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| **Component 5.2: SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN COMPANIES AND INTRODUCTION OF INNOVATIONS BUSINESS PRACTISE** | |
| **Investment/ reform CID reference** | **Investment 2** |
| **Investment/ reform name** | **Support for research and development cooperation (in line with Smart Specialization Strategy)** |
| **Type of change compared to CID** | modified |
| **Legal base of the change (select at least one)** | Article 14(2) – loan request  Article 18(2) – update of the maximum financial contribution  Article 21 – amendment due to objective circumstances  Article 21a – REPowerEU non-repayable financial support (ETS revenue)  Article 21b (2) – BAR transfers  None of the above, correction of clerical error |
| **Elements modified (only for modified measures)** | Component / Measure description  Milestones and targets  Estimated cost  Green and digital tagging (potentially relevant, because there is a substantive change to the underlying measure)  DNSH self-assessment |

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| **Investment 2: Support for research and development cooperation (in line with Smart Specialization Strategy) – Target 228** | | |
| **Direct support for the digital transformation of enterprises** | | |
| **Modified elements** | **Current version** | **Amended version** |
| ***Component and / or measure description*** | *The measure aims at supporting industrial research projects by providing long-term support for cooperation between research organisations and enterprises, especially SMEs, under the National Centres of Competence programme.*  *Cooperation of 30 SMEs with a public research organisation under four newly created National Centres of Competence shall be established.* | *The measure aims at supporting industrial research projects ~~by providing long-term support for cooperation between~~ of research organisations and enterprises~~especially SMEs~~ involved in long-term cooperation under the National Centres of Competence programme.*  *~~Cooperation~~ Grant agreements shall be signed for the support of projects of 70 SMEs with a public research organisation under newly created National Centres of Competence ~~shall be established~~.* |
| ***Milestones and targets*** | *Quantitative indicator:*  *Number of supported projects*  *Target: 30*  *Long-term cooperation projects of 30 SMEs with a public research organisation under four newly created National Centres of Competence shall be achieved.*  *The total budget executed for this purpose shall amount to at least EUR 58 000 000.* | *Quantitative indicator:*  *Number of supported SMEs*  *Target: 70*  *Grant agreement shall be signed for the support of projects of 70 SMEs with a public research organisation involved in long-term cooperation projects under newly created National Centres of Competence.*  *~~Long-term cooperation projects of 30 SMEs with a public research organisation under four newly created National Centres of Competence shall be achieved.~~*  *~~The total budget executed for this purpose shall amount to at least EUR 58 000 000.~~*  *Quantitative indicator:*  *Final disbursement percentage of the allocated budget.*  *Target: 100 %*  *During Q1 2026 shall have been 100% allocated budget disbursed.* |
| ***Estimated cost*** | *Not relevant* | *Not relevant* |
| ***Green and digital tagging*** | *Not relevant* | *Not relevant* |
| ***DNSH self-assessment*** | *Not relevant* | *Not relevant* |

***Objective facts why the milestones and targets could not be met as originally envisaged***

The measure aims at supporting cooperation projects of enterprises with research organisations under the National Centres of Competence programme. In view of the fact that the final number of projects supported and related costs depended from the project proposals submitted under the call, the milestone was based on the estimates available at the time of the plan adoption.

Finally, out of the overall envisaged budget, more projects than the originally envisaged number could be supported. It has proven more purposeful to fund more projects, involving a higher number of SMEs. The wording change therefore brings the target description more in line with the outcome of the tender. The change in wording and in the indicator is also aimed at bringing it in line with the ‘further specifications’ in the OA.

As regards the budgetary execution target, it is proposed to remove the current wording and substitute it with a reference to the signing of grant agreements. The total grant amount as awarded following the call is committed in the grant agreements. The grants will be disbursed for each year of the duration of the project. Given that the tender procedure has already been concluded, and that the grant agreements have been signed, the overall budget of the measure is determined. For reassurance we suggest new final disbursement target for the budget in Q1 2026.

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| **Component 5.2: SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN COMPANIES AND INTRODUCTION OF INNOVATIONS BUSINESS PRACTISE** | |
| **Investment/ reform CID reference** | **Investment 3** |
| **Investment/ reform name** | **Aid for research and development in the environmental field** |
| **Type of change compared to CID** | modified |
| **Legal base of the change (select at least one)** | Article 14(2) – loan request  Article 18(2) – update of the maximum financial contribution  Article 21 – amendment due to objective circumstances  Article 21a – REPowerEU non-repayable financial support (ETS revenue)  Article 21b (2) – BAR transfers  None of the above, correction of clerical error |
| **Elements modified (only for modified measures)** | Component / Measure description  Milestones and targets  Estimated cost  Green and digital tagging (potentially relevant, because there is a substantive change to the underlying measure)  DNSH self-assessment |

