



Brussels, 18.2.2022
C(2022) 929 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 18.2.2022

**on the financing of Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs' activities
and adoption of a corresponding annual work programme for 2022**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) N° 1296/2013, (EU) N° 1301/2013, (EU) N° 1303/2013, (EU) N° 1304/2013, (EU) N° 1309/2013, (EU) N° 1316/2013, (EU) N° 223/2014, (EU) N° 283/2014, and Decision N° 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) N° 966/2012¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of DG ECFIN annual work programme 2022, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2022. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) Tasks resulting from the Commission's prerogatives at institutional level, as provided for by Article 58(2)(d) of the Financial Regulation may be implemented without a basic act.
- (3) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU.
- (4) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (5) Pursuant to Article 62(1)(c) of the Financial Regulation indirect management is to be used for the implementation of some of the actions as indicated in the Annex.
- (6) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation. To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of the Financial Regulation² and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of the Financial Regulation before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (7) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1.

² Except for the cases of Article 154(6) of the Financial Regulation, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment

- (8) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (9) Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021³ lays down the provisions for the establishment of the InvestEU Programme, an EU guarantee, including the provisioning mechanism of the Invest EU guarantee, the establishment of the InvestEU advisory Hub and the InvestEU Portal.
- (10) Under Article 3(1) of Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 of 14 December 2020⁴ establishing a European Union Recovery Instrument to support the recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis, commitment appropriations covering support to the programme mentioned in Recital 9 should be made available automatically up to the respective amounts referred to in Article 2(2)(c) as of the date of entry into force of the Council Decision (EU, Euratom) 2020/2053 of 14 December 2020 on the system of own resources of the European Union and repealing Decision 2014/335/EU, Euratom.
- (11) Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021⁵ establishes the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) – Global Europe , laying down the geographic programmes that shall be implemented through country and multi-country programmes based on the areas of cooperation listed in Annex II of the Proposal, including the provisioning mechanism for the External Action Guarantee supporting also Macro Financial Assistance loans in the regions covered by this regulation.
- (12) Regulation (EU) 2021/1529 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 September 2021⁶, establishes the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III) laying down the instruments to prepare the beneficiaries listed in Annex I for future membership of the Union and support their accession process, including the provisioning mechanism for the External Action Guarantee supporting also Macro Financial Assistance loans in the regions covered by this regulation.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The work programme

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual work programme for the directorate-general of economic and financial affairs for year 2022, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2022 is set at EUR 3 183 194 989 and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union for 2022:

Chapter 02 02 InvestEU Fund

³ OJ L 107, 26.3.2021, p. 30.

⁴ OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 23

⁵ OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p. 1.

⁶ OJ L 330, 20.9.2021, p. 1.

- (a) budget line 02 02 02 InvestEU Guarantee – Provisioning of the Common Provisioning Fund: EUR 2 928 727 000;
- (b) budget line 02 02 03 InvestEU Advisory Hub, Portal and accompanying measures: EUR 84 400 000;

Chapter 06 20 Pilot Projects, preparatory actions, prerogatives and other actions

- (c) budget line 06 20 04 01 Coordination and surveillance of, and communication on, the economic and monetary union, including the euro ('EMU'): EUR 12 000 000;

Chapter 14 02 Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI)

- (d) budget line 14 02 01 70.06 NDICI – Provisioning of the Common Provisioning Fund – MFA-loans External Action Guarantee (EAG): EUR 125 046 811
- (e) budget line 14 02 01 70.07 - Provisioning of the Common Provisioning Fund – MFA-loans legacy: EUR 31 151 049

Chapter 14 20 Pilot Projects, preparatory actions, prerogatives and other actions:

- (f) budget line 14 20 03 01 – Macro Financial Assistance (MFA) grants (procurement only): EUR 500 000;

Chapter 15 02 Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA III)

- (g) budget line 15 02 02 03.03 IPA III – Provisioning of the Common Provisioning Fund – MFA-loans legacy: EUR 1 370 129

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

Article 3

Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 5 of that Annex.

Article 4

Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20%.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Article 5

Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex. Grants may be awarded to the bodies referred to in the Annex.

Article 6

Budgetary guarantees

The provision of financial support by means of the provisioning of the InvestEU guarantee, for the amount set in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities referred to in the Annex.

Done at Brussels, 18.2.2022

For the Commission

Paolo GENTILONI

Member of the Commission



Brussels, 18.2.2022
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ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

Commission Decision

**on the financing of Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs' activities
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ANNEX

1. INTRODUCTION

This work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2022 in the field of economic and financial affairs. The distribution of budget and the main actions are as follows:

- (a) for grants (implemented under direct management) (point 2): EUR 5 820 000;
- (b) for procurement (implemented under direct management) (point 3): EUR 7 635 000;
- (c) for budgetary guarantees (point 4): EUR 2 928 727 000 for the provisioning of the InvestEU Fund compartment of the Common Provisioning Fund;
- (d) for actions implemented under indirect management (point 5): EUR 82 298 600 for contribution and partnership agreements under InvestEU Advisory Hub, Portal and accompanying measures;

In the context of InvestEU programme, DG ECFIN may implement blending operations referred to in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing the InvestEU Programme and amending Regulation (EU) 2015/1017. Implementation of blending operations will be delegated by other DGs;

- (e) for other actions (point 6): EUR 100 000 for the administrative arrangement with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) and EUR 1 046 400 for the InvestEU Investment Committee.
- (f) for provisioning of the Common Provisioning Fund for the External Action Guarantee for Macro Financial Assistance loans (point 7): EUR 125 046 811 for the provisioning of the NDICI MFA-loans External Action Guarantee (AEG), EUR 31 151 049 for the provisioning of the NDICI MFA-loans legacy guarantee, EUR 1 370 129 for the provisioning of the Instrument Pre Accession III MFA-loans legacy guarantee.

