR 3 Subpart 8: research and innovation.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 12:12 PM)</p> <p>Amendment of the Law on Aliens and Immigration regarding scientific visa: Cyprus, amended the national Aliens and Immigration legislation in order to incorporate the provisions of the relevant Council Directive 2016/801 regarding the procedure for the admission of third-country researchers for more than three months for the purposes of carrying out a research project under hosting agreements with research organizations. The "Scientific Visa" foresees procedures for the validation of Research organizations wishing to carry out hosting agreements with third country researchers and regulations for the facilitation of the submission of such requests through a fast track procedure. In the framework of this procedure, the RIF has been nominated as the national authority for the evaluation and validation of the hosting agreements. Currently the scheme is under review in order to simplify the process for applying and secure Scientific Visa. In this framework, DMRID is examining the possibility to introduce a digital service and an online application tool.</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 09:12 AM)</p> <p>Support to the 6 Centres of Excellence in Cyprus (relates to Action 1 under Reform 1 of Component 3.2 of the RRF): The Centres of Excellence for R&I (CoEs) are established through the Teaming action of the Strengthening Excellence and Widening Participation programme of Horizon 2020. The CoEs contribute greatly to the enhancement of the extroversion of the Cyprus R&I system and provide a framework for fostering innovation and for deepening academia-business cooperation and with neighbouring countries. In addition to Horizon 2020 funding (15 million euros) and other funding from various stakeholders of the</p>

	<p>public and private sector, the 6 CoEs are co-financed by the Government of Cyprus (Government Budget) with 15 million euros, for a period of 15 years. The DMRID, has developed a Support and Monitoring Mechanism for the 6 CoEs which was presented to the representatives of the Centers in October 2021. The Mechanism comprises in 2 Pillars with 7 categories of Actions. The mechanism, , will provide support services related to the operation and sustainability of the CoEs, focusing on the promotion of innovation, the commercialisation of research results, the strengthening of cooperation with the private and public sectors and the promotion of their extroversion and international networking. Additionally, the mechanism will monitor the operation of the CoEs and promote the alignment of their actions/services with the priorities of the National R&I Strategy.</p>
<p>Comments</p>	
<p>State of play</p>	

CSR.2020.4

CSR 4 Subpart 1: Step up action to address features of the tax system that facilitate aggressive tax planning by individuals and multinationals.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (01/03/2022 11:31 AM)</p> <p>Exchange of information about individuals who have obtained residence rights: Cyprus Tax Authorities, in collaboration with the Immigration Authorities, are in the process of developing the appropriate infrastructure to enable as soon as possible the spontaneous exchange of information (SEOI) mechanism about individuals who have obtained residence rights through the "Citizenship by Investment" (CBI) and "Residence by Investment" (RBI) (RBI/CBI) programme with all original jurisdictions of tax residence. It is reminded that the Council of Ministers has decided the abolishment of the 'Citizenship' scheme as of 1st of November, 2020.</p>
Comments	
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CSR 4 Subpart 2: Improve the efficiency and digitalisation of the judicial system

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:39 AM)</p> <p>Establishment of new Court Service: A project is underway funded by DG Reform, for the establishment of a new Court Service. The objective is the establishment of an efficient Court Service, which will undertake all aspects of management, administration and support of the courts. The new project will</p>

	<p>cover, inter alia, (a) the organisational and governance structure of the new Court Service, (b) gap analysis of administrative procedures, (c) ISO certifications of procedures, (d) re-engineering of court registries, (e) staffing requirements and (f) transitional arrangements for the establishment of the new Court Service. The kick-off meeting was held on 18.2.2021 and the designated date of the completion of the project is September 2022.</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:38 AM)</p> <p>Recruitment of 15 new judges: 15 new judges were appointed in July 2020 and 6 new judges in July 2021. Currently, two procedures are underway for the appointment of 15 additional District Judges in total.</p>
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:37 AM)</p> <p>Introduction of criteria for the selection/appointment and evaluation/promotion of judges: Introduction by the Supreme Court of detailed and transparent criteria for the selection/appointment and evaluation/promotion of judges, a project which was funded by DG REFORM of the European Commission. Following the study by the experts, the Supreme Court published in July 2019 new criteria for the recruitment of judges and in October 2019 criteria for the promotion of judges. All new appointments/promotions are now based on these new criteria.</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (14/03/2022 07:49 AM)</p> <p>Reoperation of the Supreme Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court as per the Constitution and establishment of a new Court of Appeal: Reoperation of the Supreme Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court as per the Constitution, thus splitting the current Supreme Court into two distinct courts, now being given a limited third-tier jurisdiction for the first time in Cypriot judicial history, and the establishment of a new Court of Appeal. The latter will be the court dealing with civil, criminal</p>

	<p>and administrative appeals at second instance. The Ministry of Justice and Public Order prepared and submitted on 30 May 2019 to the Parliament four draft bills establishing the above Courts. The draft bills are now pending before the competent Parliamentary Committee, whilst at the same time undergoing a new cycle of consultation with all relevant stakeholders.</p>
Entry 5	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:35 AM)</p> <p>Administrative Court for International Protection: The Administrative Court of International Protection is operational since June 2019 with 3 judges and was enhanced on 2020 through the recruitment of 2 new additional judges. The Supreme Court recently (30 November 2021) appointed 5 additional judges (total number of 10 judges).</p>
Entry 6	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:34 AM)</p> <p>Administrative Court: The Administrative Court which is operational since January 2016, was strengthened with two additional judges as from September 2017 (total number of 7 judges) and continues its improved performance which is showing results with the reduced number of pending administrative cases, whilst also providing relief to the Supreme Court which was handling these cases previously.</p>
Entry 7	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (01/03/2022 11:33 AM)</p> <p>Handling of financial disputes - judicial procedures relating to non-performing loans (NPLs): The Supreme Court assigned in February 2019 the handling of financial disputes - judicial procedures - to 6 District Court judges, in order to expedite the process. Appropriate training of the judges took place in December 2019.</p>
Entry 8	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (01/03/2022 11:41 AM)</p> <p>Enforcement of judgements: The Ministry of Justice and Public</p>

	<p>Order prepared a bill amending the Civil Procedure Law, so as to strengthen the legal framework for the enforcement of judgments. The provisions of the bill include measures which facilitate the execution of writs concerning the seizure of movable property. On 6.3.2020 the bill was discussed in the Legal Affairs Parliamentary Committee and is still pending. It has to be stressed that the provisions of the reviewed Procedural Rules provide for the execution of judgments.</p>
<p>Entry 9</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (01/03/2022 11:36 AM)</p> <p>Commercial and Admiralty Court: Two bills are pending before the House of Representatives concerning the establishment of a Commercial and Admiralty Court, to provide an appropriate forum for the determination of high-profile commercial cases. The five judicial posts which are already provided by the bills, have already been approved and are included in the state budget. Following a review of the bills, a decision was taken to create two separate jurisdictions, the Commercial Court and the Admiralty Court and thus two additional judicial posts have been added (5 judges will be appointed as Commercial Court judges and 2 judges will be appointed as Admiralty Court judges). The discussion in the competent Parliamentary Committee has been concluded and the bills are expected to be sent to the Plenary Session for their enactment into laws.</p>
<p>Entry 10</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (01/03/2022 11:32 AM)</p> <p>Bill for the increase of the jurisdiction of the District Court Judges and the Senior District Court judges: On the initiative of the Supreme Court a bill drafted by the Ministry of Justice and Public Order which provides for the increase of the jurisdiction of the District Court Judges and the District Court Judges, with regard to the amount of dispute they can hear and adjudicate, in order to allow more flexibility to the system. The bill was discussed (16.10.2019 and 15.11.2019) in the competent Parliamentary Committee of Legal Affairs and is pending for discussion at the plenary session.</p>

