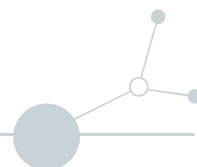




INTERREG CENTRAL EUROPE 2021 - 2027 AID SCHEME



August 2023





Scheme reference number: SA.109151¹

1. Legal basis

The Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE 2021 - 2027 aid scheme ("Scheme") operates under Commission Regulation (EU) 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Article 107 and 108 of the Treaty, as amended by Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1084 of 14 June 2017, Commission Regulation (EU) 2020/972 of 2 July 2020, Commission Regulation (EU) 2021/452 of 15 March 2021, Commission Regulation (EU) 2021/1237 of 23 July 2021, Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/917 of 04 May 2023 and Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/1315 of 23 June 2023 ("GBER").

The legal basis for the scheme is the European Territorial Cooperation programme INTERREG CENTRAL EUROPE PROGRAMME 2021-2027 CCI 2021TC16RFTN003 ("Programme"), approved by the Commission Implementing Decision C(2022) 1694 final of 23 March 2022.

2. Objective

Objective of this Scheme is aid for European Territorial Cooperation projects to support undertakings participating in Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE projects in developing and piloting solutions, building capacities and facilitating knowledge transfer for a smarter, greener, better connected and more integrated central Europe.

3. Eligible area

This scheme is available in the EU Member States participating in the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE programme: Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia.

4. Duration

01/07/2023 -31/12/2026

5. Annual expenditure planned under the scheme

EUR 10 million.

6. Definitions

The definitions set out in Article 2 of GBER apply to this Scheme.

7. Exclusions

This Scheme will respect exclusions set out in GBER Article 1 paragraphs 2 to 6.

8. Categories of aid/aid measure

This Scheme will provide the following categories of aid as set out in Chapter III of GBER:

- Article 20 Aid for costs incurred by undertakings participating in European Territorial Cooperation projects;
- Article 20a Limited amounts of aid to undertakings for participation in European Territorial Cooperation projects.

¹ This scheme is amendment and prolongation of scheme SA.102518.



9. Aid intensity

Maximum aid intensity for aid granted under GBER Article 20 is 80% of eligible costs and the maximum aid amount is EUR 2.2 million per undertaking, per project.

Maximum aid amount per undertaking per project granted under Article 20a is EUR 22.000,00.

10. Form of aid and eligible costs

This Scheme shall offer only forms of aid that are considered transparent.

Aid awarded under the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE 2021 - 2027 aid scheme will take the form of grant.

Aid will be awarded against only the eligible costs for European Territorial cooperation projects as set out in Article 20 and Article 20a of GBER.

11. Incentive effect

When relevant conditions of Article 20 and 20a are fulfilled, in line with provisions of GBER Article 6, aid to undertakings participating in Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE projects falls under categories of aid which are not required to have or shall be deemed to have an incentive effect.

12. Economic sectors and types of undertakings

Assistance is available across all economic sectors which are eligible to receive aid in European Territorial cooperation projects under the GBER.

Aid under this Scheme is open to SMEs and large enterprises, given that all relevant provisions of GBER and of the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme are respected.

Definition of SME is provided in Annex I of GBER.

13. Cumulation

Aid granted under this Scheme might be cumulated with other State aid under conditions laid down in GBER Article 8.

State aid granted under this Scheme shall not be cumulated with any de minimis aid in respect of the same eligible costs if such cumulation would result in an aid intensity exceeding those laid down in Chapter III of GBER.

14. Granting body

Granting body is the Managing Authority of the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme: City of Vienna, Municipal Department for European Affairs (Magistratsabteilung 27). Address: Friedrich-Schmidt-Platz 3, A-1082 Vienna, Austria

15. Publication and information

Member State where the Programme Managing Authority is located shall comply with publications and information requirements as set out in GBER Article 9 and the Managing Authority will assure the compilation and transmission of the data required to fulfil these requirements.

16. Reporting

The Programme Managing Authority will assure the compilation of the data required for the transmission to the Commission, as listed in the GBER Article 11.



17. Monitoring

Managing Authority of the Programme will assure the maintenance of detailed records with the information and supporting documentation necessary to ensure that all the conditions laid down in GBER are fulfilled. Such records shall be kept for 10 years from the date on which the last aid was granted under this Scheme.

The Managing Authority will ensure to provide all the requested information and supporting documentation which the Commission considers necessary to monitor the application of GBER regulation within the terms set in GBER Article 12.