2. GRANTS

The global budgetary envelope reserved in 2022 for grants under this work programme is EUR 5 820 000 on the Coordination and surveillance of, and communication on, the economic and monetary union including the euro (EMU) budget line.

2.1. Joint Harmonised European Union Programme of Business and Consumer Surveys (BCS)

(a) Legal basis

No basic act since the action results from the Commission's institutional prerogatives (FR Article 58(2)(d)).

(b) Budget line

06 20 04 01 – “Coordination and surveillance of, and communication on, the economic and monetary union including the euro (EMU)”.

(c) Objectives pursued

The BCS constitute an essential tool for the Commission for fulfilling its Treaty-based obligations of surveillance of the Union economies. They constitute a basis for decision-making by economic policy makers, governments and research institutes in the Union. There are few alternative products at European level and none share the features of the Commission's surveys in terms of coverage, frequency and accuracy.

(d) Expected results

The data collected feeds into the monthly press releases and analytical studies and is an important element of DG ECFIN's assessments and forecasts of economic developments in the Union and candidate countries. The continuous improvement in survey methodology and harmonisation for cross-country comparability purposes is advanced through the organisation of an annual Workshop on recent developments in BCS (A02025).

(e) Type of applicants

BCS actions shall be covered by the specific grant agreements under the multiannual framework partnership agreements signed with the institutes participating in the BCS programme and valid until 2025.

The beneficiaries will submit new budget proposals in Q1/2022. New specific grant agreements will be concluded for the period May 2022 – April 2023.

(f) Description of the activities to be funded by the specific grants directly awarded on the basis of Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation.

BCS summarise economic assessments and expectations of a large number of consumers and managers from different sectors of the economy. Results are published on a monthly basis. The reason for co-funding the partner institutes participating in the BCS derives from their technical competence and high degree of specialisation in collecting survey data in order to ensure the harmonisation, coordination, analysis and dissemination of business and consumer surveys in Member States and candidate countries. Harmonisation and coordination are essential to allow the comparison of business cycles across countries and the calculation of

meaningful business cycle indices for the euro area and for the Union as a whole, in order to inform the Union authorities, the Member States and the various economic stakeholders about the present economic situation and short-term expectations.

(g) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

2.2. Timely High-frequency indicators for global and regional trade (THIT)

(a) Legal basis

No basic act since the action results from the Commission's institutional prerogatives (FR Article 58(2)(d)).

(b) Budget line(s)

06 20 04 01 – “Coordination and surveillance of, and communication on, the economic and monetary union including the euro (EMU)”.

(c) Objectives pursued

The project will continue to deliver monthly indicators of world trade that feed into DG ECFIN's monitoring of trade flows at the global, regional and country-specific level, including for all Member States, candidate countries and all major advanced and emerging market economies.

(d) Expected results

The monthly indicators are valuable inputs to ECFIN forecasts, regular and ad-hoc analytical and briefing notes.

(e) Type of applicants

Grants shall be covered by the specific grant agreement signed with the institute selected for the THIT project. A specific grant agreement under the partnership agreement signed with the selected institute will be awarded in 2022. The eligibility period of the action runs from 1 June 2022 to 31 May 2023.

(f) Description of the activities to be funded by the specific grants directly awarded on the basis of Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation.

The reason for co-funding the partner institute participating in the THIT project derives from their technical competence and high-degree of specialisation in providing the timely high-frequency indicators for trade (THIT).

(g) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

2.3. OECD Delegation contribution Agreement / grant agreement – Tax and Benefit model

(a) Legal basis

No basic act since the action results from the Commission's institutional prerogatives (FR Article 58(2)(d)).

(b) Budget line(s)

06 20 04 01 “Coordination and surveillance of, and communication on, the economic and monetary union including the euro (EMU)”.

(c) Objectives pursued

The project will continue to deliver annual indicators providing information on the labour tax burden for different hypothetical household types at various wage levels. The indicators will continue to contribute to DG ECFIN’s assessment of tax policies in Member States in terms of their growth-friendliness, fairness and effects on employment.

(d) Expected results

The indicators will continue to be used in DG ECFIN’s assessment of Member States’ tax policies in terms of their growth-friendliness, fairness and effects on employment as part of the economic governance framework, including both horizontal and country-specific analysis. They will also be used for the benchmarking of the labour tax wedge as agreed by the Eurogroup.

(e) Type of applicants

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

(f) Description of the activities to be funded by the specific grants awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation

The reason for funding the OECD to deliver the indicators derives from their technical competence as well as the availability of a time series for these indicators since at least 2001.

(g) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

Due to the expected signature of the new Financial Framework Partnership Agreement (FFPA) with the OECD in 2022, the implementation may take the form of indirect management. In such case a Contribution Agreement will be signed.

2.4. OECD Delegation contribution Agreement / grant agreement – Data collection on implementation OECD principles - SOE

(a) Legal basis

No basic act since the action results from the Commission's institutional prerogatives (FR Article 58(2)(d)).

(b) Budget line(s)

06 20 04 01 “Coordination and surveillance of, and communication on, the economic and monetary union including the euro (EMU)”.