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CSR 4 Subpart 3: and the public sector.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 09:53 AM)</p> <p>Websites of the Department of Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver (DRCOR): The english versions of the two websites of the DRCIP (Companies Section and Intellectual Property Section) were launched. Both websites were structured in such a way so as to provide the maximum guidance to the public and hence reduce the need for support services. The relevant project was executed in 2 phases. Phase A, related to the design of the new websites' layout and the preparation of the technical specifications for their development and was financed by the SRSS. Phase B, related to the development of the 2 websites and it was financed by the Republic of Cyprus.</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 09:47 AM)</p> <p>Expansion of office automation system eOasis: The electronic document management system (eOASIS system) concerns the electronic management of the official documents of the Departments / Services of the public service, as well as the automation of the procedures and regulations that govern the creation, the archiving, the security and the handling of the documents. It is currently used in 36 departments/ services and the aim is to be roll out to cover the whole government. Providing infrastructure and software to rollout eoasis system throughout the Public Service. There are currently 4000 users (36 Departments / Services). The final number of eoasis users after the rollout of the system throughout the Public Service is expected to increase to 13500. This measure is financed by ESIF 2021-2027 and it is an ongoing measure on a rolling out basis to</p>

	cover all public services, with an implementation date end of December 2025.
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 09:46 AM)</p> <p>Expansion of Government Data Warehouse: The Government Data Warehouse keeps data from the various public information systems, which can be used in the decision-making process, and in formulating policy. The said project includes the replacement of the Teradata Data Warehouse Engine, the implementation of a Teradata BAR (Backup Archive and Restore) System, ETL (Extract Transform Load Process) Revisit and GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) Studies and enhancements and the creation of the Statistical Data Warehouse. It is financed by ESIF 2021-2027 and is expected to be completed by June 2024. The project started on November 2021, but due to a submission of a recourse to the Tenders Review Authority, the project is currently at a static status.</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 09:42 AM)</p> <p>Counter Automation System (C.A.S) for the Department of Postal Services: Implementation of an integrated information system for Counter Automation (C.A.S.) for the Department of Postal Services (DPS). This includes the supply, installation and configuration of the application software and the supply and installation of all the required computer and network equipment, system software and required services. The project is currently in the Design phase. Next phase of the project is the implementation phase. It is financed by ESIF 2021-2027 and is expected to be completed and in productive operation by July 2023 (08/07/2023).</p>
Entry 5	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 09:41 AM)</p> <p>Reform of the Government's web presence on the internet: This project consists of the complete redesign and adoption of a holistic approach to the development and management of government websites with a modern design and</p>

	<p>communication approach., by creating a content and governance structure horizontally for the entire government. It will be developed in two phases. Specifically: Phase A consists of (duration 18 months): (i) the design, development and implementation of a Unified Design System (UDS) to be used as a guiding framework for the design and implementation of government online presence and future services, (ii) the design, development and implementation of a Distribution on a Content Management System (CMS), through the application of the selected UDS, to be used as the core tool for the development of government online presence (Phase A – duration 6 months). (iii) the development of the GovCy Portal with - a. User focused content and service categories, based on life events, discovered through user research, design and analytics and agreed with the Contracting Authority b. Segmented content pages for 60 Government Web Sites (Type B- Subsite number of pages >50), c. 5 individual standalone Web Sites (Type B- Subsite number of pages >50) using the Unified Design System and GovCy Distribution. Phase B: has a duration of up to 36 months for Gov.Cy expansion Services with the addition of up to 200 web sites It is financed by ESIF 2021-2027 and the procurement of the tender procedure was 15/10/2021. It is expected to start at 01/05/2022 and is expected to be completed by August 2026.</p>
<p>Entry 6</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 13:24 PM)</p> <p>Cyprus Integrated Land information System for the Department of Land and Surveys: The first Phase of the project regarding the Upgrade of GIS Subsystem of Land Information System, which it is under ESIF (co-funded by the European Development Fund by 85% and by National Resources by 15%), is expected to be completed by May 2022. Phase B regarding the Legal and Fiscal aspects of the Land Information System, which it is under ESIF, is expected to be completed by November 2026. Phase C regarding the upgrade of the infrastructure of the Web Portal of the Department of Lands and Surveys "DLS Portal", which it is under ESIF, is expected to be completed by October 2023.</p>
<p>Entry 7</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 09:34 AM)</p>

	<p>Upgrade of the Payment system of the Social Insurance: The Payment System for the Social Insurance Services "SISnet" was upgraded in January 2021. The upgrade included the implementation of the payment through VISA Card and the online registration of users through CyLogin. The upgrade of the System is on an going basis and it includes the functionality for the mandatory electronic payment of arrears of contributions of employees by the Employer, for which there is a (i) recommendation of criminal procedures, (ii) plan for overdue debts for repayment in installments, and, to include the functionality for the mandatory electronic payment of the debts of the insurable contributions of the employees by the Employer, after conducting an investigation and finding that there was Undeclared Work (undeclared employees). These new functionalities are expected to be completed by December 2022. This project is state funded.</p>
<p>Entry 8</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 09:33 AM)</p> <p>Information System "Ippodamus": The overall objective of the "Ippodamus" systems project is the development and implementation of an Integrated Information System that will cover the IT needs and demands of all Town Planning and Housing Department Sectors as well as the management of Building Permits from the District Administration Offices. The Information system "Ippodamus" has been completed in February 2021. Based on the roll-out plan, the implementation of "Ippodamus" system will be completed by July 2022. This phase of the project is covered by ESIF funds. At this stage, as part of the Recovery and Resilience Plan for Cyprus, a number of new functions are under development (design and analysis) for the upgrade of the "Ippodamus" system. These functions are expected to be completed by the end of 2024.</p>
<p>Entry 9</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 09:26 AM)</p> <p>Reform and Restructuring of the Department of Registrar of Companies (DRCOR): In the context of implementation of the Action Plan for the Reform and Restructuring of the Department</p>

	<p>of Registrar of Companies and Intellectual Property (DRCIP) and the approval by the House of Parliament (18/12/2018) of the comprehensive legal package which aimed at further simplifying the existing legal framework and procedures regarding the filing obligations of registered organizations. MECI is proceeding with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the gradual implementation of new statutory forms (76 in total) of the Companies Section. The new statutory forms were redesigned or consolidated for simplification and have been enriched with explanatory notes and checklists, guiding the applicant through the process. Finally, and in order to facilitate how the information stored in the register can be searched for, all statutory forms have been designed in a machine-readable and searchable format, enabling at the same time the identification, recognition and extraction of specific data into the system. • 12/2/2021, the 1st bundle (27 forms) of the new statutory forms was implemented • 6/12/2021 the 2nd bundle (22 forms) was implemented • To achieve smooth transition and educate the department's personnel and external stakeholders in filling in the forms, a series of targeted online webinars were executed (13 in total) with the legal firm responsible for the drafting of the above-mentioned legal package. The project relating to the drafting of the comprehensive legal package which included the Companies Section's new statutory forms was financed by the SRSS. The 3rd bundle of forms (27 in total) will be implemented with the new system solution to be implemented in 2025 (the project for the new system solution is included in the RRP nr.95).
<p>Entry 10</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 07:47 AM)</p> <p>Digitalization of applications for Social Insurance benefits of the Social Insurance Services: As of 7/02/2022 the application for sickness benefit is submitted electronically. The Government is in the process of digitalizing other applications which are most widely used by citizens by the end of 2022</p>
<p>Entry 11</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 07:46 AM)</p> <p>Establishment of a new Directorate General for the Environment:</p>

	<p>The new Directorate General for the Environment was established by a CoM decision on 2/9/2021 in the context of restructuring the institutional framework for the management of environmental affairs. The operational framework and structure of the Directorate General for the Environment will be prepared in the next months.</p>
<p>Entry 12</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 07:42 AM)</p> <p>Establishment of a new Deputy Ministry for Social Welfare: The Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare was established according to the Law N. 89(I)/2021 on 6th of May 2021. Its mission is to develop and implement a national strategy which will ensure conditions of social cohesion, solidarity and decent standard of living, as well as the provision of social protection, fight against social exclusion and promotion of equal opportunities for all citizens of Cyprus. Furthermore the Deputy Ministry is responsible for (a) the implementation of the Plan for Restructuring and Modernization of Social Welfare Services approved by the CoM, which aims at strengthening the social welfare and solidarity services, (b) the upgrading of the social services with the aim of creating conditions of more efficient and effective operation for the benefit of the citizens and the vulnerable families and groups, and (c) the modernization of the existing social welfare framework in order to handle of the growing needs of society.</p>
<p>Entry 13</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (02/03/2022 09:20 AM)</p> <p>Electronic administration of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry: Development of a dynamic electronic system that will operate as a central integrated electronic platform for the electronic administration of the entire Ministry's funding applications. The new electronic system aims to utilize the potential benefits of electronic administration for its funding schemes and to facilitate an appropriate and effective digital transformation for the Ministry (facilitate e-engineering and standardization of schemes and procedures, utilize digital automation, reduce bureaucracy and costs, reduce response time to provide funding, increase efficiency and effectiveness in EU funding administrations, utilize digital technology and</p>