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| **Investment 3: Aid for research and development in the environtal field – Target 229** | | |
| **Direct support for the digital transformation of enterprises** | | |
| **Modified elements** | **Current version** | **Amended version** |
| ***Component and / or measure description*** | *The measure aims at supporting industrial RDI projects submitted by research organisations and enterprises, including collaborative projects, aimed at addressing challenges identified under the “State Environmental Policy of the Czech Republic 2030 with outlook to 2050” and the sectoral strategy of research support. The RDI projects shall focus on priority thematic areas such as protection and sustainable use of natural resources, climate protection and improvement of air quality, waste management and reuse, protection of nature and landscape or a safe and resilient environment, including prevention and reduction of the consequences of natural and anthropogenic hazards.*  *Ten RDI projects in the field of environment shall be supported.* | *The measure aims at supporting industrial RDI projects submitted by research organisations and enterprises, including collaborative projects, aimed at addressing challenges identified under the “State Environmental Policy of the Czech Republic 2030 with outlook to 2050” and the sectoral strategy of research support. The RDI projects shall focus on priority thematic areas such as protection and sustainable use of natural resources, climate protection and improvement of air quality, waste management and reuse, protection of nature and landscape or a safe and resilient environment, including prevention and reduction of the consequences of natural and anthropogenic hazards.*  *Twenty RDI projects in the field of environment shall be supported.* |
| ***Milestones and targets*** | *Quantitative indicator: 53*  *Ten RDI projects in the environmental field shall be supported. The projects shall focus on priority thematic areas such as protection and sustainable use of natural resources. Climate protection and improvement of air quality, waste management and reuse, protection of nature and landscape or a safe and resilient environment, including prevention and reduction of the consequences of natural and anthropogenic hazards.*  *The total budget executes for this purpose shall amount to at least EUR 7 000 000.*  *Quantitative indicator:*  *Number of supported projects in the environmental field* | *Quantitative indicator: 63*  Grant agreements shall be signed for the support of twenty RDI projects in the environmental field ~~shall be supported~~. The projects shall focus on priority thematic areas such as protection and sustainable use of natural resources. climate protection and improvement of air quality, waste management and reuse, protection of nature and landscape or a safe and resilient environment, including prevention and reduction of the consequences of natural and anthropogenic hazards.  *~~The total budget executes for this purpose shall amount to at least EUR 7 000 000.~~*  *Quantitative indicator:*  *Final disbursement percentage of the allocated budget.*  *Target: 100 %*  *During Q1 2026 shall have been 100% allocated budget disbursed.* |
| ***Estimated cost*** | *Not relevant* | *Not relevant* |
| ***Green and digital tagging*** | *Not relevant* | *Not relevant* |
| ***DNSH self-assessment*** | *Not relevant* | *Not relevant* |

***Objective facts why the milestones and targets could not be met as originally envisaged***

The measure aims at supporting R&D projects in the environmental field.

In view of the fact that the final number of projects supported and related costs depended from the project proposals submitted under the call, the drafting of the milestone was based on the estimates available at the time of the plan adoption.

Finally, out of the overall envisaged budget, more projects than the originally envisaged number could be supported. It has proven more purposeful to fund more projects. The wording change therefore brings the target description more in line with the outcome of the tender.

The quantitative indicator shall be aligned accordingly.

As regards the budgetary execution target, it is proposed to remove the current wording and substitute it with a reference to the signing of grant agreements. The total grant amount as awarded following the call is committed in the grant agreements. The grants will be disbursed for each year of the duration of the projects. Given that the tender procedure has already been concluded, and that the grant agreements have already been signed, the overall budget of the measure is determined. For reassurance we suggest new final disbursement target for the budget in Q1 2026.

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| **Component 5.2: SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN COMPANIES AND INTRODUCTION OF INNOVATIONS BUSINESS PRACTISE** | |
| **Investment/ reform CID reference** | **Investment 4** |
| **Investment/ reform name** | **Aid for research and development in synergy effects with the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation** |
| **Type of change compared to CID** | modified |
| **Legal base of the change (select at least one)** | Article 14(2) – loan request  Article 18(2) – update of the maximum financial contribution  Article 21 – amendment due to objective circumstances  Article 21a – REPowerEU non-repayable financial support (ETS revenue)  Article 21b (2) – BAR transfers  None of the above, correction of clerical error |
| **Elements modified (only for modified measures)** | Component / Measure description  Milestones and targets  Estimated cost  Green and digital tagging (potentially relevant, because there is a substantive change to the underlying measure)  DNSH self-assessment |