(c) Objectives pursued

To improve the Commission's staff knowledge about the implementation by Member States of the OECD guidelines on corporate governance of State-Owned Enterprises. While the OECD publishes regularly reports on the degree of compliance with those, there are visible data gaps. First, the reports focus on OECD member countries, meaning that non-OECD EU countries such as RO, CY and MT are therefore excluded.(*). Moreover, the reports may not provide data for all OECD members (e.g. a member country may decide to reply in part to the OECD questionnaire on which the report is based). In addition, in several fields, the information shown in the reports is aggregated (the reports show performance by groups of countries, which makes it difficult to evaluate the performance of individual Member States).

(*) note that the OECD has published reports on the implementation of the OECD principles of SOE corporate governance in BG, and more recently, about HR.

(d) Expected results

The project aims to collect data on the degree of implementation of the above-mentioned guidelines covering the EU MS, alongside other OECD member countries such as UK, CH and NO. In particular, the project focuses on chapters VI (disclosure and transparency) and VII (the responsibility of the boards of SOEs) of the OECD guidelines, the reason being that the data gaps in those two chapters are more visible than in the other ones and that both chapters include recommendations that are critical for the good governance of SOEs.

The final output will be a dataset with information on areas such as i) SOE disclosure practices (covering among other things, board and executive remuneration, board composition, board nomination practices, board responsibilities & committees); ii) transparency and disclosure practices of SOE relevant to competitive neutrality (e.g., financial assistance, subsidies, guarantees, regulatory exemptions, funding and financing modalities, major procurement/supply contracts, legal form, applicable corporate norms); iii) accounting and audit standards applicable to SOEs; iv) aggregate reporting practices by country; v) SOE board remuneration and board nomination practices; vi) existence of minimum board member qualification criteria; vii) board composition; viii) practices for identifying and reporting risk to the board and ix) board evaluation frameworks.

(e) Type of applicants

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

(f) Description of the activities to be funded by the specific grants awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation

The reason for funding the OECD derives from their technical competence.

The OECD would collect the data from national practitioners which would be subsequently peer reviewed by the OECD Working Party committee on State Owned Enterprises. For countries that are either not OECD members or generally unresponsive to requests for information, the OECD would rely on consultants. The OECD's estimate of the time and resource requirements for such a project would be approximately one year, with one person in OECD Secretariat working full time on the undertaking. The most realistic timing might run from the Working Party meetings in March 2022 to March 2023.

(g) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

Due to the expected signature of the new FFPA with the OECD in 2022, the implementation may take the form of indirect management. In such case a Contribution Agreement will be signed.

2.5. Production and Broadcast of a Magazine on Economic Issues

(a) Legal basis

No basic act since the action results from the Commission's institutional prerogatives (FR Article 58(2)(d)).

(b) Budget line(s)

06 20 04 01 – “Coordination and surveillance of, and communication on, the economic and monetary union including the euro (EMU)”.

(c) Objectives pursued

Raising awareness of the policies related to DG ECFIN in the form of the production and broadcast of TV news programmes.

(d) Expected results

The project will continue to increase the volume and quality of the coverage of Union economic and financial affairs. Similar to previous years, the beneficiary will provide more information packaged in new attractive formats able to reach larger audience and therefore contribute to forging closer links between citizens and the Union institutions.

(e) Type of applicants

A grant agreement will be signed in 2022 with Euronews under the multiannual framework agreement signed on 5 July 2021 between Euronews and the European Commission.

(f) Description of the activities to be funded by the specific grants directly awarded on the basis of Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation.

Euronews is recognized as a body pursuing an aim of general Union interest in the field of information¹ as well as a particular type of body on account of its high degree of specialisation carrying out actions with specific characteristics, in the sense of Article 195(f) of the FR.

(g) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

¹ Commission Decision C(2021) 1674

2.6. Communication on the euro in the framework of the euro changeover campaign in a Member State (Croatia)

(a) Legal basis

No basic act since the action results from the Commission's institutional prerogatives (FR Article 58(2)(d)).

(b) Budget line(s)

06 20 04 01 – “Coordination and surveillance of, and communication on, the economic and monetary union including the euro (EMU)”.

(c) Objectives pursued

To contribute to communication on the euro and the EMU in the framework of the euro changeover information campaign in a Member State (Croatia)

(d) Expected results

Increasing public knowledge within Croatia of the workings of the Economic and Monetary Union and of the euro and contribution to a smooth changeover when Croatia adopts the euro.

(e) Type of applicants

Member State (Croatia)

(f) Description of the activities to be funded by the specific grants directly awarded on the basis of Article 195(c) of the Financial Regulation.

No call for proposals is being launched, since the Partnership Agreement is exclusively signed with the Member State preparing and implementing an information strategy for the future introduction of the euro in its country. The Partnership Agreement, which was signed on 6 December 2021, is a political commitment from the Commission to support the organisation of information and communication campaigns on the changeover to the euro in Croatia, provided that the country fulfils all the convergence criteria.

Various aspects of the national changeover campaigns can be co-financed, based on a request from the Member State and subsequent approval by the Commission, in the context of a Grant Agreement, subject to availability of budgetary resources. These activities may include reinforcement of staff in the communication domain, opinion polls, production of promotional material and publications, conferences and seminars, exhibitions, media campaigns, public relations activities and other useful actions.

(g) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

3. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts in 2022 is EUR 7 635 000 of which EUR 6 080 000 on the "EMU" line (EMU coordination and surveillance: EUR 4 085 000 and EMU communication activities: EUR 1 995 000); EUR 500 000 on the "MFA" line, and EUR 1 055 000 on the "InvestEU Advisory Hub, Portal and accompanying measures" line.

3.1. Coordination and surveillance of economic and monetary union (EMU)

(a) Legal basis

No basic act since the action results from the Commission's institutional prerogatives (FR Article 58(2)(d).