	<p>enhance e-governance). The system has already successfully hosted the electronic submission of numerous funding schemes (e.g. Digital Upgrading of SME's with 509 submissions, Technological Enhancement of SMEs in the Manufacturing sector, Increasing the Energy efficiency of existing buildings (Houses) and New Entrepreneurial Activity) including the consequent modules (reusable Building Blocks) for the electronic administration of applications and the payments from December 2019 up to January 2022. Within 2022, 9 new funding schemes will be hosted (e.g. processing and/or trading of agricultural products, increasing the Energy efficiency of existing buildings (Companies) etc.) The new system already incorporates electronic communication and data interchange with other Government systems thus utilizing effectively the existing governmental ICT infrastructure (Ariadni e-gateway and various reusable web-services), reinforcing e-strategy and providing digital scalability. In parallel to its modular development, the new electronic system will gradually host and administer all the stages of applications administration (end-to-end) to eventually covering all funding schemes of the Ministry. The software infrastructure (reusable building blocks of the system) is being developed gradually (in agile phases). The various funding schemes are being administered through the electronic platform (utilizing delivered/existing system functionalities) in parallel to the system development. Up to now (Jan.2022) there have been 6 schemes on the Platform and up to Jun.2022 it is scheduled to host three (3) additional schemes.</p>
<p>Entry 14</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (04/03/2022 10:13 AM)</p> <p>Digitalization of the Medical records of patients: The Digitization of the physical medical records of patients, aims to create an electronic archive of the patient records and to provide direct and simultaneous access to it by medical, paramedical and other staff through web-viewing software providing highest quality medical care for the patient. The digitization of the physical medical records will be applied to state hospitals and health centers under the State Health Services Organization. It is mentioned that there is currently an appeal at the administrative court. It is estimated that there will be a decision in April and the project will start in June. It is financed by ESIF 2021-2027 and is</p>

	expected to be completed by June 2023.
Comments	
State of play	



CSR.2019.1

CSR 1 Subpart 1: Adopt key legislative reforms to improve efficiency in the public sector, in particular as regards the functioning of the public administration

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:16 AM)</p> <p>Websites of the Department of Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver (DRCOR): See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:15 AM)</p> <p>Establishment of a new Directorate General for the Environment: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3</p>
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:11 AM)</p> <p>Establishment of a new Deputy Ministry for Social Welfare: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:09 AM)</p> <p>Expansion of office automation system -eOasis: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3</p>
Entry 5	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:01 AM)</p> <p>Expansion of Government Data Warehouse: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3</p>
Entry 6	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:00 AM)</p>

	Counter Automation System (C.A.S) for the Department of Postal Services: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3
Entry 7	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 09:59 AM) Reform of the Government's web presence on the internet: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3
Entry 8	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 09:58 AM) Cyprus Integrated Land Information System for the Department of Land and Surveys: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3
Entry 9	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 09:26 AM) Upgrade of the Payment system of the Social Insurance Services: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3
Entry 10	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 09:25 AM) Information System "Ippodamus": See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3
Entry 11	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 09:19 AM) Reform and Restructuring of the Department of Registrar of Companies (DRCOR): See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3
Entry 12	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 09:17 AM) Electronic administration of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3
Entry 13	MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (04/03/2022 10:10 AM)

	Digitalization of the Medical records of patients: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.3
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 1 Subpart 2: and the governance of State-owned entities

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:39 AM)</p> <p>Procedure for the establishment of new entities: The establishment of a new entity as per article 96(3) of the FRBSL can be approved only when the Minister of Finance considers that the economic and financial benefits outweigh the cost that may occur from its absence. Accordingly, a Circular letter was issued by the MoF dated 9/2/2021, that defines a detailed process for the submission of proposal for the establishment of a new entity which provides, inter alia, that the proposal should: - identify, firstly the need and the reasoning for creating the new entity, with the specific legal status, - provide the financial impact that will occur from the establishment of the new entity, - provide a risk assessment report, - outline the initial strategic plan of the new entity, its governance structure and issues of internal control, - provide the consolidated version of the report to the MoF for their assessment and views, and - submit the final version of the proposal to the CoM for initial approval.</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:39 AM)</p> <p>Investments by the SOEs: Pursuant to the provisions of article 3 of the SOEs law (Investments) of 1991 (N.100(I)/91), the Minister of Finance issued on the 16/9/2019 the investment framework for surpluses of entities defined in Annex I of the aforementioned</p>

	Law.
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:38 AM)</p> <p>Public Investment Projects: Based on the percentage of the grant provided by the state covering their total budgets, a number of SOEs (including public Universities which are responsible for the implementation of a series of infrastructure projects) have been included in the general procedure for preselection and appraisal of public investment projects, as this is defined under articles 84 and 85 of the FRBSL law.</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:37 AM)</p> <p>Code of Public Governance as a tool for self-control and self-governance for all the entities under the control of the government: In order to further improve the governance and promote and maximize the services that are being provided by SOEs, the CoM decided (Dec. no. 87.869, 25/07/2019) the following: - to approve the application of the principles of the Code of Public Governance by the SOEs, as provided in the FRBSL, depending on their legal form and activities, - to authorize the responsible Ministers to request from SOEs, which are under their supervision, (a) prepare the profile (academic, professional and experience qualifications) that the Chairman/Chairwoman and the Members of the Board of Directors should have, and (b) to submit a compliance statement for the Code of Public Governance on a yearly basis. To safeguard compliance, a relevant "self-assessing" questionnaire as to the implementation of the 6 basic Pillars of the Code, along with a compliance certificate to be signed by the Chairman of the Board of each SOE has been circulated to the SOEs which have to be submitted annually along with their Budget to the competent Minister, and subsequently to the MoF and to the CoM. The Code's purpose is to define a unified approach for all the entities under the control of the government, without limiting their flexibility to develop their own mechanisms for the internal control of their governance system. It must be seen as a tool for self-control and self-governance.</p>

<p>Entry 5</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:36 AM)</p> <p>Guidance on the procedure of the identification, analysis, evaluation and management of risk and generally on the context of the Self-Assessment Risks Reports: The MoF has issued a circular dated 04/05/2020, providing guidance on the procedure of the identification, analysis, evaluation and management of risk and generally on the context of the Self-Assessment Risks Reports. For the year 2020, a number of such reports have been submitted to the CoM. From 2021, the Self-Assessment Risks Report will be submitted on a yearly basis within the overall framework of the budget submission of each SOE.</p>
<p>Entry 6</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:35 AM)</p> <p>Enhancement of the procedure for the approval of SOEs' budgets: Acknowledging the need to provide further guidance to the SOEs with regard to the application of the provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget System Law (20(I)/2014) (FRBSL) that was enacted in 2014 as the main legislative framework for the implementation of the Public Financial Management, a decision was taken by the CoM (dec.no.87.226, 09/04/2019) according to which, SOEs are requested to prepare their budgets on a 3-year rolling basis (medium term budgetary framework), defining also an explicit timeline for the submission of budgets by SOEs. The CoM decision also provides that SOEs are obliged to prepare gradually their budget strategic plans interlinked with their budget, in order to adopt an activity-based budget approach, and a self-assessment risks report to be submitted annually to the CoM, for information purposes/relevant actions, if considered necessary. The new framework provides to the SOEs the tools needed in order to adopt a more modern approach on management issues and to the government the mechanism for enhancing its supervisory role. In this respect, an informative seminar on the provisions of the FRBSL was also organized by the MoF.</p>
<p>Entry 7</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:34 AM)</p>

	<p>Effective management of state grants granted to a number of SOEs: The CoM approved (Dec. no. 86.013, 24/10/2018) the formulation of a specific procedure for the effective management of the state grants in order for the beneficiaries to become accountable for their decisions and to safeguard the improvement of their governance. A relevant circular was issued on 18/01/2019 which defines the procedure that must be followed by the Controlling Officers in order for the SOEs to be eligible to receive their grant. The procedure is thorough and requires SOEs to provide information to the competent Ministries/Deputy Ministries, concerning, amongst others, strategic planning, staff recruitment, public procurement procedures etc.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 1 Subpart 3: and local governments.

