

Annex 1

PROGRAMME INTERREG VI-A ITALY-SLOVENIA 2021-2027

SCHEME FOR GRANTING STATE AID TO ENTERPRISES

pursuant to Exemption Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty

SUMMARY

- Art. 1 Purpose and scope
- Art. 2 Definitions
- Art. 3 Transparency of aid
- Art. 4 Cumulation
- Art. 5 Eligible categories of aid
- Art. 6 Procedure for the granting of aid
- Art. 7 Origin of resources
- Art. 8 Entry into force and applicability

ART. 1

Purposes and scope

1. These provisions define the scheme for granting State aid to enterprises participating as beneficiaries in projects financed under the Programme INTERREG VI-A Italy-Slovenia 2012-2027.
2. The aid referred to in these provisions shall be granted in compliance with Regulation No 651/2014 as amended and integrated, declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (General Block Exemption Regulation). For anything not expressly regulated or defined by these provisions, reference is to be made to that Regulation; in any event, nothing stated in these provisions can be interpreted in a manner differing from what is laid down in Regulation No. 651/2014.
3. These provisions do not prejudice the possibility of granting aid to undertakings under the *de minimis* regime, in compliance with the rules on cumulation.
4. Under these provisions are not granted aids to undertakings in difficulty.

ART. 2

Definitions

1. With regard to definitions, please refer to Article 2 of Commission Regulation No. 651/2014, as amended and integrated.

ART. 3

Transparency of aid

1. Under this Scheme, only transparent aid in the form of grants and interest rate subsidies shall be granted in compliance with the general principle of legality and with the thresholds set out in Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 as amended and integrated.
2. For the purposes of the transparency of aid referred to herein in Article 5(b), the calls for proposals adopted under the Programme INTERREG VI-A Italy-Slovenia 2021-2027 referred to in Article 6 shall provide for a threshold to ensure that the applicable threshold referred to in Article 20a of Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 as amended and integrated is not exceeded.

ART. 4

Cumulation

1. Aid with identifiable eligible costs referred to in article 5 a) and b) under this Scheme can be cumulated:
 - (a) with other State aid, including *de minimis* aid, provided the measures relate to different identifiable eligible costs,

(b) with other State aid, in relation to the same eligible costs - in whole or in part overlapping - only if such cumulation does not lead to exceeding the highest aid intensity or aid amount applicable to the aid concerned under these provisions,

(c) with "de minimis", in relation to the same eligible costs only if such cumulation does not lead to exceeding the highest aid intensity or aid amount laid down herein in article 5.

2. Aid granted without identifiable eligible costs, as laid down herein in Article 5(b), can be cumulated:

(a) with other State aid, including de minimis, with identifiable eligible costs;

(b) with any other State aid without any identifiable eligible costs; up to the relevant maximum total funding threshold established for the specific circumstances of each case by Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 as amended and integrated or by another block exemption regulation or decision adopted by the Commission.

3. State aid exempted under this Scheme may be cumulated with Union funding managed centrally by the Institutions, Agencies, joint undertakings or other Union bodies that are not directly or indirectly controlled by States provided that the total amount of public funding granted in relation to the same eligible costs does not exceed the most favourable funding rate as laid down in the applicable Union legislation.

ART. 6

Eligible categories of aid

1. Under this Scheme, the following categories of aid may be granted:

(a) aid for costs incurred by enterprises participating in European Territorial Cooperation projects as referred to in Article 20 of the Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 as amended and integrated. Insofar as the costs are linked to the cooperation project, the following costs shall be considered eligible, in accordance with the meaning given to them in Articles 38 to 44 of Regulation (EU) No. 2021/1059:

- staff costs;
- office and administrative costs
- travel and accommodation costs
- external expertise and services costs;
- equipment costs;

costs for infrastructure and works.

The aid intensity shall not exceed the maximum co-financing rate laid down in Regulation (EU) No 2021/1059.

(b) limited amounts of aid to undertakings for participation in European Territorial Cooperation projects foreseen by the Regulation (EU) no. 2021/1059 as referred to in Article 20a of Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 as amended and integrated. The total amount of aid under this Article granted to an undertaking per project shall not exceed EUR 20.000=.

Also the aid as in this article letter b) can also be:

- granted for eligible costs identified in the calls for proposals published for the implementation of the Programme INTERREG VI A Italy-Slovenia 2021-2027;
- used for the granting aid to companies that are recipients of project activities carried out by project partners.

2. For the purpose of calculating the aid intensity and eligible costs, all figures shall be intended before any deduction of tax or other charge. The eligible costs shall be supported by clear, specific and up-to-date documentary evidence.

ART. 6

Procedure for granting and disbursing aid

1. Aid under these provisions is granted within the framework of projects financed within the calls for project proposals published for the implementation of the Programme INTERREG VI A Italy-Slovenia 2021-2027. Project proposals shall be evaluated in accordance with the procedures set out in the Programme.

2. As part of the procedures referred to in paragraph 1, the payment of aid under this Scheme shall be subject to verification that the beneficiary has not received nor repaid or deposited in a blocked account any aid subject to recovery due to a previous Commission decision declaring the aid illegal and incompatible with the market. This verification is carried out as follows:

- for Italian beneficiaries through consultation of the National Register of State aid foreseen in Article 52 of Italian Law No. 234, 24 December 2012¹ ;
- for Slovene beneficiaries through the acquisition of an appropriate declaration and consultation of the National Register of State aid of the Republic of Slovenia.

ART. 7

Origin of resources

Aid under these provisions shall be granted from the funds of the Programme INTERREG VI A Italy-Slovenia 2021-2027.

ART. 8

Entry into force and applicability

1. These provisions of this Scheme shall enter into force upon their publication on the website of the Programme ([www.ita-slo.eu/programmazione 2021-2027](http://www.ita-slo.eu/programmazione%202021-2027)).

¹ Law No. 234, 24 December 2012, stating “General rules on the participation of Italy in the law-making and implementation process of the European Union laws and policies”.

2. The aid governed by this Scheme can be granted until 31 December 2023.
3. For all matters not regulated by this Scheme, please refer to Commission Regulation No 651/2014, as amended and integrated.

MCO1 20109/2022