



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

Brussels, 30.8.2013  
C(2013) 5545 final

**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of 30.8.2013**

**amending Decision C(2007) 4172 adopting the operational programme for Community assistance from the European Regional Development Fund under the Convergence objective in the region of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland in the United Kingdom**

**CCI 2007UK161PO001**

(ONLY THE ENGLISH TEXT IS AUTHENTIC)

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1260/1999<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 33(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) On 14 June 2013, the United Kingdom submitted through the computer system for data exchange with the Commission a request for the revision of the operational programme for Community assistance from the European Regional Development Fund under the Convergence objective in the region of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland in the United Kingdom, adopted by Commission Decision C(2007) 4172 of 3 September 2007, as amended by Decision C(2013) 1816.
- (2) The proposed revision of the operational programme is justified by significant socio-economic changes and implementation difficulties.
- (3) Pursuant to Article 65(g) of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 by written procedure, on 10 May 2013, the monitoring committee considered and approved the proposal to amend the content of Decision C(2007) 4172, in particular as regards the text of the operational programme and its financing plan.
- (4) In accordance with the second subparagraph of Article 56(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, it is appropriate to fix the date from which the expenditure covered by the new category of expenditure Code 43 "Energy efficiency, co-generation, energy management" as referred to in Table 1 of Part A of Annex II to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006 of 8 December 2006 setting out rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 25.

and the Cohesion Fund and of Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Regional Development Fund<sup>2</sup> and as set out in the Priority theme table of Annex H "Indicative breakdown of activities" of the revised operational programme shall be eligible.

- (5) Decision C(2007) 4172 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

### *Article 1*

Decision C(2007) 4172 is amended as follows:

1. Article 3(1) is replaced by the following:

“1. The maximum amount of assistance from the European Regional Development fund granted under the operational programme, as calculated with reference to the total eligible public and private expenditure, is set at EUR 121 862 392 and the maximum co-financing rate is set at 41,79”

2. Article 3(2) is replaced by the following:

"2. The national counterpart of EUR 169 456 426 from the public sector may be partially met by Community loans from the European Investment Bank (EIB) and other lending instruments."

3. In Article 3(3), the second, third and fourth subparagraphs are replaced by the following:

"The maximum co-financing rate for priority axis 1) Enhancing Business Competitiveness, Commercialisation and Innovation is set at 39.83 % and the maximum amount for assistance from the ERDF to that priority axis, as calculated with reference to the total eligible public and private expenditure, is set at EUR 54 526 332.

The maximum co-financing rate for priority axis 2) Enhancing Key Drivers of Sustainable Growth is set at 44,83 % and the maximum amount for assistance from the ERDF to that priority axis, as calculated with reference to the total eligible public and private expenditure, is set at EUR 44 433 214.

The maximum co-financing rate for priority axis 3) Enhancing Sustainable Growth of Peripheral and Fragile Communities is set at 39,84 % and the maximum amount for assistance from the ERDF to that priority axis, as calculated with reference to the total eligible public and private expenditure, is set at EUR 19 246 973."

4. Annex I is replaced by the text set out in Annex I to this Decision.

5. Annex II is replaced by the text set out in Annex II to this Decision.

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<sup>2</sup> OJ L 371, 27.12.2006, p. 1.

## *Article 2*

Expenditure covered by the new category of expenditure Code 43 "Energy efficiency, co-generation, energy management" as set out in the Priority theme table of Annex H "Indicative breakdown of activities" of the revised operational programme and added as result of the amendments referred to in Article 1 of this Decision shall be eligible from 14 June 2013.

## *Article 3*

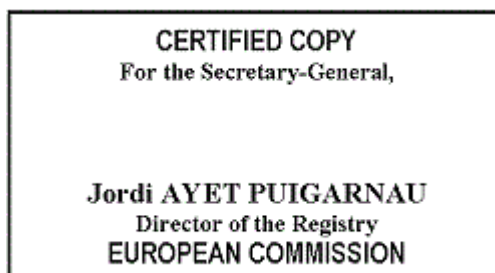
This Decision is addressed to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Done at Brussels, 30.8.2013

*For the Commission*

*Johannes HAHN*

*Member of the Commission*



**ANNEX I**

**"ANNEX I**

Amended operational programme"

**ANNEX II**

**"ANNEX II**

Amended financing plan"