Measures	
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 1 Subpart 4: Address features of the tax system that may facilitate aggressive tax planning by individuals and multinationals, in particular by means of outbound payments by multinationals.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (04/03/2022 10:41 AM)</p> <p>Exchange of information about individuals that have obtained residence rights: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.1</p>

Comments
State of play

CSR.2019.2

CSR 2 Subpart 1: Facilitate the reduction of non-performing loans including by setting up an effective governance structure for the State-owned asset management company,

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:51 AM)</p> <p>Effective Governance of KEDIPES: The effective governance of the Cyprus Asset Management Company Ltd (KEDIPES), aims at reducing the stock of NPLs under its ownership, even though these are recorded out of the banking sector's balance sheet. Recent progress is summarized as follows: -Fully functioning Board of Directors and Risk, Audit, Nominations & Remuneration Committees in place. - On-going progress in implementation of Central Bank of Cyprus' (CBC) On-Site Inspection findings on governance matters. - Action plan in place for establishing conformity with the new guidelines from CBC on the governance of CACs. - Further strengthening of middle level management at Monitoring and Deleveraging and Risk Management functions with external hires. - Further Organisational structure enhancement with key change being the consolidation of certain functions under the Chief Operating Officer. - Progress on employee matters, pending approval by trade unions. More specifically: (a)The Board of Directors approved the Collective Agreement for 2019-22 (b) Launch of a Voluntary Redundancy Scheme to downsize staff numbers. (c) Compensation mechanism has been designed to be offered to staff outsourced to the KEDIPES loan servicer, in order to terminate the right to return to KEDIPES.</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:48 AM)</p> <p>Addressing the most challenging portfolio of NPEs - ESTIA scheme: The ESTIA scheme aims at protecting the primary residence and provide financial assistance to borrowers with NPLs backed by their primary residence. For viable eligible debtors, NPLs will be restructured with the state undertaking</p>

	<p>about one third of instalments of the restructured facility provided the debtor serves the remaining facility with no arrears. Preliminary results as of July 2021 show that about €200 mln of NPLs will benefit from the Scheme and will be resolved over time if debtors abide with their new repayment schedule. This figure corresponds to about 800 successful applications out of ca. 4400 fully completed applications and ca. 6400 submitted (including incomplete) applications. The most important reason for rejection has been the breach of income and wealth criteria likely evidencing the prudence of the government subsidisation Scheme.</p>
<p>Entry 3</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:46 AM)</p> <p>Law for suspension of foreclosure proceedings: There was a six-month voluntary suspension of foreclosure procedures due to the onset of the pandemic between March 2020 until August 2020. In December 2020, the HoR enacted a law which suspended foreclosure proceedings for primary residences (up to an open market value of €350.000) and small business premises between January 2021 to March 2021. This law was later amended to provide for a further short term and targeted suspension, until end July 2021, for the following categories: (a) Primary residence of the debtor, with an estimated value up to €500.000 (from €350.000). (b) Business premises with less than 10 employees and annual turnover up to €2.000.000. (c) Agricultural plot of the debtor, which is in agricultural or livestock zone or in any other zone in which agricultural or livestock activities are being exercised, with an estimated value up to €250.000. Thus, it affects a much larger perimeter of loans than the previous suspensions of foreclosures (N. 98(I)/2021). The HoR voted for a further short-term suspension of foreclosures until 31 October 2021. The said perimeter is limited compared to the previous suspension to include primary residences with an estimated value up to €0.35 mln (from €0.5 mln), small business properties with an annual turnover of up to €0.75 mln (from €2 mln) and agricultural plots with an estimated value up to €0.1 mln (from €0.25 mln). The Government has decided to refer the said Law voted by Parliament to the Supreme Court, raising constitutional issues. The Supreme Court of Cyprus is to rule on the constitutionality of the law extending the 21 suspension period.</p>

<p>Entry 4</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:42 AM)</p> <p>Foreclosures of real estate property: Foreclosures of real estate property are enabled and regulated in the Immovable Property (Transfer and Mortgage) Law of 2018, amending previous legislation of 2014. The amending provisions of 2018 allowed for the streamlining of the process under a concrete timeline and removal of provisions that were causing delays in implementing the law. Electronic auctions were subsequently introduced in late 2019. As a result, the timeframe for foreclosure of collateral was brought down from previously around 10 years to less than 12 months, rendering it one of the shortest periods in the EU3. Building on the foreclosure framework, the Ministerial Decree regulating the specifications and operating requirements for the e-auctions was issued on 1st November 2019. The system carries out auctions of mortgaged properties on behalf of mortgage lenders, for whose benefit the mortgage was registered. Mortgage lenders may be credit institutions, credit acquiring companies, other companies and individuals. From inception to 30th of June 2021, a total of 2,202 e-auctions have been conducted of which 205 auctions resulted in a successful sale (9%). During 2020, 1,081 auctions were conducted and of these 84 auctions resulted in a successful sale (8%). For the first half of 2021, 1,121 auctions have been conducted and 121 auctions resulted in a successful sale (11%). While the initial rate of sales through e-auctions has been rather moderate, there has been positive feedback from mortgage lenders as well as prospective purchasers of credit facilities. Until end June 2021, there were over 51,000 unique viewers of the System and 1,277 registered users in the System. Recent amendments to the foreclosure framework that entered into force in June 2020, which cover a portfolio with specific characteristics as far as its collateral type and their open market value taking into account if the foreclosure process has been initiated, have yet to be tested by creditors and courts. It is estimated however that the majority of the NPL stock will not be affected, as, for most of the outstanding portfolio, legal and foreclosure actions had been initiated under the previous legal regime, rendering them non eligible for the process. The creditors have been making considerable use of the foreclosure tool. Its effectiveness is shown both by the resolution rate of problematic loans before reaching the auction stage – through cash settlements,</p>
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	<p>restructurings or swaps with real estate assets, and the sales completed through auctions. Moreover, the repossession of the mortgage property by banks, six months after the first auction has further facilitated the resolving of NPLs. It is noteworthy that sales through auctions have been completed mostly for agricultural land, commercial property and residential property under construction, but not for primary residences. Building on the foreclosure framework, the Ministerial Decree regulating the specifications and operating requirements for the e-auctions was issued on 1st November 2019. The system carries out auctions of mortgaged properties on behalf of mortgage lenders, for whose benefit the mortgage was registered. Mortgage lenders may be credit institutions, credit acquiring companies, other companies and individuals. From inception to 30th of June 2021, a total of 2,202 e-auctions have been conducted of which 205 auctions resulted in a successful sale (9%). During 2020, 1,081 auctions were conducted and of these 84 auctions resulted in a successful sale (8%). For the first half of 2021, 1,121 auctions have been conducted and 121 auctions resulted in a successful sale (11%). While the initial rate of sales through e-auctions has been rather moderate, there has been positive feedback from mortgage lenders as well as prospective purchasers of credit facilities. Until end June 2021, there were over 51,000 unique viewers of the System and 1,277 registered users in the System.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 2 Subpart 2: taking steps to improve payment discipline

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:53 AM)</p> <p>Public campaign for the promotion of alternative dispute resolution: The latest public campaign for the promotion of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) took place in November</p>

	2019 whereas no legislative changes are required, since the legal framework for ADR and mediation is already in place.
Entry 2	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:52 AM) Collateral foreclosure procedure: The collateral foreclosure procedure was overhauled in 2018, resulting in a total foreclosure period of less than 1 year. This has evidently contributed towards a change in the attitude of some debtors with terminated NPLs, indicated by their cooperation to settle their debt once informed about the initiation of the foreclosure process. Law 87(I) 2018
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 2 Subpart 3: and strengthening the supervision of credit-acquiring companies.

Measures
Comments
State of play

CSR 2 Subpart 4: Strengthen supervision capacities in the non-bank financial sector, including by fully integrating the insurance and pension-fund supervisors.