(b) Budget line(s)

06 20 04 01 "Coordination and surveillance of, and communication on, the economic and monetary union including the euro (EMU)".

(c) Objectives pursued and expected results

The contracts will cover several types of activities relating to the coordination and surveillance on the economic and monetary union including the euro (EMU):

I. Data supply services: access to external commercial data supply services for the provision of various economic and financial data, prices, statistics, indexes, information, and other related services;

II. Conferences, workshops, seminars and research/visiting fellows: contracts covering the logistical aspects (external venues, catering, etc.), travel expenses, other related supplies and services and the calls for papers/essays and speakers;

III. Studies and evaluations;

IV. Business surveys: Union-wide monthly Financial Services Sector Survey (FSSS);

VI. Publications and associated software;

VII. Statistical and economic software packages, including maintenance;

VIII. IT developments including development and maintenance of internal data bases: contracts for information systems hosting, development and maintenance, development of IT infrastructure, IT supplies, development and maintenance of software, application and data bases, other IT services;

IX. Other supply and services.

(d) General description of the contracts envisaged (study / technical assistance / evaluation / survey / IT / communication services/etc.)

New framework contracts, new direct contracts, specific contracts against framework contracts, contracts renewals. Contracts will cover services and supplies.

(e) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

3.2. EMU communication activities

(a) Legal basis

No basic act since the action results from the Commission's institutional prerogatives - FR Article 58(2)(d).

(b) Budget line(s)

06 20 04 01 “Coordination and surveillance of, and communication on, the economic and monetary union including the euro (EMU)”.

(c) Objectives pursued and expected results

The contracts will cover several types of activities, in particular to inform about the Recovery Plan and the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the deepening of EMU, economic governance in the Union, the economic aspects of the Green New Deal, the Sustainable Europe Investment Plan and InvestEU Programme to improve the general knowledge on the euro and EMU and to contribute to communication efforts in line with the 2022 work programme.

I. Conferences, events and seminars on the euro/EMU within the Union, covering in particular:

- (a) network meetings;
- (b) seminars for journalists and other multipliers;
- (c) annual conferences (e.g. the Brussels Economic Forum and other high profile events);
- (d) workshops and seminars.

II. Exhibitions and stands;

III. Competitions, such as poster competitions, coin design competitions, competitions targeted at photographers and cartoonists, etc.;

IV. Information activities in third countries, covering conferences and seminars, distribution of publications, school competitions, etc.;

V. Studies and surveys, notably including:

- (a) surveys on citizens' perceptions in countries preparing for the imminent introduction of the euro;
- (b) Eurobarometer surveys on the euro;
- (c) studies on the impact of information activities on the euro.

VI. Publications, including ECFIN's flagship publications (European Economy, Economic Papers, etc.) and associated software (EP/kit) as well as publications for the general public and posters;

VII. Electronic newsletter;

VIII. Promotional material;

IX. Advertising campaigns;

X. ECFIN website, including technical maintenance, development, graphic design ad hoc

articles for the web;

XI. Social media;

XII. Invest EU website;

XIII. Audio-visual material;

XIV. Technical assistance.

The above list is not exhaustive.

A number of projects/contracts will be implemented under:

- Publication Programme;
- Stakeholder Outreach Programme;
- Website Development & Social Media Programme;
- Internal Communication;
- Evaluation & Monitoring.

Communication activities may include support to the concerned Member State adopting the single currency in their public information campaigns on the changeover to the euro.

These activities may include conferences and seminars, opinion polls, banners, production of promotional material and publications, communication campaigns and other useful actions.

- (d) General description of the contracts envisaged (study / technical assistance / evaluation / survey / IT / communication services/etc.)

Framework contracts of other Commission services will be used in the large majority of cases, as well as some direct contracts. Contracts will cover services and supplies.

- (e) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

3.3. Macro-financial assistance (procurement part)

The present financing decision covers only MFA expenditure related to procurement for EUR – Amount EUR 500 000. Other MFA measures will be subject to *ad hoc* financing decisions.

- (a) Legal basis

Council decision granting MFA to the country concerned². MFA is exceptional in nature and is mobilised on a case-by-case basis to help countries dealing with serious balance-of-payments difficulties.

² Decisions of the European Parliament and of the Council providing macro-financial assistance to :

- Georgia (Decision 778/2013/EU of 12.8.2013) OJ L 218, 14.8.2013, p. 15
- Kyrgyz Republic (Decision 1025/2013/EU of 22.10.2013) OJ L 283, 25.10.2013, p. 1
- Tunisia (Decision 534/2014/EU of 15.5.2014) OJ L 151 21.5.2014, p. 9
- Ukraine (Decision EU 2015/601 of 15.4.2015) OJ L 100, 17.4.2015, p. 1
- Jordan (Decision EU 2016/2371 of 14.12.2016) OJ L 352 23.12.2016, p. 18
- Tunisia (Decision EU 2016/1112 of 6.7.2016) OJ L 186 9.7.2016, p. 1
- Republic of Moldova (Decision EU 2017/1565 of 13.9.2017) OJ L 242, 20.9.2017, p. 14
- Georgia (Decision EU 2018/598 of 18.4.2018) OJ L 103, 23.4.2018, p. 8
- Ukraine (Decision EU 2018/947 of 4.7.2018) OJ L 171, 6.7.2018, p. 11

(b) Budget line(s)

14 20 03 01 "Macro- financial assistance (MFA) - grants".

