Subject: Commission efforts to promote visibility of Recovery and Resilience Facility

At this stage of the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the Commission’s communication focuses on the tangible impact of the RRF on people’s lives and livelihoods, underlining the added value of action at the European level. As more and more projects will commence and deliver results, the Commission’s communication aims to show these benefits.

To achieve this, the Commission is engaging in a number of communication activities through various channels targeted at a wide range of stakeholders. The following lists a selection of key actions, centred around the Commission’s own communication efforts, its engagement with Member States and the involvement of other institutions.

The Commission engages in stakeholder outreach directly. This has already started with outreach by College members in their fields of expertise, including through visits in the Member States. Further outreach will include proactive press publications at key moments (such as approval of the plans by the Commission and the Council, disbursement, key project moments, etc), media briefings on and off the record, contribution to the Commission’s NextGenerationEU corporate campaign and webinars for stakeholders in Brussels and Member States. The aim of such webinars, aside from informing, is also to establish a dialogue with stakeholders that will allow the Commission to take their views into account and address them with appropriate policies, where feasible. The Commission has also designed and continues to update a website dedicated to the RRF, which will prominently host the Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard upon its completion foreseen for the end of the year.

The Commission representations in the Member States, and in particular the European Semester Officers based there, will play a key role in the Commission’s communication efforts and in ensuring the message is heard in all Member States and vice-versa. They will involve the European Parliament Liaison Offices (EPLOs) in their communication activities, as also required by Regulation (EU) 2021/241.

The Commission will also support and closely cooperate with Member States in their communication activities. The INFORM EU network of communicators in the Member States forms the Commission’s cornerstone of engagement with the capitals and is being reinforced with RRF-specific content, contacts and activities. As Member States are invited to associate the Commission to their communication, this will in many cases involve – and has already involved – coordinated communication activities, such as joint press conferences and joint project visits. The EPLOs will be associated where relevant.

In addition to the EPLOs, the Commission also counts on further involvement of the other EU institutions. As such, it plans webinars specifically for assistants of relevant Members of the European Parliament as well as other events to ensure the European Parliament’s engagement. Beyond that, outreach also includes speaking at meeting of national
parliaments to bring the RRF closer to national audiences. The Council provides a further opportunity to engage Member States in a horizontal manner, through meetings of the Economic and Financial Committee (EFC) or the Council Working Party on Information.

These activities are non-exhaustive and will develop over time, also as the focus of communication evolves with the further progress of implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility.