

Adoption of 35 new programmes

In late July and early August the European Commission approved Structural Fund financing of 35 new regional development programmes.

B	Limburg	CI Rechar II	52.67	14.75
D	Bremen	CI SMEs	1.94	0.97
	Erfurt (Brandenburg)	CI Urban	17.18	12.89
	Magdeburg (Stadt)	CI Urban	19.40	12.88
	Niedersachsen	CI Resider II	35.06	14.81
	Nordrhein-Westfalen	CI Rechar II	144.67	66.45
	Nordrhein-Westfalen	CI Resider II	218.72	101.89
	Sachsen	CI Resider II	20.18	13.13
	Sachsen-Anhalt	CI Resider II	7.69	5.00
GR	Ellada	CI Rechar II	2.03	1.52
	Ellada	CI Resider II	6.25	4.69
E	Madrid	Regional OP (Obj.2)	307.79	144.96
F	France	CI Retex II	50.19	24.89
	Picardie	CI Resider II	5.06	2.31
IRL	Ireland	CI SMEs	41.04	28.79
I	Mezzogiorno	Water resources OP (Obj.1)	1 742.00	871.00
P	Portugal	Local investment GG (Obj.1)	33.34	25.00
UK	Eastern Scotland	CI Rechar II	20.69	10.00
	East Midlands	CI Rechar II	94.13	42.15
	Northern Ireland	CI Retex II	6.31	4.20
	Wales	CI Rechar II	42.66	20.46
	Wales	CI Resider II	26.49	12.96
	Western Scotland	CI Rechar II	6.19	3.04
	Western Scotland	CI Resider II	20.79	10.23
	Yorkshire	CI Rechar II	91.13	44.57

Interreg Community initiative:

D / CZ	Bayern / CZ	41.79	16.80
D / DK	Fuen / Kern	3.60	1.80
D / DK	Storstrom / Holstein (Lübeck)	10.40	5.20
D / DK	Sydjylland / Planung	22.10	11.10
D / LUX	Rheinland-Pfalz / Luxembourg	30.94	8.04
D / NL	Maas-Rhein	69.90	35.71
D / PO	Brandenburg / PO	72.02	48.38
D / PO	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern / PO	84.11	63.07
F / CH	Franche-Comté / CH	14.19	7.10
F / CH	Rhône-Alpes / CH	11.61	5.37
IRL / UK	IRL / Wales	139.63	84.08

Programmes adopted up to 29 August 1995

- Total: Total of public (national and Community) contributions in millions of ecus;
- SF: Contribution of the Structural Fund or Funds concerned (ERDF, ESF, EAGGF-G) in millions of ecus;

- CI: Community initiative;
- OP: Operational programme;
- GG: Global grant;
- Obj.1: Economic adjustment of regions whose development is lagging behind;
- Obj.2: Conversion of areas affected by industrial decline.

The Structural Funds in Austria

In July 1995 the European Commission approved the broad lines of the single programming documents (SPDs) for the Austrian regions which are to receive regional aid from the Community.

Burgenland, which is eligible under Objective 1 (regions whose development is lagging behind), will receive a Community subsidy of ECU 165 million for the period 1995-99. A programme providing for total public- and private-sector investment of some ECU 840 million will be part-financed. Just over half of the programme will be concerned with developing trade and industry and related technological skills, about a quarter with tourism, around 14% with agriculture and nature conservation and 10% with training and technical assistance.

The Objective 2 regions affected by industrial decline (western Styria, Lower Austria southern industrial belt, Steyr iron and steel centre and Dornbirn area) will receive ECU 101 million from the Structural Funds for the same period for four programmes providing for public- and private-sector investment totalling ECU 815 million (60% for trade and industry and related technological skills, 30% for human resources, 7% for tourism and the remainder for technical assistance).

The Commission is currently still negotiating with the Austrian authorities some practical aspects of the measures which can be financed under these programmes. Before they are finally adopted the programmes will also have to be submitted to the various advisory committees which have been provided for. They should be signed some time in October 1995.

New projects financed by the Cohesion Fund

The European Commission has recently approved a subsidy of ECU 446.8 million from the Cohesion Fund to help finance 14 projects in the various countries which receive aid from the Fund.

The Cohesion Fund is a European Union financial instrument which was set up by the Maastricht Treaty. It has a budget of ECU 15.5 billion for the period 1993-99 (at 1992 prices). Potential beneficiaries of the Fund are those Member States whose gross national product is less than 90% of the Community average, i.e. Spain, Greece, Ireland and Portugal. Subsidies from the Fund are intended to help finance projects concerning the environment and transport infrastructure linked to the trans-European networks.

Spain (ECU 212 million)

- Turning the N120 from Orense to Porriño into an expressway.,

Greece (ECU 15.1 million)

- Technical study for a rail link between the Neo Ikono container terminal and the Thriassio Pedio rail complex;
- Drainage and biological cleansing of the town of Igoumenitsa;
- Alexandria waste water disposal and treatment project.

Ireland (ECU 94 million)

- Road junction between the N1 and Ardee;
- Extension of the N6 between Oranmore and Merlin Park;
- Raising of the N11 in County Wicklow;
- Second stage of the Balbriggan diversion;
- Improvement of a Dublin container terminal;
- Modernisation of the sewer system in Wexford and the surrounding area.

Portugal (ECU 125.7 million)

- Widening of the Porto Aguas motorway section over 3.5 km;
- Electrification and modernisation of the Beira Alta railway line;
- Hydraulic works at Odeleite-Beliche in the eastern Algarve;
- Treatment of urban waste from 320 000 inhabitants of the Lisbon area.

In brief: Appointment in DG XVI.B

On 1 July 1995 Mrs Elisabeth Slavkoff was appointed a Director in the Directorate-General for Regional Policy

and Cohesion. She is responsible for regional assistance in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Sweden (Directorate B).



European Commission
Directorate-General for Regional Policy and Cohesion

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