Measures
Comments
State of play

CSR.2019.3

CSR 3 Subpart 1: Complete reforms aimed at increasing the effectiveness of the public employment services and reinforce outreach and activation support for young people

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:19 AM)</p> <p>Production of informative leaflets, digital/ on line promotion material as well as user friendly videos and media advertisements: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:18 AM)</p> <p>Temporary recruitment of 30 employment counsellors extended until the end of 2029: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2</p>
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:18 AM)</p> <p>More focused provision of guidance to employees and employers by the Employment counsellors: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:17 AM)</p> <p>Digitalization of services (substituting the traditional provision of physical services): See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2</p>
Entry 5	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:17 AM)</p> <p>A strategic document for the design and implementation of ALMPs: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2</p>
Entry 6	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:10 AM)</p>

	Security Guards Services: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2
Entry 7	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:09 AM) Subsidy scheme for the employment of unemployed people: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2
Entry 8	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:09 AM) Subsidy scheme for detainees: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2
Entry 9	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:08 AM) d. Subsidy scheme for the employment of unemployed people with chronic diseases: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2
Entry 10	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:07 AM) Subsidy Scheme for the Employment of unemployed people with disabilities: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2
Entry 11	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:06 AM) Subsidy scheme for the employment of unemployed people aged 15-29 (NEETs): See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2
Entry 12	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:05 AM) Monitoring and evaluation of ALMPs: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2
Entry 13	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:05 AM) Online platform for the self-service for employers: See CSR 2020.2

	Subpart 2.2
Entry 14	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:03 AM) Promotion of the profiling of Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs): See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2
Entry 15	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:59 AM) Development of Employers' Unit: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2
Entry 16	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 10:58 AM) Program for guidance and support to vulnerable jobseekers: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2
Entry 17	MEASURE TYPE: Announced (04/03/2022 11:19 AM) Introduction of advanced digital technology:
Entry 18	MEASURE TYPE: Announced (04/03/2022 11:16 AM) Preparation of a legislative proposal regarding PES operation: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2
Entry 19	MEASURE TYPE: Announced (04/03/2022 11:16 AM) Surveys – Questionnaires and documents: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2
Entry 20	MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (04/03/2022 11:15 AM) IT system of PES: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2

Entry 21	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (04/03/2022 11:04 AM)</p> <p>Mapping of NEETs: See CSR 2020.2 Subpart 2.2</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 3 Subpart 2: Deliver on the reform of the education and training system, including teacher evaluation, and increase employers' engagement and learners' participation in vocational education and training,

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (11/04/2022 12:52 PM)</p> <p>System of Vocational Qualifications: System of Vocational Qualifications (SVQ): The SVQ constitutes an integral part of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), which is referenced to the European Qualifications Framework (EQF). The System is designed for the assessment and certification of the competence of a person to carry out a specific job in real or/and simulated working conditions. The Vocational Qualifications Standards (VQS) define the framework for the training and development of a person, providing to the person the opportunity to reach the appropriate competence level. During the programming period 2014-2020, two projects within the framework of the SVQ are co-financed by the European Social Fund (ESF) and the HRDA: i. The first project concerns the "Expansion and Operation of the System of Vocational Qualifications (SVQ)" and is expected to award 4.000 certificates. During 2021, 286 certificates were awarded and total expenditure amounted to €215.874. 45. ii. The second project concerns the "Development of Vocational Qualifications Standards (VQS)" through which the 72 existing VQS developed during the programming period 2007-2013 will be revised and new VQS will be developed. The second project will be completed in the first six months of 2022 with the approval of 167</p>

	VQS. During 2021, total expenditure amounted to €292.526.
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (11/04/2022 12:47 PM)</p> <p>HRDA Research Studies: The findings of the HRDA research studies on the anticipation of skill needs constitute a significant tool for guidance which also contribute to improve labour market relevance of education and training. For the systematic employment forecasting and the identification of skills gaps, the HRDA conducts the following research studies: - Forecasts of employment needs in the Cyprus economy: The HRDA provides 10-year employment forecasts on a regular basis. The latest study, which was completed in 2017, covers the period 2017-2027 and provides forecasts for employment needs in economic sectors (3 broad sectors, 21 main sectors and 52 sectors) and in 309 occupations (173 high level occupations, 130 middle level occupations and 6 low level occupations) covering the whole spectrum of the Cyprus labour market. The next study is expected to be completed by the end of 2022 and will cover the period 2022-2032. - Identification of employment and training needs: This study provides annual estimates for the number of persons needed for specific occupations and the needs for specific skills. Based on these estimates, suggestions are put forward for the implementation of training programmes. In the study, the views of enterprises, social partners and other stakeholders are collected and analysed. - Identification of green skill needs in the Cyprus economy: This study examines and analyses the green economy and green occupations, mapping out the green economy of Cyprus for the period 2017-2027. Additionally, it identifies the green skill needs for specific occupations of the green economy of Cyprus, which includes 30 economic sectors and 60 occupations from the whole spectrum of the Cyprus labour market. - Identification of blue skill needs in the Cyprus economy: This study examines and analyses the blue economy and blue occupations, maps out the blue economy of Cyprus and identifies blue skill needs in the Cyprus economy for the period 2016-2026. It provides forecasts for employment demand in economic sectors and occupations which are part of the blue economy. The identification of skills focuses on maritime, shipping, fishing and maritime and coastal tourism occupations. The study leads to suggestions aiming for</p>

	<p>the timely and planned satisfaction of Cyprus's blue economy needs in the areas of employment and human resource development, education and training. The results of the HRDA's studies are utilised by policy makers for the development of strategies and policies in education, training and lifelong learning. Furthermore, they are utilised at operational level for the development of programmes of study in education, including the programmes of study of technical schools and the post-secondary institutes of vocational education and training. They are also utilised by people involved in counselling, such as secondary education vocational guidance teachers and employment counsellors, and by the general public.</p>
<p>Entry 3</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 09:36 AM)</p> <p>System for the Assessment and Accreditation of Training Providers: The aim of the System, which has been ongoing since 2015, is to assess physical and legal entities dealing with the organisation and implementation of training activities and/or with the provision of infrastructure facilities for their implementation, to be certified as Vocational Training Centres, Vocational Training Facilities and Trainers of Vocational Training. Certification through the System is compulsory for those who want to cooperate with the HRDA for the implementation of training activities. Persons who want to become Trainers of Vocational Training must successfully go through the assessment and certification procedure following the System of Vocational Qualifications (SVQ) operated by HRDA and acquire the Trainer of Vocational Training Qualification (EQF/CyQF 5, SVQ Level 5). During 2021, total expenditure amounted to €80.982.</p>
<p>Entry 4</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 09:36 AM)</p> <p>High Priority Multi-Company Training Programmes: The scheme aims at providing continuing training to meet the training needs of employees through participation in training programmes in specific high-priority issues implemented by certified vocational training centres. During 2021, there were 1.397 participations and total expenditure amounted to €2.124.597. The programmes implemented within the latter four schemes are designed on the</p>

	<p>basis of documents, prepared by the HRDA every two years following consultation with interested bodies, that contain the themes for the training programmes it subsidises, which are communicated to the enterprises and training providers. These programmes cover a broad range of subjects in relation to all the operations of the enterprise and all the professions. The HRDA has developed a mode of operations allowing it to respond in a flexible manner to the needs of both the unemployed and the employed as well as the enterprises. In response to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic and to help contain its spread, the HRDA has promoted the utilisation of e-learning methods by the organisers of subsidised training programmes, as of 26th March 2020. This development is seen not only as a response to a threat but also as a push for faster adoption of ICTs in vocational training.</p>
<p>Entry 5</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 09:34 AM)</p> <p>Standard Multi-Company Training Programmes - Participation of the employed: The scheme aims at providing continuing training for meeting the training needs of employees through their participation in training programmes implemented by certified public or private vocational training centres. They cover a broad range of issues in all operations of the enterprise and in all occupations. During 2021, there were 9.810 participations and total expenditure amounted to €3.713.636.</p>
<p>Entry 6</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 09:33 AM)</p> <p>Single-Company Training Programmes Abroad: The scheme aims at providing incentives to employers to participate with their personnel in training programmes abroad in order to acquire specialised knowledge and skills in areas related to the introduction of innovation, new technology and technical know-how. During 2021, there were 14 participations, and total expenditure amounted to €43.842.</p>
<p>Entry 7</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 09:32 AM)</p>