(c) Objectives pursued and expected results

In line with the requirements of the Financial Regulation, the Commission carries out operational assessments with the help of external consultants to obtain reasonable assurances on the functioning of administrative procedures and financial circuits in the beneficiary countries of MFA. Recommendations contained in those assessment reports allow the Commission to assist the countries to improve their public finance management. Evaluations focus on assessing ex post the contribution of MFA to the macroeconomic performance (resolution of a balance of payment crisis) and structural reform of the recipient country.

A number of operational assessments (depending on new MFA operations to be proposed) will be procured through specific contracts against framework contracts and as well as ex-post evaluations.

(d) General description of the contracts envisaged (study / technical assistance / evaluation / survey / IT / communication services/etc.)

Specific contracts for services.

(e) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

3.4. InvestEU Advisory Hub, Portal and accompanying measures

(a) Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing the InvestEU Programme and amending Regulation (EU) 2015/1017.

Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 of 14 December 2020 establishing a European Union Recovery Instrument to support the recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis.

(b) Budget line(s)

02 02 03 – InvestEU Advisory Hub and InvestEU Portal and accompanying measures.

(c) Objectives pursued and expected results

InvestEU Project Portal

- Provide an easily accessible and user-friendly project database to promote visibility of EU-based investment projects seeking financing;
- Provide investors with information about investment opportunities;
- Effective screening of projects submitted for publication and comprehensive screening of investors;
- Increase the visibility of the InvestEU Portal to project promoters and investors through communication activities and campaigns – including promotional materials, on-line promotion via social media, attendance and organisation of events (including matchmakings), production of promotional videos;

- Jordan (Decision EU 2020/33 of 15.01.2020) OJ L 14, 17.1.2020, p. 1–7

- COVID-19 MFA to 10 partners in the enlargement and neighbourhood (Decision EU 2020/701 of 25.05.2020) OJ L 165, 27.5.2020, p. 31–37

- Cooperation agreements with other similar portals and initiatives and collaboration with NPBIs and other institutions; Additional ~ 200 projects to be published on the InvestEU Portal in 2022.

InvestEU Management Information System (MIS)

To ensure a proper implementation of the InvestEU programme, the Commission is developing a specific IT tool, the InvestEU Management Information System. This tool will have the following modules: (1) InvestEU Policy check processing, (2) InvestEU Investment Committee approval process, (3) Collection and consolidation of data received from IP, (4) InvestEU Risk management, (5) InvestEU Advisory Hub, (6) InvestEU Portal, (7) InvestEU Reporting and Monitoring by the Commission (8) InvestEU Programme website.

The main MIS-related tasks supported from this budget line include:

- IT development of the various modules;
- Maintenance of the MIS modules and of related IT structures; and
- Costs with the IT hosting in the data centre.

- (d) General description of the contracts envisaged (study / technical assistance / evaluation / survey / IT / communication services/etc.)

Specific contracts based on existing framework contracts of the Commission, new direct contracts, contracts' renewals.

- (e) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

4. BUDGETARY GUARANTEES IMPLEMENTED IN DIRECT OR INDIRECT MANAGEMENT

4.1. InvestEU Guarantee – provisioning of the Common Provisioning Fund (CPF)

- (a) Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing the InvestEU Programme and amending Regulation (EU) 2015/1017.
Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 of 14 December 2020 establishing a European Union Recovery Instrument to support the recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis.

- (b) Budget line(s)

02 02 02 - InvestEU Guarantee – Provisioning of the CPF.

- (c) Objectives pursued

The Union provides an irrevocable, unconditional and on demand guarantee to the EIB Group and other implementing partners for financing and investment operations that contribute to the policy objectives of the Union. The Union Guarantee is the cornerstone of the InvestEU.

The InvestEU Fund will support projects that address market failures or sub-optimal investment situations. It will operate under four policy windows, mirroring the key Union policy priorities, namely sustainable infrastructure; research, innovation and digitisation; SMEs; and social investment and skills.

The InvestEU supports the policy objectives of the Union by means of financing and investment operations that contribute to:

- (a) the competitiveness of the Union, including research, innovation and digitisation;
- (b) growth and employment in the Union economy, the sustainability of the Union economy and its environmental and climate dimension contributing to the achievement of the SDGs and the objectives of the Paris Agreement and to the creation of high-quality jobs;
- (c) the social resilience, inclusiveness and innovativeness of the Union;
- (d) the promotion of scientific and technological advances, of culture, education and training;
- (e) the integration of Union capital markets and the strengthening of the internal market, including solutions to address the fragmentation of Union capital markets, diversify sources of financing for Union enterprises and promote sustainable finance;
- (f) the promotion of economic, social and territorial cohesion; or
- (g) the sustainable and inclusive recovery of the Union economy after the COVID-19 crisis, including by providing capital support for SMEs that were negatively affected by the COVID-19 crisis and were not already in difficulty in State aid terms at the end of 2019, upholding and strengthening existing strategic value chains of tangible or intangible assets, developing new ones, and maintaining and reinforcing activities of strategic importance to the Union, including important projects of common European interest, in relation to critical infrastructure, whether physical or virtual, transformative technologies, game-changing innovations and inputs to businesses and consumers and supporting a sustainable transition.

(d) Expected results

The InvestEU is expected to mobilise more than EUR 372 billion across all Member States in additional investments in the real economy by 2027 and therefore contribute to job creation and support economic growth in the EU.

Actions under the InvestEU are expected to contribute 30% of its overall financial envelope to climate objectives and should also provide financing support to the benefit of just transition regions.

(e) Specific instrument to be used

InvestEU compartment of the Common Provisioning Fund.

(f) Amount allocated per instrument

EUR 2 928 727 000.

