



Brussels, 16.12.2021  
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**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of 16.12.2021**

**on the financing of the European Urban Initiative supported by the European Regional  
Development Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2021-2022**

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### **on the financing of the European Urban Initiative supported by the European Regional Development Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2021-2022**

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 966/2012<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/1058 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 12 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The European Urban Initiative has succeeded the Urban Innovative Actions<sup>3</sup> to provide for a more complete and coherent set of services to urban areas supporting innovation, capacity building and knowledge capitalisation for evidence-based policy making on integrated and sustainable urban development within Cohesion policy.
- (2) In order to ensure the implementation of the European Urban Initiative, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2021 and 2022. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 (“the Financial Regulation”) establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (3) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU.
- (4) Pursuant to Article 62(1)(c) of the Financial Regulation, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the European Urban Initiative.
- (5) The Commission must ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation. To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of the Financial Regulation and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of the Financial Regulation before a contribution agreement can be signed.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 231, 30.6.2021, p. 60.

<sup>3</sup> Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 1301/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17.12.2013 on the European Regional Development Fund and on specific provisions concerning the Investment for growth and jobs goals and repealing (EC) No 1080/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 289).

- (6) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the European Urban Initiative multiannual work programme, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*  
*The work programme*

The multiannual financing decision, constituting the multiannual work programme for the implementation of the European Urban Initiative for 2021 and 2022, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

*Article 2*  
*Union contribution*

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the European Urban Initiative for 2021 and 2022 is set at EUR 122 493 723, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) for 2021, budget line 05.0203: EUR 60 640 457;
- (b) for 2022, budget line 05.0203: EUR 61 853 266.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft general budget of the Union for 2022, following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

*Article 3*  
*Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons*

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 5 of that Annex.

*Article 4*  
*Flexibility clause*

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set out in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum Union contribution set out in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20%.

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 5*  
*Adjustment clause*

The maximum Union contribution set out in the first paragraph of Article 2 shall be adjusted to the amount of appropriations decided by the budget authority in the general budget of the Union for the year 2022, provided the change does not exceed 20%.

Done at Brussels, 16.12.2021

*For the Commission*  
*Elisa FERREIRA*  
*Member of the Commission*