



Brussels, 30.11.2022
C(2022) 8942 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 30.11.2022

**amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2021) 9749 final as regards the action
'EU contribution to the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) 2021-2023'**

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amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2021) 9749 final as regards the action ‘EU contribution to the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) 2021-2023’

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 2021/1529 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 September 2021 establishing the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA III)² and in particular Article 9(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) By Decision C(2021)9749 final³, the Commission adopted the financing of the multi-country multiannual action plan in support of the Western Balkans Investment Framework 2021-2027 and the provisioning of the ELM legacy portfolio for past EIB operations for IPA beneficiaries including 3 actions.
- (2) It is necessary to modify Annex 1 ‘EU contribution to the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) 2021-2023’, in particular EU contribution for the year 2022, in order to: i) decrease the overall EU contribution for the Western Balkans Guarantee Facility (EFSD+ guarantee) by EUR 36 274 387, and ii) reallocate EUR 18 007 127 from the Western Balkans Guarantee Facility (EFSD+ guarantee) to the External Lending Mandate (ELM) legacy (reallocation within the same Action). The decrease of the Union contribution for year 2022 and the reallocation within the Action, would align the Union contribution to the actual needs for credits for the External Lending Mandate (ELM), and the EFSD+ for Western Balkans. Provisions related to years 2021 and 2023 of the action remain unchanged. The overall decrease of the EU contribution is reflected in the amended Article 2 ‘Union contribution’ of the respective Commission Implementing Decision.
- (3) It is also necessary to modify Annex 1 ‘EU contribution to the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) 2021-2023’ in order to widen the selection criteria to allow the Commission’s services to select other entities for the implementation of the Enterprise Development and Innovation Facility (WB EDIF), beyond the currently

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 330, 20.9.2021, p.1.

³ Commission Implementing Decision of 16.12.2021 on the financing of the multi-country multiannual action plan in support of the Western Balkans Investment Framework 2021-2027 and the provisioning of the ELM legacy portfolio for past EIB operations for IPA beneficiaries (C(2021) 9749 final)

entrusted pillar assessed organisations already working under the Western Balkans Investment Framework.

- (4) Therefore, Decision C(2021)9749 final should be amended accordingly.
- (5) The proposed assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU⁴.
- (6) This amendment is in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1529,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

Commission Implementing Decision C(2021) 9749 final is amended as follows:

- (1) Article 2 is replaced by the following article:

“Article 2 Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 3 158 527 429 and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) budget line 15 02 02 01.02⁵: EUR 2 938 530 000 for the years 2021-2027 (out of which EUR 657 230 000 for year 2021, EUR 656 300 000 for year 2022, EUR 615 000 000 for year 2023, EUR 410 000 000 for year 2024, EUR 300 000 000 for year 2025, EUR 200 000 000 for year 2026, EUR 100 000 000 for year 2027);
- (b) budget line 15 02 02 03.01: EUR 145 718 486 for the years 2021-2023 (out of which EUR 0 for year 2021, EUR 5 718 486 for year 2022 and EUR 140 000 000 for year 2023);
- (c) budget line 15 02 02 03.04: EUR 74 278 943 for the years 2021-2023 (out of which EUR 13 976 838 for year 2021, EUR 38 664 456 for year 2022 and EUR 21 637 649 for year 2023).

The appropriations provided for in the first 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 2023-2027 as adopted by the budgetary authority.”

⁴ www.sanctionsmap.eu Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

⁵ Since 2022 the extension .02 those no longer exist. Therefore from 2022 onwards the budget line for commitments is 15 02 02 01

(2) The Annex 1 is replaced by the Annex to this Decision.

Done at Brussels, 30.11.2022

For the Commission
Olivér VÁRHELYI
Member of the Commission