	<p>Single-Company Training Programmes in Cyprus: The Scheme aims at providing incentives to employers to design and organise in-company training programmes, implemented by internal or external trainers, in order to meet the specific needs of the enterprise for the effective utilisation of its personnel. During 2021, there were 26.805 participations total expenditure amounted to €4.253.637.</p>
Entry 8	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 09:31 AM)</p> <p>Special Scheme for the Training of the Employed in Specific Economic Sectors Affected by the Pandemic: The Scheme aims to develop the skills and knowledge of the employed persons in six thematic areas: managing crises and developing business continuity; digital knowledge and skills; safety and health at work and risk assessment at the workplace; principles of food health and personal hygiene; environmental issues. During 2021 there were 46 participations and total expenditure amounted to €19.568.</p>
Entry 9	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 09:23 AM)</p> <p>Standard Multi-Company Training Programmes - Participation of the unemployed: Each certified public or private vocational training centre may accept unemployed persons who are registered with the PES to participate in training programmes covering a broad range of issues. The unemployed can enrich their knowledge and skills and improve their prospects for reintegration into employment. In response to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic and to help contain its spread, the HRDA has promoted the utilisation of e-learning methods by the organisers of subsidised training programmes, as of 26th March 2020. During 2021, 601 unemployed persons benefitted from the Scheme and total expenditure amounted to €138.600.</p>
Entry 10	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 09:22 AM)</p> <p>Training Programmes for the Unemployed: The Scheme aims at the provision of training opportunities for the unemployed in</p>

	<p>order to acquire, enrich and/or upgrade their skills and knowledge, in accordance with the needs observed in the labour market, which in turn will broaden their prospects for reintegration in employment, as well as meet their expectations for a new professional career. Training programmes may include an on-the-job practical training part in an organisation/enterprise. During 2021 unemployed persons benefitted from the Scheme and total expenditure amounted to €14.949.</p>
Entry 11	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 08:42 AM)</p> <p>Scheme for the Training of the Long-term Unemployed in Enterprises/ Organisations: The Scheme offers opportunities to the long-term unemployed in order to integrate/reintegrate in employment with the parallel acquisition of the necessary knowledge and skills. The HRDA provides incentives to employers in order to design, organise and implement in-company training programmes to cover the training needs of newly employed persons who were long-term unemployed. As of 2022, the applications for participation in the Scheme are submitted electronically through the HRDA's new portal. During 2021, 94 long-term unemployed persons benefitted from the Scheme and total expenditure amounted to €348.441.</p>
Entry 12	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:56 AM)</p> <p>Scheme for the Employment and Training of Tertiary Education Graduates: The scheme aims at providing opportunities to tertiary education graduates less than 30 years old, to secure a suitable job and acquire work experience and specialised knowledge and skills, while at the same time strengthening enterprises and organisations through the employment and training of qualified persons. As of 1/1/22, the applications for participation in the Scheme are submitted electronically through the HRDA's new portal. During 2021, 767 unemployed graduates benefitted from the Scheme and total expenditure amounted to €4.539.827.</p>

<p>Entry 13</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:54 AM)</p> <p>Special Scheme for the Vocational Training of the Unemployed in Organisations of the Public and broader Public sector, Local Government Authorities, NGOs and Non-Profit Institutions: The new scheme aims at the provision of vocational training and work experience to the unemployed and at the same time providing opportunities to organisations of the public and broader public sector, local government authorities, non-governmental organisations and non-profit institutions, to utilise human resources through the implementation of appropriate vocational training and work experience programmes. During 2021, 537 unemployed persons benefitted from the scheme and total expenditure amounted to €2.061.400.</p>
<p>Entry 14</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:52 AM)</p> <p>Modernize of the apprenticeship system: The apprenticeship system is also being modernized, offering learning pathways with prospects for their students. The programmes offered by the Apprenticeship Scheme have been linked with the formal upper secondary VET programmes offered by the Evening Schools of Technical and Vocational Education (second chance schools), through the use of ECVET units of learning outcomes. The graduates of the Apprenticeship Scheme are entitled to attend the Evening Schools of Technical and Vocational Education with part of their education and training (prior learning) acquired in the context of the Apprenticeship Scheme being recognized and transferred. As a result, they are given the opportunity to complete formal upper secondary education and acquire a School Leaving Certificate in two years instead of three.</p>
<p>Entry 15</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:51 AM)</p> <p>Information campaigns: Organization of information campaigns regarding the employment/career prospects offered by Secondary Technical and Vocational Education, mainly addressed to students of lower secondary education (Gymnasiums). These campaigns include visits from STVET staff to</p>

	all the Gymnasiums of Cyprus and the organization of information meetings
Entry 16	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:49 AM)</p> <p>Establishment of three new Evening Schools: Establishment of three new Evening Schools of Technical and Vocational Education in Larnaca, Pafos and free area of the Famagusta district. These started operating as of September 2019. It should be noted that the MoECSY has introduced a new framework of Second Chance Schools (Evening Schools of General Education and Evening Schools of Technical and Vocational Education) which focuses upon three axes: (a) the design of New Curricula, (b) the development of new Timetables and (c) the introduction of New Regulations. The increased number from two to five Evening Schools of Technical and Vocational Education (ESTVE) was made in order to promote further participation in secondary technical and vocational education and support the integration of school dropouts into the workplace and the society in general.</p>
Entry 17	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:49 AM)</p> <p>Introduction of Secondary Technical and Vocational Education specializations in Secondary General Education Schools: New specialisations were introduced in two Lyceums which were renamed to Lyceums and Technical Vocational Schools.</p>
Entry 18	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:48 AM)</p> <p>Introduction of new specializations at the higher VET level (Public School of Higher VET): Courses related to entrepreneurship have been introduced on Supplying Change Management and Maritime Studies, Organic Horticultural Crops, Bakery – Confectionery and Culinary Arts. (1/9/20)</p>
Entry 19	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:47 AM)</p>

	<p>Introduction of new specializations at the secondary VET level on Sailors and Ship Mechanics: Introduction of new specializations at the secondary VET level on Sailors and Ship Mechanics ("Maritime Professions" field of studies) in the context of promoting the blue economy and Viticulture-Oenology and Aesthetics in relation to which a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed with the MARDE.</p>
<p>Entry 20</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:46 AM)</p> <p>Memoranda of Cooperation with the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Cyprus Employers and Industrialists Federation In order to achieve employers' engagement, the MoECSY has signed Memoranda of Cooperation with the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (05/06/2019), and the Cyprus Employers and Industrialists Federation (22/07/2019). The Memoranda include, among others, measures for the development of new or the review of existing VET curricula, in order to be aligned with changing labour market needs. They also include measures for the facilitation of industrial placement of VET students in enterprises.</p>
<p>Entry 21</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:44 AM)</p> <p>Development of the Vocational Education and Training" project: A project titled "Development of the Vocational Education and Training" co-funded by the Republic of Cyprus and ESF, supporting the improvement of quality in VET, started in October of 2015 and its funding ended in December of 2021 with a 100% degree of funding absorption. The project renewed and it is co-funded by ESF for the period 2021-2027 with an increased overall budget of 38 million euros will end in December of 2023. The overall intended outcome is to further develop and improve technical and vocational education and training in Cyprus. More specifically, the aim is to improve the correlation between technical and vocational education and training and labour market needs, ease the transition from education to work, improve the overall quality of teaching and learning taking place in VET schools and structures and increase student participation in VET education. The project is implemented via</p>

	Decisions made by the CoM within the overall context of STVET Strategic Planning.
Entry 22	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:42 AM)</p> <p>Distribution of tablets to students: A total of 12,958 tablets were distributed to students of all levels of education. 4,422 are donated by various agencies, while 8,536 were purchased with funds from the MoECSY.</p>
Entry 23	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:41 AM)</p> <p>Upload supportive educational materials to web page: Supportive educational materials for all learners have been uploaded onto the education ministry's web page and on individual school web pages.</p>
Entry 24	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (09/03/2022 07:41 AM)</p> <p>Internet connection subscriptions free of charge: Internet connection subscriptions for 100 households were provided free of charge, so that all students could have access to distance learning.</p>
Entry 25	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:45 AM)</p> <p>Delivery 3,755 PCs/laptops: 3,755 PCs/laptops were given to teachers to enable the development of their digital skills and distance learning</p>
Entry 26	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:42 AM)</p> <p>Training on the use of digital technology: From March to June 2021, teachers were offered training on the use of digital technology to develop their digital skills.</p>

