



Brussels, 1.12.2023  
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**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of 1.12.2023**

**on the financing of the European Urban Initiative supported by the European Regional  
Development Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2023-2024**

## COMMISSION DECISION

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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 2023-2024**

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) 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 2023 and 2024.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU.
- (3) The work programme should contribute to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in line with Commission Communication ‘The European Green Deal’<sup>3</sup> and the Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources<sup>4</sup>.
- (4) Pursuant to Article 62(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 (‘the Financial Regulation’) indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the programme.
- (5) The Commission is to 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 that 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

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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> COM(2019) 640 final, 11.12.2019.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 28.

Article 154(5) of the Financial Regulation before a contribution agreement can be signed.

- (6) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (7) 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 2023 and 2024, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

#### *Article 2*

### **Union contribution**

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the European Urban Initiative for 2023 and 2024 is set at EUR 127 442 469, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) for 2023, budget line 05.0203: EUR 63 090 331;
- (b) for 2024, budget line 05.0203: EUR 64 352 138.

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

The implementation of this Decision shall be subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2024 following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority.

#### *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 2 of that Annex.

#### *Article 4*

### **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 of this Decision 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 increase of the maximum Union contribution set 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.

Done at Brussels, 1.12.2023

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