

NEXT GEN EU

# LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR RECOVERY:

## SWEDEN

#NextGenEU | MARCH 2022

### Sweden's recovery and resilience plan

The European Commission has given a positive assessment to **Sweden's recovery and resilience plan,** consisting of €3.3 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 Sweden to emerge stronger from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Swedish 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, Sweden's plan will accelerate the digital transformation, enhance investments in the green transition, as well as promote employment and skills development.

#### **KEY MEASURES TO SECURE SWEDEN'S GREEN TRANSITION**

44.4%

of the plan's total allocation for reforms and investments supports climate objectives





Incentivising decarbonisation of transport: abolishing reduction of energy tax on fuel and adjusted taxable benefit rates for company cars.



Emission reduction targets: local and regional climate investment, including projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the conversion to bioenergy for heating in industry. €811 million



Decarbonisation of the industrial sector: climate investment in the industrial sector, projects that develop and implement new technology with zero, low or negative emissions of greenhouse gases in industries with high process emissions. €286 million



**Biodiversity protection:** protecting valuable nature in areas that host high natural values by establishing formally protected areas of nature reserves. **€247 million** 



Freen transportation: strengthening support to improve railway capacity. €148 million

#### KEY MEASURES TO SUPPORT SWEDEN'S DIGITAL TRANSITION

of the plan's total allocation for reforms and of the plan's total allocation for reform investments supports digital objectives





- **Digital connectivity:** accelerating broadband network rollout in sparsely populated areas. **€464 million**
- Digitalisation of public administrations: upgrading digital services in public administration, including a joint digital infrastructure. €21 million



**Digital skills:** increasing digital skills at universities and other higher education institutions. €42 million

### **KEY MEASURES TO REINFORCE SWEDEN'S ECONOMIC** AND SOCIAL RESILIENCE





- **Demographic challenge:** Gradual increases in the retirement age to improve further the sustainability of the public pension system.
- **Boosting employment:** improving employability by expanding vocational training at upper secondary level. €196 million
- **Digital security:** strengthening measures against money laundering and terrorist financing.



- **Research and higher education:** scaling up the education at universities and other higher education institutions to tackle the challenges in the labour market. €308 million
- **Social and health care:** improving elderly care by upskilling and training of staff working in centres. €452 million



**Housing:** Increasing the supply of new rental dwellings with a lower rent to relief the housing shortage, while reducing bottlenecks in permit procedures. €296 million

#### **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.