



Brussels, 26.10.2018
C(2018) 6965 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 26.10.2018

on the financing of the implementation of the pilot project "European Union Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR): generation and preparation of initiatives and projects with genuine added value for the region as a whole" and the adoption of the work programme for 2018

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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) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹, and in particular Articles 58(2)(a) and 110 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the pilot project "European Union Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region ('EUSAIR'): generation and preparation of initiatives and projects with genuine added value for the region as a whole", it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme for 2018. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) Additional capacity is needed to exploit the synergies among projects of the EUSAIR in pursuit of the objective of macro-regional value, notably with regard to the South East Europe 2020 strategy, and accelerate their design and implementation.
- (3) Under Article 58(2)(a) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, appropriations for pilot projects of an experimental nature designed to test the feasibility of an action and its usefulness may be implemented without a basic act provided the actions which they are intended to finance fall within the competence of the Union.
- (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 according to Article 195 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (5) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (6) 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 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046,

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The work programme

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual work programme for the implementation of the pilot project "European Union Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR): generation and preparation of initiatives and projects with genuine added value for the region as a whole" for the year 2018, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2018 is set at EUR 1 300 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in budget line 13 03 77 21 of the general budget of the Union.

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

Article 3
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 shall not be considered to be substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme.

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 4
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.

Done at Brussels, 26.10.2018

For the Commission
Corina Crețu
Member of the Commission