The Netherlands’ recovery and resilience plan

The European Commission has given a positive assessment to the Netherlands’ recovery and resilience plan, which will be financed by €4.7 billion in grants.

The financing provided by the Recovery and Resilience Facility – at the heart of NextGenerationEU – will support the implementation by 2026 of crucial investment and reform measures put forward by the Netherlands. These measures will help the Netherlands to emerge stronger from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Netherlands’ plan forms part of an unprecedented coordinated EU response to the COVID-19 crisis, to address common European challenges by embracing the green and digital transitions, to strengthen economic and social resilience and the cohesion of the Single Market. In particular, the Netherlands’ plan will stimulate renewable energy sources, energy efficiency and sustainable mobility, foster digitalisation, improve the labour and housing market, strengthen healthcare services and combat tax avoidance and money laundering. The plan also includes measures that contribute to the REPowerEU objectives to rapidly reduce dependence on Russian fossil fuels and fast forward the green transition.

KEY MEASURES TO SECURE THE NETHERLANDS’ GREEN TRANSITION

48% of the plan’s total allocation for reforms and investments support climate objectives

- **Transition towards more sustainable energy sources**: reforms facilitating the connection of renewable energy to the energy grid, the sale of self-generated electricity and investments in the charging infrastructure for electric cars.

- **Renewable energy sources**: facilitating the connection of offshore wind farms up to a total of 21 GW to the power grid on land, supporting shipping safety and protecting the North Sea ecosystem around wind parks. **€694 million**

- **Sustainable mobility**: support for fully electric, zero-emission inland waterway transport through 45 electric inland waterway vessels, 14 charging sites and 75 changeable batteries (Modular Energy Containers). **€56 million**
KEY MEASURES TO SUPPORT THE NETHERLANDS’ DIGITAL TRANSITION

26% of the plan’s total allocation for reforms and investments supports digital objectives

- **Quantum technology**: investing in quantum computers, networks and sensors for new solutions to manage security and privacy risks to the benefit of both the public and private sector. **€264 million**

- **Digital skills for the digital age**: investing in digitalisation to improve the quality of education and support digital skills of students and teachers. **€209 million**

- **Improving rail connectivity**: investing in the digital rail platform of the future, increasing the safety of the rail system and improving rail connectivity with neighbouring countries. **€149 million**

KEY MEASURES TO REINFORCE THE NETHERLANDS’ ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESILIENCE

- **Affordable housing**: accelerating the provision of affordable housing in locations with a good and climate-resilient living environment, thereby increasing the opportunity for lower- and middle-income groups to find appropriate housing. **€538 million**

- **Improving social protection for the self-employed**: reform introducing a mandatory disability insurance for the self-employed, which will contribute to level the playing field between employees and self-employed.

- **Sustaining employment**: support for upskilling and targeted advice to prevent unemployment or help people get back to work. **€95 million**

- **Strengthen the resilience of the health care system**: support for the temporary recruitment and training of health and support staff during the COVID-19 crisis and the creation of a national health reserve of care professionals to be deployed in case of a future health crisis. **€49 million**

- **Tackling aggressive tax planning and money laundering**: several reforms to combat tax avoidance and reduce money laundering.

IMPLEMENTATION

- None of the plan’s measures will do significant harm to the environment.
- Stakeholders should continue to be involved in the implementation of the recovery and resilience plan to ensure ownership of reforms.
- Disbursement of funds is performance-based and will reflect progress on reforms and investments set out in the plan.
- Control systems will protect against serious irregularities such as fraud, corruption and double funding.