(g) Description

The provisioning for the InvestEU Fund (i.e. 40% of the total EU guarantee) will be gradually allocated into the InvestEU specific compartment of the Common Provisioning Fund.

The Financial Regulation (2018/1046) establishes the Common Provisioning Fund (CPF) to manage the provisions of EU financial instruments, budgetary guarantees and financial assistance. The CPF constitutes a liquidity cushion from which calls on the EU guarantee granted under the InvestEU Fund are to be paid.

The resources of CPF are directly managed by the Commission and invested in accordance with the principle of sound financial management and must follow appropriate and prudential rules.

(h) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

5. ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED UNDER INDIRECT MANAGEMENT

5.1. InvestEU Advisory Hub, Portal and accompanying measures – InvestEU Advisory Hub

(a) Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing the InvestEU Programme and amending Regulation (EU) 2015/1017.

Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 of 14 December 2020 establishing a European Union Recovery Instrument to support the recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis.

(b) Budget line(s)

02 02 03 – InvestEU Advisory Hub, Portal and accompanying measures.

(c) Objectives pursued

InvestEU Advisory Hub

The InvestEU Advisory Hub will support the development of a robust pipeline of investment projects in each policy window through advisory initiatives that are implemented by the EIB Group or other advisory partners, or are implemented directly by the Commission.

The InvestEU Advisory Hub will promote geographic diversification with a view to contributing to the Union objectives of economic, social, and territorial cohesion and reducing regional disparities.

In order to facilitate the provision of advisory support at local level and to ensure efficiency, synergies and effective geographic coverage of support across the Union, the InvestEU Advisory Hub will cooperate with national promotional banks or institutions, and will benefit from and make use of their expertise.

The InvestEU Advisory Hub will provide a central entry point for advisory support (project development assistance, capacity building and market development activities) delivered under the

InvestEU Advisory Hub to public authorities and for project promoters.

(d) Expected results

Signature of an Advisory Agreement with the EIB to deliver several Advisory Initiatives and to perform operational tasks to support the Commission.

Signature of advisory agreements with other advisory partners than the EIB which have been invited to negotiate an Advisory Agreement with the Commission as the outcome of the first call for expression of interest.

Advisory assignments for which InvestEU Advisory Hub support has been requested – ~ 200 requests in 2022.

Advisory assignments receiving targeted Advisory support from the InvestEU Advisory Partners – ~50 assignments in 2022.

Organisation of promotional events in Member States.

(e) Implementing Entity

EIB and other InvestEU Advisory Partners - Eligible counterpart such as a financial institution or other entity with whom the Commission has concluded an advisory agreement for the purpose of implementing one or more advisory initiatives, other than advisory initiatives implemented through external service providers contracted by the Commission or by executive agencies under Article 195 FR.

(f) Description of the activities

Advisory services offered by Advisory Partners signing an Advisory Agreement under the InvestEU Advisory Hub include:

- Project advisory;
- Capacity building;
- Market development;
- Grants.

Actions:

- EIB and other Advisory Partners to provide advisory services, including external consultants to provide advisory services or studies;
- Communication and promotional activities;
- Increase of local and regional advisory support;
- Support the establishment of investment platforms; Support the development of the InvestEU projects pipeline and its objectives.

5.2. InvestEU Advisory Hub, Portal and accompanying measures – Technical Assessment Unit (TAU)

(a) Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing the InvestEU Programme and amending Regulation (EU) 2015/1017.

Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 of 14 December 2020 establishing a European Union Recovery Instrument to support the recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis.

(b) Budget line(s)

02 02 03 – InvestEU Advisory Hub, Portal and accompanying measures.

(c) Objectives pursued

The Technical Assessment Unit (TAU) will provide support to the Commission primarily in evaluating the overall riskiness of the financial products implemented with the EU guarantee support under the InvestEU Fund. It will advise on the general methodological approach for risk management of the guaranteed exposures deployed by the EIB and other implementing partners. In doing so, the TAU will contribute for the efficient deployment of the InvestEU guarantee and the adequate and timely consideration of various in-built risk features of the guaranteed InvestEU operations.

Based on the Article 11(1)(b) and (c) of the InvestEU Regulation the EIB Group is expected to manage the TAU to:

- (a) contribute to the investment guidelines, the design of the scoreboard, and to other documents that set out the operational guidance of the InvestEU Fund;
- (b) contribute to defining the risk methodology and risk mapping system that relate to the financing and investment operations of the Implementing Partners to allow such operations to be assessed on a common rating scale;
- (c) provide a non-binding opinion on the banking related aspects, in particular on the financial risk and financial terms related to the portion of the EU Guarantee to be allocated to an Implementing Partner;
- (d) carry out simulations and projections of the financial risk and remuneration of the aggregate portfolio of the InvestEU Fund, on the basis of assumptions agreed with the Commission;
- (e) measure the financial risk of the aggregate InvestEU Fund portfolio and provide financial reports or assessments on the aggregate portfolio;
- (f) carry out an assessment of the systems of that potential Implementing Partner and provide targeted technical advice on those systems;
- (g) provide to the Commission restructuring and recovery services connected with a Guarantee Agreement, where the Implementing Partner is no longer responsible for pursuing restructuring and recovery activities under the relevant Guarantee Agreement; and
- (h) provide to NPBI capacity building and other services in relation to the implementation of financial products supported by the EU Guarantee.

