



Brussels, 12.11.2019
C(2019) 8177 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 12.11.2019

**amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2018) 8186 final of 29.11.2018
adopting the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange (TAIEX) Action
Programme under the IPA II Multi-country envelope for the years 2018 - 2020**

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2018) 8186 final of 29.11.2018 adopting the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange (TAIEX) Action Programme under the IPA II Multi-country envelope for the years 2018 - 2020

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to 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 966/2012¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures of the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action² and in particular Article 2(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) By its Decision C(2018)8186 final of 29.11.2018, the Commission adopted the ‘Technical Assistance and Information Exchange (TAIEX) Action Programme under the IPA II Multi-country envelope for the years 2018 – 2020’.
- (2) It is necessary to modify the action TAIEX, due to decreased demands by the beneficiaries. In particular, the amending Decision (i) re-allocates part of the TAIEX budgetary allocation for budgetary year 2018 to the new action ‘Support to Regional Economic Integration’, and (ii) reduces in part the allocation of the TAIEX action for budgetary year 2019. In addition, it allows for implementation through indirect management for the new action “Support to Regional Economic Integration”.
- (3) Pursuant to Article 4(7) of Regulation (EU) 236/2014, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the programme.
- (4) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.

To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 before a contribution agreement can be signed.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 77, 15.03.2014, p. 95.

- (5) Commission Implementing Decision C(2018) 8186 of 29.11.2018 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (6) This amendment is in accordance with the opinion of the IPA II Committee set up by Article 13 of Regulation (EU) No 231/2014.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

Commission Implementing Decision C(2018) 8186 final of 29.11.2018 is amended as follows:

1. Article 2 is replaced by the following article:

"Union contribution

The maximum amount of the European Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2018 - 2020 is set at EUR 17.65 million and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union:

EUR 5 000 000 from the budget line 22.02.04.01 for year 2018

EUR 650 000 from the budget line 22.02.04.01 for year 2019

EUR 12 000 000 from the budget line 22.02.04.01 for year 2020

The financial contributions referred to in the first sub-paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2020 as adopted by the budgetary authority. "

2. Article 4 is added:

"Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in the Annex."

3. The Annex to the Commission Implementing Decision C(2018) 8186 of 29.11.2018 is hereby replaced by the Annex to this Decision.

Done at Brussels, 12.11.2019

*For the Commission
Johannes HAHN
Member of the Commission*