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ANNEX

**Work programme for 2019 for the implementation of the pilot project "Unlocking the crowdfunding potential for the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)"**

**1. Introduction**

On the basis of the objectives given in the budget remarks, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for the year 2019 as follows:

- a) for grants (implemented under direct management): point 2, N/A,
- b) for prizes (implemented under direct management): point 3: N/A,
- c) for procurement (implemented under direct management): point 4,
- d) for actions implemented under indirect management: point 5: N/A,
- e) for contributions to trust funds: point 6: N/A,
- f) for financial instruments: point 7: N/A,
- g) for contributions to blending facilities: point 8: N/A,
- h) for other actions or expenditure: point 9: N/A.

**Legal basis**

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.

**Budget line**

13 03 77 25

**Objectives pursued**

Crowdfunding represents an innovative tool that has gained significance in the last years and which potential in terms of synergies with Cohesion Policy is worth exploring.

In particular, the concept of "match-funding", i.e. combining ESIF grants with crowdfunding resources, could offer advantages in the form of increasing the leverage of EU funding by mobilising additional financial resources to projects and of raising the visibility of projects supported under this modality.

Thus, there is scope for a study exploring the synergies between the ESI Funds and crowdfunding, which would test the feasibility of combining crowdfunding and ESI Funds, for instance by gathering practical examples.

**Expected results**

Information should be collected in view of underpinning functionalities, benefits and limitations when crowdfunding platforms are used to match Cohesion Policy resources.

Attention should be given to the need for capacity building and reciprocal understanding

among managing authorities and crowdfunding platforms.

Good practices should be identified and made available for preparing and implementing potential cooperation with crowdfunding platforms as well as guidance for managing authorities.

**2. Grants**

N/A

**3. Prizes**

N/A

**4. Procurement**

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement under this work programme is EUR 300 000.

**4.1. Study exploring the synergies between the ESI Funds and crowdfunding**

General description of the contracts envisaged

The study will be implemented via an open call for tenders.

Implementation

The action will be implemented directly by DG REGIO.

**5. Actions implemented in indirect management**

N/A

**6. Trust funds**

N/A

**7. Financial instruments implemented in direct or indirect management**

N/A

**8. Contribution to blending facilities**

N/A