



Brussels, 24.11.2015
C(2015) 8095 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 24.11.2015

concerning the adoption of a financing decision and a work programme for 2015 for the implementation of the Pilot Project "Cohesion Policy and the synergies with the research and development funds: the stairway to excellence – Phase II" to be financed under budget line 13 03 77 13

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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) No 966/2012¹ of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (hereinafter referred to as the 'Financial Regulation') and in particular Articles 54(2)(a) and (b) and 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure implementation of the Pilot Project "Cohesion Policy and the synergies with the research and development funds: the stairway to excellence – Phase II", it is necessary to adopt a financing decision and a work programme for 2015. Article 94(1) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012² (hereinafter referred to as 'Rules of Application') establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of the Financial Regulation and Article 111(4) of the Rules of Application.
- (3) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme, it is appropriate to define the term 'substantial change' within the meaning of Article 94(4) of the Rules of Application.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The work programme

The work programme for the implementation of the Pilot Project "Cohesion Policy and the synergies with the research and development funds: the stairway to excellence" for 2015, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The work programme constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of the Financial Regulation.

Article 2

Union Contribution

¹ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p.1

² OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p.1

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the Pilot Project is set at EUR 1 200 000 and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the line 13 03 77 13 of the General Budget of the European Union for 2015.

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

Article 3

Flexibility Clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to the specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial within the meaning of Article 94 (4) of the Rules of Application where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and objective of the work programme.

In implementing this decision, the authorising officer responsible may apply the type of changes referred to in the first paragraph in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and of proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 24.11.2015

For the Commission

Corina Crețu

Member of the Commission