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| **Investment 4: Aid for research and development in synergy effects with the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation – Target 230** | | |
| **Direct support for the digital transformation of enterprises** | | |
| **Modified elements** | **Current version** | **Amended version** |
| ***Component and / or measure description*** | *The measure aims at funding Seal of Excellence projects, in particular the instruments of the European Innovation Council Accelerator, which supports SMEs with the highest potential for rapid growth, as well as supporting European Research Area NET Cofunds (European Partnerships) that address the most pressing research and development challenges in the international context.*  *At least 16 enterprises involved in European Research Area NET Cofunds and at least 8 enterprises presenting projects that received the Seal of Excellence shall be supported.*  *The investment shall be implemented by 30 September 2025.* | *The measure aims at funding Seal of Excellence projects, in particular the instruments of the European Innovation Council Accelerator* *(including Pilot EIC Accelerator), which supports SMEs with the highest potential for rapid growth, as well as supporting European Research Area NET Cofunds (European Partnerships) that address the most pressing research and development challenges in the international context.*  *At least 16 enterprises involved in European Research Area NET Cofunds and at least 8 enterprises presenting projects that received the Seal of Excellence shall be supported.*  *The investment shall be implemented by 31 March 2026* |
| ***Milestones and targets*** | *26 projects prticipation in European Research Area NET Cofunds and projects that received the Seal of Excellence, including 18 projects participating in European Research Area NET Cofunds and 8 projects that received the Seal of Excellence, shall be supported.*  *The total budget executed for this purpose shall amount to at least EUR 19 000 000, including at least EUR 12 000 000 for projects participating in European Research Area NET Cofunds and least EUR 7 000 000 for projects that received the Seal of Excellence.*  *Timeline for completion: Q3/2025* | *26 projects prticipation in European Research Area NET Cofunds and projects that received the Seal of Excellence (including Pilot EIC Accelerator), including 18 projects participating in European Research Area NET Cofunds and 8 projects that received the Seal of Excellence, shall be supported.*  *~~The total budget executed for this purpose shall amount to at least EUR 19 000 000, including at least EUR 12 000 000 for projects participating in European Research Area NET Cofunds and least EUR 7 000 000 for projects that received the Seal of Excellence~~*  *Timeline for completion: Q1/2026* |
| ***Estimated cost*** | *No change* | *No change* |
| ***Green and digital tagging*** | *No change* | *No change* |
| ***DNSH self-assessment*** | *No change* | *No change* |

***Objective facts why the milestones and targets could not be met as originally envisaged***

The measure aims at supporting ERA NET Cofunds projects and projects that received a Seal of Excellence.

This exact budget distribution (12 mill. vs 7 mill. €) was determined in the CID without the knowledge of how financially demanding projects which are financed in the Seal of Excellence EIC Accelerator (SoE) are. The interest for new cofund/partnership calls was also not known at the time. According to the TA CRs’ experience and actual calls announced in 2021/2022 within the RRF, a new distribution of the budget of 19 mil. € is needed.

* Cofunds and Partnerships: the interest of Czech applicants is lower than expected. The call allocation for Czech applicants is high and usually underspent. Funding per project is approximatively 250 000 €.
* SoE: There is a low and limited number of SoE holders. The projects are financially demanding projects, and the allocation for calls is low (7 mil. € from RRF). Funding per project is approx. 1 mil. € based on the limited amount from the RRF.

More flexibility in the re-allocation of the budget is needed in order to meet the number of projects with a Seal of Excellence to be supported. Since Seal of Excellence projects are significantly more budget-intensive projects compared to small cofund projects, we need to refinance the money saved from the cofund allocation into the SoE allocation.The target for a total allocation of 19 million EUR remains, but at least 90% of the target amount will be disbursed by the 3Q 2025 target date. TA CR sends payments on an annual basis, always at the beginning of the year. By 1Q 2026, all payments are expected to be reimbursed in the amount of 19 million EUR.

Prolonging the timeline of completion until Q1/2026 is caused by the manner of sending the payments. The latest disbursement (the last part of funding sent to the beneficiary's account) will be at the beginning of 2026 at the latest. (For projects ending in 2025/2024 at the beginning of 2025/2024). The deadline extension is not needed for actual target for contracted projects in 3Q 2025. But if the target has to proved by sending all the allocation (all payments for the whole project duration), then the target shall be moved to 1Q 2026 after sending the last payments.

Still, the real completion of the projects is a maximum of 6/2026 and immediately after that the final evaluation starts. Each project shall achieve the project's outcomes during the project, i.e. by 6/2026 at the latest. All projects shall end by 6/2026 at the latest. TA CR will prove that the project is completed and finished by proving that all the funding (for all project duration) has been disbursed by the end of 1Q 2026 at the latest.

The addition of “Pilot EIC Accelerator” is due to the fact that, following the launch of the call, there were no SoE holders from the EIC Accelerator on the Czech side. Therefore, TA CR proceeded to finance the EIC Accelerator Pilot, which was launched in the Horizon 2020 period and then moved as an instrument to the next Horizon Europe period under the official name EIC Accelerator. The proposed wording therefore better reflects the current nature of the investment in view of the projects available for support.