

Distribution of €90 million of EU funds for the 2012/2013 School Fruit Scheme

07/03/2012 - The allocation of EU aid under the School Fruit Scheme for the 2012/2013 school year has been backed by Member States in the Management Committee yesterday and will be formally adopted by the Commission in the coming weeks.

The EU funding of €90 million will be allocated to the 24 participating Member States as proposed by the Commission, based on the population of 6-10 year old children and the needs expressed by each participating Member State. (Sweden, Finland and UK have again opted not to participate.)

The main beneficiaries of the Scheme in 2012/2013 will be Italy, who is set to receive over €20.5 million, followed by Germany (€11.6 million), Romania (€9.8 million), Poland (€9.2 million), France (€5.6 million) and Spain (€4.8 million).

These EU funds need to be co-financed at rates between 50% and 75%, i.e. they must be matched by national and/or private contributions.

Launched in 2009, school year 2012/2013 will be the 4th year of the School Fruit Scheme whose main objective is to increase the low consumption of fruit and vegetables among schoolchildren by durably increasing the share of those products in their diets when their eating habits are being formed.

Figures for 2010/2011 show that more than 8 million children benefitted from the Scheme by receiving portions of fruit and vegetables in schools.

In its CAP 2020 reform proposals, the Commission is proposing to further strengthen the Scheme and allow even more children to benefit, by proposing to raise the overall EU budget available for the Scheme to €150 million, to increase the rates of co-financing and to extend the list of eligible measures.

Definitive allocation of aid per Member State

Member State	Rate of co-financing in %	EUR
Belgium	50	1 782 500
Bulgaria	75	1 446 100
Czech Republic	73	3 956 971
Denmark	50	1 880 000
Germany	52	11 651 328
Estonia	75	390 000
Ireland	50	522 550
Greece	59	1 861 300
Spain	59	4 885 852
France	51	5 600 000
Italy	58	20 521 200
Cyprus	50	225 000
Latvia	75	881 917
Lithuania	75	1 291 300
Luxembourg	50	234 000
Hungary	69	3 615 573
Malta	75	262 500
Netherlands	50	2 962 100
Austria	50	1 000 000
Poland	75	9 222 800
Portugal	68	2 872 320
Roumania	75	9 790 748
Slovenia	75	606 975
Slovakia	73	2 536 966
Finland	50	-
Sweden	50	-
UK	51	-
EU 27	58	90.000.000

For more information and documents regarding the School Fruit Scheme, see:
http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/fruit-and-vegetables/school-fruit-scheme/index_en.htm