Entry 27	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:41 AM)</p> <p>Upgrade the internet connection of all schools: The internet connection of all schools has been upgraded to support the provision of distance learning.</p>
Entry 28	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:40 AM)</p> <p>Access to OFFICE365/ MSTEAMS and distance learning program: More than 100,000 students joined and gained access to OFFICE365/MSTEAMS and the distance learning program of the MoECSY.</p>
Entry 29	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:33 AM)</p> <p>Support Services System' project: The project entitled 'Support Services System', which aims at the design and implementation of e-Government in Cyprus Education, is co-funded by national resources and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The overall objective of the project, which will be completed in 2023, is to create an advanced information system which will ensure the immediate information exchange, cooperation, and support of all stakeholders in education (e.g., schools, parents, pupils etc.).</p>
Entry 30	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:28 AM)</p> <p>Regulation and secure of distance learning: On September 2nd 2020, the Minister of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth submitted a proposal to the HoR for the modification of the Regulations of both Primary and Secondary General and Technical Education Schools, in order to institutionalize, regulate and secure distance learning, which was approved on September 18th, 2020. Also, a privacy policy, which is subject to periodic improvement and revision for the implementation of distance learning was published by the MoECSY on January 12th, 2021. In addition, on August 21st 2020, the CoM approved a plan to meet the needs of schools in digital equipment, which</p>

	provides for an expenditure of approximately € 2.3 mln per year for a period of five years.
Entry 31	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:24 AM)</p> <p>Digital education strategy: The digital transformation of school units is promoted through the utilization of digital technology in Education with the support of the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy (Decision of the Cabinet of Ministers dated 21.8.2020). In collaboration with the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy (DMRIDP), the MoECSY has formulated and has been implementing a digital education strategy since June 2020. The digital transformation of education is determined by two pillars: (i) the growth and use of digital technologies, and (ii) the development of digital skills and competences of education community.</p>
Entry 32	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (04/03/2022 11:20 AM)</p> <p>Enhanced Integration – updated educational policy: The MoECSY has developed and implemented an upgraded educational policy aiming at the smooth integration of pupils with migrant background into the educational system of Cyprus. A policy document was approved by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth on 28.2.2017 and the Departments of the MoECSY have developed an action plan with a variety of targeted actions, through the prism of an intercultural approach, anti-racist education and the methodology of teaching Greek as a second language. The policy focuses on the following areas: Mapping-out of the migrant population: uniform way to make possible the differentiation of the measures applied, information about the pupils' profile (communication with parent/guardian, social welfare services, exploration of the country's socio-political context), living conditions and progress in a variety of skills. Combating racist incidents: implementation of MoECSY's antiracist policy "Code of Conduct against Racism and a Guide to the Management and Recording of Racist Incidents". Combination of preparatory, transition and induction-support phases: implementation of a system combining intensive teaching and language learning support (teaching</p>

	<p>methodology and materials, teacher manuals, afternoon classes, CLIL approach, mentors etc.) as well as social and psychological support through three different stages. Utilizing and teaching mother tongues: introducing language options into existing schemes (Adult Education courses, expanded curriculum of a full-day school -- primary education, and Institutes for Further Education - secondary education). Teaching Greek as a second language: Curriculum, Commonalities and differences between levels, rules, objectives, principles and evaluation. Teacher and school leaders training: general quality of the school and holistic and ecosystem-based approach, guided by the principles of intercultural education. Cooperation of schools with local authorities to open the school to the community: educating and involving parents, welcoming newly arrived students, involvement of parents or members of the migrant groups as mediators or mentors.</p>
<p>Entry 33</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (11/04/2022 12:43 PM)</p> <p>Training programs for young people aged 15-29 not in education, employment, or training (NEETs) to acquire basic knowledge and skills: The acquisition of basic knowledge and skills (for example literacy, math skills, digital and technological skills, interpersonal skills, entrepreneurship) will help young people aged 15-29 to enter the labor market. In addition, upgrading existing and acquiring new knowledge and skills will help them exploit the employment opportunities that will arise in dynamic sectors of economic activity, such as the green and blue economy, and will prepare them suitably for the changing nature of work, especially to that related to digital transition. The indicative target is for 2.800 NEETs to benefit from the Scheme with a total budget of €5,0m which has been included in the Cyprus Operational Program «THALIA» 2021-2027.</p>
<p>Entry 34</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (09/03/2022 09:38 AM)</p> <p>Scheme for the Support of Training Infrastructure: The scheme will provide financial incentives for the enhancement of specialised training laboratories, which will be used for the assessment of candidates in the framework of the System of Vocational</p>

	Qualifications (SVQ), as well as for the implementation of subsidised training programmes with the use of alternative forms of learning.
Entry 35	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (09/03/2022 09:37 AM)</p> <p>Scheme for the Utilisation of Alternative Forms of Learning: The scheme will meet the training needs of employees through their participation in training programmes utilising alternative forms of learning with the use of Information and Communication Technologies.</p>
Entry 36	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (09/03/2022 09:24 AM)</p> <p>Individual Learning Accounts (ILAs): ILAs will provide credits to eligible groups of employed and unemployed persons to attend training programmes, in order to acquire new and/or upgrade existing knowledge and skills. They aim at promoting lifelong learning by providing opportunities for flexible promotion of upgrading knowledge and skills, while preventing social exclusion. Through ILAs, individuals will gain access to training programmes on a broad range of issues within the Standard Multi-Company Training Programmes of the HRDA. Their involvement in training activities with the opportunities provided for skills upgrading and retraining can enable them to remain competitive in the labour market, improve their employment opportunities, while at the same time enhance social cohesion. The total budget is €5,0m and it has been included in the Cyprus Operational Programme «THALIA» 2021-2027 for ESF+ co-funding.</p>
Entry 37	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (09/03/2022 07:40 AM)</p> <p>Teacher incentive plan for the acquisition of personal computer: A teacher incentive plan has been put in place for the acquisition of personal computer that will be used for teaching purposes. In 2021, 2,500 teachers received special sponsorship, while the plan will be extended in 2022 due to increased demand.</p>

<p>Entry 38</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (04/03/2022 11:23 AM)</p> <p>Enhanced Integration – ‘‘School and Social Inclusion Actions – DRASE +’’ project: The project "School and Social Inclusion Actions - DRASE +" has been included in the list of proposed projects for co-financing by the Cohesion Policy Funds 2021-27. The project had started from the school year 2015-2016 with an increasing number of schools participating every year: 2015-2016 42 schools 2016-2017 89 schools 2017-2019 96 schools 2019-2021 102 school The successful implementation of the "School and Social Inclusion Actions" program has led to the need for expansion and redesign, with the aim of further promoting and enhancing equal access for all children to the education system, regardless of social group, ethnic origin, learning status or other particularities, utilizing a number of benefits to promote social justice. The project has started its implementation during 2021-2022 in 170 school units with the aim to cover about 25% of the student population. The program include, inter alia, the offer of remedial teaching programs and creative engagement to students (in the morning and afternoon, as well as during the summer months), the provision of supportive teaching programs to students with immigrant biographies, the provision of additional psychosocial support to students by specialist, the innovative implementation of alternative education programs, the provision of support equipment and the provision of teacher training. The main benefits from the project include the support of vulnerable groups of the student population that are particularly affected by the financial crisis, the prevention and management of delinquency problems, school failure and early school leaving, and the successful social and school integration of children with immigrant biographies.</p>
<p>Comments</p>	
<p>State of play</p>	

CSR 3 Subpart 3: and affordable childhood education and care.

