

Amendments ERDF Grant Schemes

Operational Programme I - *Fostering a competitive and sustainable economy to meet our challenges*

Monitoring Committee
10th November 2017



European Union
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Proposed changes (1)

- Selection Criteria for Schemes under PA2 and PA3 were approved by the Monitoring Committee on the 7th April 2016, following an overview of the Grant Schemes.
- Changes in the Call management modalities under the Start-up Investment Grant Scheme and the SME Growth Grant Scheme to be managed through **an Open Rolling Call system** are being proposed for approval by the Monitoring Committee today.



Proposed changes (2)

- With reference to the three schemes indicated below, the Monitoring Committee is also being asked to approve extending the support to the acquisition of **used** equipment, machinery and plant within certain parameters as outlined in the eligibility rules.
 - SME Growth Grant Scheme
 - Start-up Investment Grant Scheme and
 - SME Diversification Grant Scheme



Schemes Description (1)

Start-up Investment Grant Scheme: This scheme seeks to assist start-ups established for less than three years, through a non-repayable Grant to part-finance their initial productive investment costs to implement their business growth strategies in order to facilitate their future potential business growth and better withstand increasing competitive pressures for which they may not be well prepared.

SME Growth Grant Scheme : This scheme seeks to assists SMEs to address this gap by providing support in the form of non-repayable Grants to part-finance investments towards the implementation of their growth strategies related to the extension of the capacity of an existing establishment, or the setting up of a new establishment.



Schemes Description (2)

SME Diversification and Innovation Grant Scheme:

This Grant Scheme seeks to incentivise SMEs to adapt and become more resilient and address market challenges through:

- diversification,
- the implementation of a fundamental change, or
- investment to bring to the market significantly improved and advanced products/services to those already offered by the undertaking

whilst offering timely support to nurture the right environment towards the potential future business growth of the enterprise.



Aim of the proposed change

The main aim of the proposed changes is to better address the needs of the target group.

- Introduction of the open rolling call system has been well received by the business community. The system provides enterprises the opportunity to better plan and identify the best timing for submitting applications for support for their planned interventions.
- Removing unnecessary barriers and enable enterprises to be better placed when conducting their assessment in relation to the acquisition of equipment and machinery.





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