(d) Expected results

Signature of a Partnership Agreement with the EIB Group to implement the objectives and actions mentioned in 5.2 (c) above, including:

- Drafting of the Risk Methodological Framework and determining a common risk mapping approach;
- Periodic evaluation of the provisioning levels of the aggregate InvestEU portfolio and forecasting of its development;
- Advisory and development of risk assessment and pricing models;
- Execution of specific risk simulations and projections;
- Provision of ad-hoc expert analyses on topics and documents related to the operation and

- risk management of the InvestEU Programme;
- Assessment of Implementing Partners' systems, if requested;
- Advice related to cases of restructuring and recovery activities, if requested; and
- Capacity building in relation to the implementation of the InvestEU Programme by national promotional banks and delivery of other services, if requested.

(e) Implementing Entity

EIB Group as per Article 11(3)(b) of the InvestEU Regulation.

(f) Description of the activities

Funded activities will include: advisory services, provision of specific risk opinions, modelling, stress-testing and forecasting, data collection and data processing.

6. OTHER ACTIONS

6.1. Administrative arrangement with the JRC for Euromod microsimulation for country surveillance

(a) Legal basis

No basic act since the action results from the Commission's institutional prerogatives - FR Article 58(2)(d).

(b) Budget line(s)

06 20 04 01 "Coordination and surveillance of, and communication on, the economic and monetary union including the euro (EMU)".

(c) Objectives pursued

Simulations to assess the budgetary and redistributive impact of national tax and benefit reforms supports country surveillance in the context of the European Semester and the Recovery and Resilience Facility. They allow a better understanding of the economic, fiscal, and redistributive impact of adopted and potential structural reforms.

(d) Expected results

Main outputs include the simulation of the economic, fiscal and redistributive effects of a selected number of national tax and benefit reforms with the microsimulation model EUROMOD, combined - wherever relevant - with the macrosimulation model QUEST to model dynamic impacts of structural reforms. In addition, JRC delivers ad-hoc analytical outputs related to ongoing initiatives and analytical priorities by DG ECFIN.

(e) Amount

EUR 100 000.

(f) Description

Administrative Arrangement with the JRC.

6.2. InvestEU Investment Committee

(a) Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing the InvestEU Programme and amending Regulation (EU) 2015/1017.
Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 of 14 December 2020 establishing a European Union Recovery Instrument to support the recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis.

(b) Budget line(s)

02 02 03 – InvestEU Advisory Hub, Portal and accompanying measures.

(c) Objectives pursued

As part of the InvestEU Governance structure, the Investment Committee approves the use of the EU guarantee for financing and investment operations proposed by the implementing partners, taking its decision based on the due diligence presented by the implementing partner in the so-called scoreboard and guarantee request form. In doing this, it verifies the compliance with the regulation and the investment guidelines, giving particular attention to the requirements of (i) additionality and (ii) crowding in private investment, as well with all the other relevant prerequisites.

The Investment Committee has twelve members; four members are permanent members and eight non-permanent members, two per policy window.

The Investment Committee members have been selected after a call for applications on the Commission's website and been appointed by the Commission³ at the recommendation of the InvestEU Steering Board.

The Investment Committee meets in four different configurations, corresponding to the four policy windows. The Investment Committee is fully independent. When participating in the activities of the Investment Committee, its members, who have experience in investment in sectors covered by the relevant policy window, perform their duties impartially and in the sole interest of the InvestEU Fund.

Each member receives a fee of EUR 750 for each day of work. In addition, each member shall be entitled to reimbursement of travel, hotel accommodation and subsistence expenses incurred in connection with attendance of each physical meeting of the Investment Committee under Commission rules applicable to missions for officials

An independent secretariat hosted by the Commission and answerable to the chairperson of the Investment Committee assists the Investment Committee.

(d) Expected results

During 2022, twelve meetings of the Investment Committee are expected in order to assess and approve the use of the EU guarantee for financing and investment operations proposed. In addition, three dedicated training events for the Investment Committee will be organised to inform about the InvestEU Guarantee Agreements signed with the EIB Group and other implementing partners.

(e) Amount

³ Commission Decision C(2021) 5699 of 27.7.2021

EUR 1 046 400.

(f) Description

Comprises fees for the work of the members, including preparation of the meetings, as well as reimbursement of their travel cost.

7. PROVISIONING OF THE COMMON PROVISIONING FUND FOR THE EXTERNAL ACTION GUARANTEE FOR MACRO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE LOANS

7.1. NDICI – Provisioning of the CPF - MFA - loans EAG

(a) Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) – Global Europe

(b) Budget line(s)

14 02 01 70.06 – NDICI – Provisioning of the Common Provisioning Fund – MFA-loans EAG

(c) Objectives pursued

Macro-Financial Assistance (MFA) is a financing instrument designed to address exceptional external financing needs of countries that are geographically, economically and politically close to the EU (including those covered by the NDICI Regulation). The financial assistance provided under MFA operations and the policy measures attached to them aim at supporting the EU agenda vis-à-vis the recipient countries, notably by promoting macroeconomic and political stability in the EU's neighbourhood. MFA is mobilised on a case-by-case basis to help countries dealing with serious balance-of-payments difficulties, with the objective to restore a sustainable external financial situation, while encouraging economic adjustments and structural reforms. MFA is intended strictly as a complement to International Monetary Fund (IMF) financing.

(d) Expected results

For the period MFF 2021-2027, the NDICI-Global Europe Regulation stipulates that a maximum amount of EUR 10 000 000 000 from the Union budget may be used to provision the External Action Guarantee, which will support the EFSD+ operations covered by budgetary guarantees in accordance with Articles 32 to 39 of the Regulation as well as macro-financial assistance and other loans to third countries. In total, under the External Action Guarantee, the Union may guarantee operations, under Guarantee for up to EUR 53 449 000 000. Whereas the Commission had proposed to earmark EUR 14 billion for MFA loans, consistent with the EUR 2 billion annual lending volume for MFA agreed in the mid-term review of the 2014-2020 MFF, the adopted Regulation does not specify a maximum amount for MFA loans, which is consistent with the legal base of the instrument that provides for ad-hoc decisions by ordinary legislative procedure.