<p>Measures</p>

<p>Entry 1</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (12/04/2022 07:48 AM)</p> <p>Affordable childcare services - Scheme for the Subsidization of Care Services: The Government continued the implementation of the Scheme for the Subsidization of Care Services, covering the long-term social care needs of Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI) recipients and members of their family unit. Under this Scheme, the childcare needs of GMI recipients are subsidized up to €102 per child per month. The Scheme is funded by the state budget.</p>
<p>Entry 2</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (12/04/2022 07:45 AM)</p> <p>Affordable childcare services – State Aid scheme: The continuation of current policies securing the provision of accessible, affordable and quality child care services at local level with the involvement of local stakeholders, NGOs and Local Authorities is promoted. In particular, through a State Aid Scheme implemented by the Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare, NGOs and Local Authorities may receive state aid for the development and functioning of quality social care programmes. The State Aid Scheme is published annually and NGOs and LAs submit their applications for operation social care programs (including childcare services) and after evaluation they receive state aid according to their needs, which covers part of their operational and other expenses. In 2021 an amount of about €3.5 mln euros was provided for the funding of 134 programmes covering child care needs (Day Care Centres for preschool and school age children, Day care Centres for children with disabilities) covering the needs of approximately 5.500 children. The program is funded by the state budget.</p>
<p>Entry 3</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (14/03/2022 07:24 AM)</p> <p>Affordable childhood education - gradual extension of the entry age: An important reform that has been approved by the CoM on the 9th of January 2018 (Decision No. 84.078) refers to the gradual extension of the entry age in primary education to 6 years old and, consequently, the extension of attendance in</p>

	<p>compulsory pre-primary education from one year to one year and four months. This reform was partially implemented since September 2019 and was fully implemented in September 2020. Any vacant places in public kindergartens are allocated to younger children of non-compulsory education (aged three to four years and eight months) and pay low fees or full fee exception, according to socio-economical criteria approved by the MoECSY. In order to increase the number of available places to accommodate the needs of younger children, the MoECSY established and operated a number of new kindergarten public classes and continues to subsidize, with an annual grant, the establishment and operation of community kindergartens. Due to the subsidized grants, community schools offer quality educational programs with low income fees for the younger age group of non-compulsory education.</p>
<p>Entry 4</p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (14/03/2022 07:32 AM)</p> <p>Childcare Services Grant Scheme (0-3years and 8 months): The Scheme aims to support families with young children, through the subsidy of Child Care Services for children up to 3 years and 8 months, for families with 2 or more children and for single parent families based on income and property criteria. The total budget for the scheme is €27mn for the period 2022-2025 and will be co-funded by the ESF+.</p>
<p>Comments</p>	
<p>State of play</p>	

CSR 3 Subpart 4: Take measures to ensure that the National Health System becomes operational in 2020, as planned, while preserving its long-term sustainability.

<p>Measures</p>
<p>Comments</p>

State of play

CSR.2019.4

CSR 4 Subpart 1: Focus investment-related economic policy on sustainable transport.

Measures	
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 4 Subpart 2: environment, in particular waste and water management.

Measures	
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 4 Subpart 3: energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Measures	
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 4 Subpart 4: digitalisation, including digital skills.

Measures	
Entry 1	MEASURE TYPE: Announced (14/03/2022 07:34 AM)

	<p>Strategy for attracting Business and Talent: The Council of Ministers approved on October 15th 2021, the “Strategy for Attracting Businesses for Activities or/and Expansion of their Activities in Cyprus”. The strategy includes a series of actions and reforms in several areas of intervention, aiming to enhance Cyprus position as an international high-growth business centre, especially for companies in the ICT sector. The careful and thorough planning ensures that the benefits derived from the successful implementation of the Strategy will significantly contribute to redefining the Cyprus growth model. The expected benefits extend to enabling digital transformation in both society and economy, through the increased activity of ICT companies and foreign talent in the country.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 4 Subpart 5: and research and innovation, taking into account territorial disparities within Cyprus.

Measures
Comments
State of play

CSR 4 Subpart 6: Adopt legislation to simplify the procedures for strategic investors to obtain necessary permits and licences.

Measures
Comments
State of play

CSR 4 Subpart 7: Improve access to finance for SMEs,

Measures	
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 4 Subpart 8: and resume the implementation of privatisation projects.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (14/03/2022 07:35 AM)</p> <p>Concession Agreement: The MTCW has signed a Concession Agreement in December 2020 regarding the re-development of the Larnaka Port & Marina Area. Furthermore, the Ministry is exploring the possibility for a public-private partnership (PPP) project for the extension and development of Vasilikos Port.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR.2019.5

CSR 5 Subpart 1: Step up efforts to improve the efficiency of the judicial system, including the functioning of administrative justice and revising civil procedures, increasing the specialisation of courts and setting up an operational e-justice system. Take measures to strengthen the legal enforcement of claims

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (14/03/2022 07:56 AM)</p> <p>Recruitment of 15 new judges: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.2</p>
Entry 2	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (14/03/2022 07:56 AM)</p> <p>Introduction of criteria for the selection/appointment and evaluation/promotion of judges: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.2</p>
Entry 3	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (14/03/2022 07:52 AM)</p> <p>Strengthening of the Administrative Court: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.2</p>
Entry 4	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (14/03/2022 07:48 AM)</p> <p>Re-operation of the Supreme Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court: See CSR2020.4 Subpart 4.2</p>
Entry 5	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (14/03/2022 07:47 AM)</p> <p>Commercial Court: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.2</p>
Entry 6	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (14/03/2022 07:46 AM)</p>

	Administrative Court for International Protection: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.2
Entry 7	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (14/03/2022 07:46 AM) Administrative Court: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.2
Entry 8	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (14/03/2022 07:41 AM) Intermediate 'i-justice' system: The intermediate "i-justice" system is used on a national basis as of 21 July 2021 which provides for digital filing and administration of Courts' cases.
Entry 9	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (14/03/2022 07:41 AM) Supreme Court assigned the handling of financial disputes - judicial procedures relating to non-performing loans (NPLs) - to 6 District Court judges: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.2
Entry 10	MEASURE TYPE: Announced (14/03/2022 08:00 AM) Enforcement of judges: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.2
Entry 11	MEASURE TYPE: Announced (14/03/2022 07:57 AM) Establishment of a new Court Service: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.2
Entry 12	MEASURE TYPE: Announced (14/03/2022 07:51 AM) Establishment of new Court of Services: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.2
Entry 13	MEASURE TYPE: Announced (14/03/2022 07:39 AM)

	Bill for the increase of the jurisdiction of the District Court Judges and the Senior District Court judges.: See CSR 2020.4 Subpart 4.2
Entry 14	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (14/03/2022 08:00 AM)</p> <p>Court building programme: An important prerequisite for the implementation of the above reforms is the provision of adequate and modern facilities in order to ensure the safe and efficient functioning of the courts. To this end, the government has prepared and is currently implementing a very elaborate and expensive court building programme that prioritises needs, ensuring that the courts will, in the short medium term, have appropriate buildings.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 5 Subpart 2: and ensure reliable and swift systems for the issuance and transfer of title deeds and immovable property rights.

Measures	
Entry 1	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (14/03/2022 08:02 AM)</p> <p>Transfer of Immoveable Property Rights: The enactment of the Transfer and Mortgage Law 9/65, as amended by L.139(I)/2015 («Trapped Buyers Law»), which was designed to protect the “Trapped Buyers”, namely those who had submitted their sale contracts at the Lands Registry up until 31st December 2014 (legacy cases), has led to positive progress in this area. Notably, in relation to the Legacy cases, 19,832 applications have been filed by DLS, out of which 12,084 have separate title deeds and 7,748 have no separate title deeds. Until now, 9,012 applications have been completed and the title deed has been transferred to the buyer (75% of the applications with title deed). Following</p>

	<p>a court ruling which declared the «Trapped Buyers Law» as unconstitutional, the Law Office has filed an appeal against this decision. In parallel, to address this issue, on the 26th of July 2019, the Transfer and Mortgage Law, has been amended by L. 118(I)/2019, by amending the basic provisions of the «Trapped Buyers Law», in order to overcome the shortfalls in the current law. Furthermore, the authorities have committed to promote legislation to deal with non-legacy and new property transactions. Currently, consultation is taking place with stakeholders in order to promote amendments to The Sale of Immovable Property (Specific Performance) Law L. 81 (I)/2011.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 5 Subpart 3: Accelerate anti-corruption reforms, safeguard the independence of the prosecution and strengthen the capacity of law enforcement.

Measures
Comments
State of play