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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 23.3.2022

approving the cooperation programme "(Interreg VI-B) Central Europe" for support from the European Regional Development Fund under the European territorial cooperation goal (Interreg) in Czechia, Germany, Croatia, Italy, Hungary, Austria, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia

CCI 2021TC16RFTN003

(ONLY THE CZECH, GERMAN, CROATIAN, ITALIAN, HUNGARIAN, POLISH, SLOVENIAN AND SLOVAK TEXTS ARE AUTHENTIC)

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/1059 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 on specific provisions for the European territorial cooperation goal (Interreg) supported by the European Regional Development Fund and external financing instruments¹, and in particular Article 18(4) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) On 14 September 2021, Austria on behalf of Czechia, Germany, Croatia, Italy, Hungary, Austria, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia, which have agreed on the content of the cooperation programme pursuant to Article 16(5) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1059 ('the participating Member States'), submitted per post the cooperation programme "(Interreg VI-B) Central Europe" for support from the European Regional Development Fund ('ERDF') under the European territorial cooperation goal (Interreg) in the participating Member States.
- (2) In accordance with Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1059, the programme supports a programme area from the list set out in Annex II to Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/75².
- (3) The programme was prepared by the participating Member States in cooperation with the partners referred to in Article 8(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council³.

¹ OJ L 231, 30.6.2021, p. 94.

² Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/75 of 17 January 2022 setting out the list of Interreg programme areas to receive support from the European Regional Development Fund and external financing instruments of the Union, broken down by strand and Interreg programme under the European territorial cooperation goal (OJ L 12, 19.1.2022, p. 164).

³ Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and financial rules for those and for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy (OJ L 231, 30.6.2021, p. 159).

- (4) The programme contains all the elements referred to in Article 17(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1059 and has been prepared in accordance with the model set out in the Annex to that Regulation.
- (5) The thematic priorities of the relevant macro-regional strategies have been taken into account and the relevant actors have been consulted pursuant to Article 16(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1059.
- (6) In accordance with Article 18 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1059, the Commission assessed the cooperation programme and made observations pursuant to paragraph 2 of that Article on 22 November 2021 and on 18 February 2022. Austria provided supplementary information and submitted a revised cooperation programme on 24 February 2022.
- (7) The Commission concluded that the programme complies with Regulation (EU) 2021/1059.
- (8) Pursuant to Article 50 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1059, this Decision constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 110(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴ with regard to the ERDF under shared management. It is necessary to specify the elements needed to make the budgetary commitments with respect to the programme in this Decision.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 112(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 and Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1059, it is necessary to fix, for each year, the amount of the total financial appropriations envisaged for the support from the ERDF and, for each priority, the co-financing rate and the maximum of support from the Fund. It is also necessary to specify whether the co-financing rate for the priority applies to the total contribution, including public and private contribution, or to public contribution.
- (10) The proposed cooperation programme should therefore be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The cooperation programme "(Interreg VI-B) Central Europe" for support from the ERDF under the European territorial cooperation goal (Interreg) in Czechia, Germany, Croatia, Italy, Hungary, Austria, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia for the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2027, submitted in its final version on 24 February 2022, is hereby approved.

Article 2

1. The maximum amount of support from the ERDF for each year is set out in Annex I.
2. The maximum amount of support from the ERDF for the programme is set at EUR 224 623 802, to be financed from the following specific budget line in accordance with the nomenclature of the General Budget of the European Union for 2022:

05 02 01 05: EUR 224 623 802 (ERDF - ETC).

⁴ 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 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

3. The co-financing rate for each priority is set out in Annex II. The co-financing rate for each priority shall apply to the total contribution, including public and private contribution.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Czech Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Republic of Croatia, the Italian Republic, Hungary, the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic.

Done at Brussels, 23.3.2022

For the Commission
Elisa FERREIRA
Member of the Commission