(e) Specific instrument to be used

External Action Guarantee – MFA compartment of the CPF

(f) Amount allocated per instrument

EUR 125 046 811

(g) Description

This appropriation is intended to provide the financial resources for the provisioning of the Common Provisioning Fund for MFA loans in the regions covered by the NDICI-Regulation.

(h) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

7.2. NDICI – Provisioning of the CPF – MFA-loans LEGACY

(a) Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) – Global Europe

(b) Budget line(s)

14 02 01 70.07 – NDICI – Provisioning of the Common Provisioning Fund – MFA-loans legacy

(c) Objectives pursued

The Guarantee Fund for External Actions was created in 1994. It provides the financial resources used as a smoothing mechanism to avoid a direct call on budget resources when, due to defaults of beneficiaries of loans, the Community must assure the reimbursement of maturing financial obligations (e.g. interest, principal). The Fund is financed from the general budget of the European Union and its financial management is entrusted to the EIB. Pursuant to the NDICI Regulation the net assets of the Fund on 31 July 2021 were transferred into the Common Provisioning Fund.

Macro-Financial Assistance (MFA) is a financing instrument designed to address exceptional external financing needs of countries that are geographically, economically and politically close to the EU (including those covered by the NDICI Regulation). The financial assistance provided under MFA operations and the policy measures attached to them aim at supporting the EU agenda vis-à-vis the recipient countries, notably by promoting macroeconomic and political stability in the EU's neighbourhood. MFA is mobilised on a case-by-case basis to help countries dealing with serious balance-of-payments difficulties, with the objective to restore a sustainable external financial situation, while encouraging economic adjustments and structural reforms. MFA is intended strictly as a complement to International Monetary Fund (IMF) financing.

(d) Expected results

The Union guarantee to MFA lending is underpinned by the Guarantee Fund for External Actions, which protects the Union budget from potential shocks related to defaults on loans that are provided by the Union, in order to avoid possible disruptions to the implementation of the budget.

(e) Specific instrument to be used

External Action Guarantee – MFA compartment of the CPF

(f) Amount allocated per instrument

EUR 31 151 049

(g) Description

This appropriation is intended to provide the financial resources for the provisioning of the Common Provisioning Fund, for loans and guarantees for MFA loans in the regions covered by the NDICI-Regulation. The provisioning for the 'legacy' guarantees and financial assistance, i.e. MFA Decisions prior to 2021 will continue to follow the rules of the Guarantee Fund for external actions regulation⁴.

The level of provisioning under the current system is determined on an ex-post basis, and depends on the outstanding amount of loans and guaranteed loans.

(h) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

7.3. Instruments for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) – Provisioning of the CPF – MFA-loans LEGACY

(a) Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2021/1529 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 September

⁴ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 480/2009 of 25 May 2009 establishing a Guarantee Fund for external actions , OJ L 145, 10.6.2009, p. 10.

2021 establishing the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III)

(b) Budget line(s)

15 02 02 03.03 – IPA III – Provisioning of the Common Provisioning Fund - MFA-loans legacy

(c) Objectives pursued

The Guarantee Fund for External Actions was created in 1994. It provides the financial resources used as a smoothing mechanism to avoid a direct call on budget resources when, due to defaults of beneficiaries of loans, the Community must assure the reimbursement of maturing financial obligations (e.g. interest, principal). The Fund is financed from the general budget of the European Union and its financial management is entrusted to the EIB. Pursuant to the NDICI Regulation the net assets of the Fund on 31 July 2021 were transferred into the Common Provisioning Fund.

Macro-Financial Assistance (MFA) is a financing instrument designed to address exceptional external financing needs of countries that are geographically, economically and politically close to the EU (including those covered by the IPA Regulation). The financial assistance provided under MFA operations and the policy measures attached to them aim at supporting the EU agenda vis-à-vis the recipient countries, notably by promoting macroeconomic and political stability in the EU's neighbourhood. MFA is mobilised on a case-by-case basis to help countries dealing with serious balance-of-payments difficulties, with the objective to restore a sustainable external financial situation, while encouraging economic adjustments and structural reforms. MFA is intended strictly as a complement to International Monetary Fund (IMF) financing.

(d) Expected results

The Union guarantee to MFA lending is underpinned by the Guarantee Fund for External Actions, which protects the Union budget from potential shocks related to defaults on loans that are provided by the Union, in order to avoid possible disruptions to the implementation of the budget.

(e) Specific instrument to be used

External Action Guarantee – MFA compartment of the CPF

(f) Amount allocated per instrument

EUR 1 370 129

(g) Description

This appropriation is intended to provide the financial resources for the provisioning of the Common Provisioning Fund, for MFA loans and guarantee for MFA loans in the regions covered by the IPA III Regulation. The provisioning for the 'legacy' loans and loans guarantees,

i.e. MFA Decisions prior to 2021 will continue to follow the rules of the Guarantee Fund for external actions regulation⁵. The level of provisioning under the current system is determined on an ex-post basis, and depends on the outstanding amount of loans and guaranteed loans.

(h) Implementation

Directly by the DG.

⁵ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 480/2009 of 25 May 2009 establishing a Guarantee Fund for external actions , OJ L 145, 10.6.2009, p. 10.