



Brussels, 19.6.2020  
C(2020) 4159 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 19.6.2020**

**amending Implementing Decision C(2014) 9982 approving certain elements of the "Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014-2020" for support from the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund and the specific allocation for the Youth Employment Initiative under the Investment for growth and jobs goal in Slovenia**

**CCI 2014SI16MAOP001**

(ONLY THE ENGLISH TEXT IS AUTHENTIC)

# COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 19.6.2020

**amending Implementing Decision C(2014) 9982 approving certain elements of the "Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014-2020" for support from the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund and the specific allocation for the Youth Employment Initiative under the Investment for growth and jobs goal in Slovenia**

**CCI 2014SI16MAOP001**

(ONLY THE ENGLISH TEXT IS AUTHENTIC)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 96(10) thereof,

Having consulted the ESF Committee,

Whereas:

- (1) By Commission Implementing Decision C(2014) 9982, as last amended by Commission Implementing Decision C(2018) 8648, certain elements of the "Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014-2020" for support from the European Regional Development Fund ('ERDF'), the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund ('ESF') and the specific allocation for the Youth Employment Initiative ('YEI') under the Investment for growth and jobs goal in Slovenia were approved.
- (2) Pursuant to Article 22(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, the Commission determined that some priorities of this operational programme have not achieved their milestones; therefore, Slovenia should propose to reallocate the corresponding amount of the performance reserve to the priorities that have achieved their milestones.
- (3) On 5 June 2020 Slovenia submitted through the electronic data exchange system of the Commission, a request for an amendment to the operational programme. The request was accompanied by a revised operational programme, in which Slovenia proposed an amendment to the elements of the operational programme referred to in points (a), (b)(ii) to (v) and (d)(ii) of the first subparagraph of Article 96(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, all subject to Implementing Decision C(2014) 9982.

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320.

- (4) The amendment to the operational programme consists in changes addressing the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak by including new actions to be supported, beneficiaries, target groups and guiding principles for the selection of operations within priority axes 1 "International competitiveness of research, innovation and technological development in line with smart specialisation for enhanced competitiveness and greening of the economy", 3 "Dynamic and competitive entrepreneurship for green economic growth", 8 "Promoting employment and supporting transnational labour mobility", 9 "Social inclusion and reduction of poverty risks, active ageing and health" and 10 "Knowledge, skills and lifelong learning to enhance employability".
- (5) The amendment to the operational programme consists in addition in the reallocation of the performance reserve amount of EUR 1 619 441 from the non-performing priority axis 2 "Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, ICT" and of EUR 17 702 617 from the non-performing priority axis 3 to the performing priority axis 1, all supported by the ERDF for less developed regions; the reallocation of the performance reserve amount of EUR 1 124 5371 from the non-performing priority axis 2 and of EUR 2 101 097 from the non-performing priority axis 9 to the performing priority axis 1, all supported by the ERDF for more developed regions; and the reallocation of the performance reserve amount of EUR 3 601 316 from the non-performing priority axis 5 "Climate change adaptation" to the performing priority axis 6 "Improvement of the environment and biodiversity status", both supported by the Cohesion Fund.
- (6) The amendment of the operational programme consists also in the reallocation of the performance reserve amount of EUR 6 385 069 from the non-performing priority axis 6 to the performing priority axis 5, both supported by the ERDF for less developed regions; and the reallocation of the performance reserve amount of EUR 8 977 869 from the non-performing priority axis 8 to the performing priority axis 9 (EUR 5 117 385) and 10 (EUR 3 860 484), all supported by the ESF for less developed regions.
- (7) In accordance with Article 30(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, the request for the amendment to the operational programme is duly justified by the need to provide an effective and immediate response to the current public health crisis related to the COVID-19 outbreak, as well as by the reallocation of the performance reserve due to non-achievement of the milestones by some priority axes. It sets out the expected impact of the changes to the programme on achieving the Union's strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and the specific objectives defined in the programme, taking account of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, Regulations (EU) No 1300/2013<sup>2</sup>, (EU) No 1301/2013<sup>3</sup> and (EU) No 1304/2013<sup>4</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council, as well as the horizontal principles referred to in Articles 5, 7 and 8 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.

---

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1300/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the Cohesion Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1084/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 281).

<sup>3</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1301/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the European Regional Development Fund and on specific provisions concerning the Investment for growth and jobs goal and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 289).

<sup>4</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1304/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the European Social Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1081/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 470).

- (8) In accordance with point (e) of Article 110(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, the monitoring committee by written procedure on 24 April 2020 examined and approved the proposal for the amendment to the operational programme, taking into account the text of the revised operational programme and its financing plan.
- (9) The Commission assessed the revised operational programme and did not make observations pursuant to the second sentence of the first subparagraph of Article 30(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 nor pursuant to the first sentence of Article 30(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.
- (10) The amended elements of the revised operational programme subject to the Commission's approval under Article 96(10) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 should therefore be approved.
- (11) For reasons of clarity, it is appropriate to indicate the date as of which expenditure that is not related to operations fostering crisis response capacities in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak but becomes eligible as a result of the amendment to the operational programme is to be eligible in accordance with Article 65(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.
- (12) Implementing Decision C(2014) 9982 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

#### *Article 1*

Implementing Decision C(2014) 9982 is amended as follows:

1. in Article 1, the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:

"The following elements of the "Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014-2020" for joint support from the ERDF, the Cohesion Fund, the and the specific allocation for the YEI under the Investment for growth and jobs goal in Slovenia for the period from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2020, submitted in its final version on 11 December 2014, as last amended by the revised operational programme submitted in its final version on 5 June 2020, are hereby approved:";
2. Annex II is replaced by the text set out in the Annex to this Decision.

#### *Article 2*

Expenditure that is not related to operations fostering crisis response capacities in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak but becomes eligible as a result of the amendment to the "Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014-2020" approved by this Decision is eligible from 5 June 2020.

*Article 3*

This Decision is addressed to Republic of Slovenia.

Done at Brussels, 19.6.2020

*For the Commission*

*Elisa FERREIRA*

*Member of the Commission*

