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**NOTE**

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	ANNEX to the Council Implementing Decision on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Cyprus

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Delegations will find attached the above-mentioned annex to the Council Implementing Decision, as revised and agreed by the Financial Counsellors Working Party, based on the Commission Proposal COM (2021) 398.

## **SECTION 1: REFORMS AND INVESTMENTS UNDER THE RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLAN**

### **1. Description of Reforms and Investments**

#### **A. COMPONENT 1.1: RESILIENT AND EFFECTIVE HEALTH SYSTEM, ENHANCED CIVIL PROTECTION**

This component of the Cypriot Recovery and Resilience plan addresses the challenge of universal access to high-quality healthcare in Cyprus as well as civil protection's overall emergency preparedness and response. The objective of this component is to strengthen the effectiveness, accessibility and overall resilience of the healthcare sector supporting the recently introduced National Health System through various interventions. These include the (i) modernisation and digitalisation of health care infrastructure and equipment, (ii) stepping-up of e-health services, (iii) accreditation of provided health care services and introduction of evidence-based clinical protocols and quality monitoring systems, as well as (iv) upskilling opportunities for health workers. It further aims at enhancing Cyprus' civil protection system by establishing a modern Public Warning System.

The component addresses the country-specific recommendations on health (country-specific recommendation 1 of 2020 and country-specific recommendation 3 of 2019).

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

#### **A.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

##### **Reform 1 (C1.1R1): National Centre for Clinical Evidence and Quality Improvement**

The objective of the reform is to enhance the quality and sustainability of the healthcare system.

For this purpose, a National Centre for Clinical Evidence and Quality Improvement shall be established developing evidence-based medicine (EBM) clinical guidelines, protocols and pathways for all levels of care (primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare) in close cooperation with healthcare professionals and patients as well as monitoring and evaluation processes such as clinical audits, peer reviews and inspections. Furthermore, an IT system enabling implementation and monitoring of the clinical standards and protocols and including an e-learning platform shall be developed. The reform shall include the training of healthcare professionals in the respective newly established protocols and processes.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

##### **Reform 2 (C1.1R2): Design of an Electronic platform for the surveillance of Nosocomial Antibiotic Consumption and Healthcare – Associated Infections**

The aim of the reform is to support the digital transition of the healthcare sector and strengthen the health system's effectiveness and resilience.

It shall consist of the development of an electronic platform to process data from hospital pharmacies (nosocomial antibiotic consumption), microbiology laboratories (antimicrobial resistance), and hospitals (healthcare-associated infections (HAIs)).

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

Investment 1 (C1.1I1): New facilities for the Cyprus Blood Establishment and procurement of the latest technology attendant equipment

The objective of the investment is to enhance central Blood Establishment operations in Cyprus.

This measure shall entail the construction of new facilities for the Cyprus Blood Establishment and the procurement of the latest technology attendant equipment. About 80 000 blood products (such as red blood cells, platelets and fresh frozen plasma) shall be able to be distributed for clinical use across the whole country. The new facilities shall have a primary energy demand that is at least 20% lower than defined in the nearly zero-energy building (NZEB) requirement.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2025.

Investment 2 (C1.1I2): Cyprus Innovative Public Health information and communications technology (ICT) System

The aim of the measure is to establish the Influenza Sentinel Surveillance module of the Cyprus Innovative Public Health information and communications technology (ICT) System to support public health sector bodies in making evidence-based decisions.

It shall include both the development of the necessary digital tools (such as software and ICT infrastructure) as well as the upskilling of health workers and Ministry of Health personnel to use the system for data collection and information extraction. Following the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines, the Influenza Sentinel Surveillance (ISS) module of the Cyprus Innovative Public Health ICT System shall record epidemiological data informing the Ministry of Health of potential epidemiological outbursts. The Ministry of Health shall assign 150 doctors as sentinels who shall enter data in the Influenza Sentinel Surveillance (ISS) module of the Cyprus Innovative Public Health ICT System.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

Investment 3 (C1.1I3): Purchase/replacement of medical equipment in hospitals

The investment aims at enabling private hospitals to invest within a short timeframe in the modernisation of their medical equipment increasing the quality of health services provided.

The measure shall comprise a support scheme for private hospitals supporting the upgrade or replacement of medical equipment. Applications for funding shall be assessed based on transparent selection criteria by a special Assessment Committee, which shall be appointed by the Minister of Health.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Investment 4 (C1.1I4): Accreditation of public and private hospitals

The objective of this investment is to support the accreditation of hospitals, enabling their registration within the National Health System (NHS) and enhancing the quality assurance of health care services provided.

It shall consist in a sponsorship scheme facilitating the accreditation of hospitals by covering part of (i) the costs incurred by private and public hospitals related to accreditation advisory services from external experts (on how to make the necessary preparations for the accreditation) and (ii) accreditation fees charged by internationally recognised bodies.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Investment 6 (C1.1I6): Deployment of generic cross border e-health services in Cyprus

The measure aims at extending e-health services to allow cross-border exchange of patient health information (in particular patient summaries and e-prescriptions), to become part of a secure peer-to-peer e-health network within the EU.

It shall consist in putting in operation a cross-border data exchange between Cyprus and Union Member States with operational National Contact Points for eHealth (NCPeH), such as e-prescriptions, e-dispensations, patient summaries, and additional data sets (amongst others discharge forms, laboratory results and imaging) as agreed with the eHealth Digital Service Infrastructure (eHDSI).

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2025.

#### Investment 7 (C1.1I7): Public warning system for supporting emergency operations through SMS

The objective of the investment is to enhance Cyprus' civil protection system by establishing a modern public warning system targeting the whole population through a mobile application to increase public safety, preparedness and resilience.

The measure shall consist in putting in operation a public warning system reaching the whole population through a mobile application or SMS for alerting on imminent or developing emergencies.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

## **A.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support**

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
1	C1.1R1 National Centre for Clinical Evidence and Quality Improvement	Target	Clinical protocols prepared, audited and peer reviewed	-	Number	0	50	Q4	2024	At least 50 clinical protocols prepared, audited and peer reviewed by a team of experts, with key characteristics of protocols being: • evidence-based medicine (EBM) clinical practice recommendations, • implementation guide, • audit plan.
2	C1.1R1 National Centre for Clinical Evidence and Quality Improvement	Target	Clinical protocols prepared, audited and peer reviewed	-	Number	50	90	Q4	2025	At least 90 clinical protocols prepared, audited and peer reviewed by team of experts, with key characteristics of protocols being: • evidence-based medicine (EBM) clinical practice recommendations, • implementation guide, • audit plan.
3	C1.1R2 Design of an Electronic platform for the surveillance of Nosocomial Antibiotic Consumption and Healthcare – Associated Infections	Milestone	Adoption of the list of health care facilities	Adoption of the list of health care facilities	-	-	-	Q1	2023	Adoption of the list of health care facilities that shall be providing information to the Health Insurance Organisation on antibiotic consumption and shall be monitored by the Health Insurance Organisation.
4	C1.1R2 Design of an Electronic platform for the surveillance of Nosocomial Antibiotic	Milestone	Electronic platform including monitoring system is fully operational	Electronic platform up and running	-	-	-	Q4	2025	Electronic platform to process data from hospital pharmacies (nosocomial antibiotic consumption), microbiology laboratories (antimicrobial resistance), and hospitals (healthcare-associated infections (HAIs)) shall be fully operational (Installed at all points of use and real data are being entered) and a system

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Consumption and Healthcare – Associated Infections									monitoring its effectiveness shall be in place.
5	C1.1I1 New facilities for the Cyprus Blood Establishment and procurement of the latest technology attendant equipment	Milestone	Contract signature for the construction of the Cyprus Blood Establishment	Signature of the contract	-	-	-	Q3	2022	Signature of the contract with the selected tenderer(s) (contractor(s)) selected under a competitive call for tenders for the construction of the Cyprus Blood Establishment.
6	C1.1I1 New facilities for the Cyprus Blood Establishment and procurement of the latest technology attendant equipment	Milestone	New blood establishment facilities including all equipment are fully operational	Completion of the construction and start of operations	-	-	-	Q2	2025	The new blood establishment facilities shall be constructed and fully operational housing the Cyprus Blood Establishment. The new facilities shall have a primary energy demand that is at least 20% lower than defined in the nearly zero-energy building (NZEB) requirement. New relevant equipment shall be operational and the transfer of the existing equipment from the present Blood Establishment premises to the new facilities shall be complete.
7	C1.1I2 Cyprus Innovative Public Health information and communication technology (ICT) System	Milestone	Influenza Sentinel Surveillance (ISS) System	Fully operational system	-	-		Q2	2022	The Influenza Sentinel Surveillance System module of the Cyprus Innovative Public Health information and communications technology (ICT) System shall be operational and a system monitoring its effectiveness shall be in place.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
8	C1.1I2 Cyprus Innovative Public Health information and communications technology (ICT) System	Target	Sentinels entering data in the Influenza Sentinel Surveillance System module	-	Number	0	150	Q4	2025	Following the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines, the Influenza Sentinel Surveillance System (ISS) module of the Cyprus Innovative Public Health ICT System shall record epidemiological data entered in the online digital platform by general practitioners (GPs) to inform the Ministry of Health of potential outbursts. The Ministry of Health shall assign at least 150 doctors as sentinels that shall enter data in the ISS module of the Cyprus Innovative Public Health ICT System.
9	C1.1I3 Purchase/replacement of medical equipment in hospitals	Target	Health institutions having benefitted from the financial support scheme	-	Number	0	10	Q4	2023	At least ten of the applicant health institutions of various categories have received financial support from the scheme for medical equipment acquisition.
10	C1.1I3 Purchase/replacement of medical equipment in hospitals	Target	Health institutions having benefitted from the financial support scheme	-	Number	10	23	Q4	2025	At least 23 of the applicant health institutions of various categories have received financial support from the scheme for medical equipment acquisition.
11	C1.1I4 Accreditation of public and private hospitals	Target	Health institutions having benefitted from the	-	Number	0	20	Q2	2024	At least 20 of the applicant health institutions of various categories have been supported from the scheme for gaining accreditation.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
			scheme covering accreditation related costs							
12	C1.II4 Accreditation of public and private hospitals	Target	Health institutions having benefitted from the scheme covering accreditation related costs	-	Number	20	45	Q4	2025	At least 45 of the applicant health institutions of various categories have been supported from the scheme for gaining accreditation.
13	C1.II6 Deployment of generic cross border e-health services in Cyprus	Milestone	Completion of the analysis, design and development phase of the IT System for cross-border e-health services	Completion of the analysis, design and development phase of the IT System, as provided in a dedicated report by the deliverables acceptance team in the contracting authority	-	-	-	Q4	2023	The analysis, design and development of the IT System phase shall be completed. Specifications shall include: a) mobile video communication, b) geolocation, c) capability lookup, d) the Cross-Community Patient Discovery Profile (to locate communities that hold patient relevant health data and the translation of patient identifiers across communities holding the same patient's data), e) for cybersecurity Cross-Layered Detection and Response (XDR) and e-ID, f) automatic data collection and evaluation, g) for both Cypriot and foreign residents: (i) an open source National Contact Point update for e-health, (ii) updated patient summary, and (iii) e-Prescription, h) sharing of unstructured clinical documents, and i) patient access to cross border data services,



Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										based on wave 6 Clinical Document Architecture Implementation Guidelines by the e-Health network. A new service shall also be created to enable the exchange of structured and coded clinical documents that may include images/images reports, discharge letters (encounter report), electronic health records, and laboratory results.
14	C1.1I6 Deployment of generic cross border e-health services in Cyprus	Milestone	Full operation of cross-border healthcare data exchange	Approval of the system by the National eHealth Authority	-	-	-	Q2	2025	Full operation of cross-border data exchange between Cyprus and countries with Operational National Contact Points for eHealth (such as e-prescriptions, e-dispensations, patient summaries exchanged with Cyprus) and additional data sets (such as discharge forms, laboratory results and imaging) as agreed with eHealth Digital Service Infrastructure.
15	C1.1I7 Public warning system for supporting emergency operations through SMS	Milestone	Newly established public warning system and its monitoring system are fully operational	The Technical Committee signs off final Systems Acceptance and go-live Report for the public warning system	-	-	-	Q4	2025	The public warning system shall be operational and a monitoring system shall be in place reaching the whole population through a mobile application and/or SMS. The terminal points machines for SMS sending shall be fully operational.

### **A.3. Description of the reforms and investments for the loan**

#### **Reform 3 (C1.1R3): Gradually shifting of the healthcare provision and reimbursement framework towards value-based models**

The aim of the reform is to introduce and gradually move to value-based healthcare models to complement current volume-based healthcare models, to improve health outcomes and limit costs.

It shall consist in the development of appropriate value-based models and initiatives, with relevant monitoring mechanisms to measure and track the success of the reform, and the introduction of value-based models in the Reimbursement Decision for primary and in-patient care as per the General Health System Legislation.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 March 2023.

#### **Investment 5 (C1.1I5): Enhancement, modernisation and upgrade of Cyprus State Hospitals**

The objective of this investment is to enhance, modernise and/or upgrade the Cyprus State Hospitals to enable them to compete on an equal basis with the private sector whilst at the same time improving the quality of healthcare services as well as working conditions for health workers in public hospitals.

This measure shall consist in the following actions to enhance, modernise and/or upgrade the State Hospitals: (1) enhancement of the Makarios Hospital for Children to offer a complete treatment of cases to children; (2) construction and/or extension of Haemodialysis Unit at Paphos and Limassol Hospitals; (3) construction of a Mental Health Hospital; (4) enhancement of the Limassol General Hospital; (5) enhancement of the Accident and Emergency Units across all State Cyprus Hospitals; (6) enhancement of the Paphos General Hospital; (7) extension of Invasive Radiology Unit including medical equipment (such as Angiography Unit); (8) construction of a COVID-19 Unit at the Famagusta Hospital; and (9) creation of a Communicable Diseases Unit at the Limassol General Hospital. Building renovations shall aim at achieving on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction. The Haemodialysis unit at Paphos Hospital shall have a primary energy demand that is at least 20% lower than defined by the nearly zero-energy building (NZEB) requirement.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### A.4. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for the loan

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
16	C1.1R3 Gradually shifting the healthcare provision and reimbursement framework towards value-based models.	Milestone	Value-based reimbursement to be reflected for primary and in-patient care	Value-based reimbursement to be reflected in the Reimbursement Decision	-	-	-	Q1	2023	Annual reimbursement decisions in the general health system shall be adjusted to include value-based reimbursement for primary and in-patient care.
17	C1.1I5 Enhancement, modernisation and upgrade of Cyprus State Hospitals	Target	Actions to enhance, construct and/or upgrade State hospitals	-	Number	0	7	Q2	2024	At least seven actions to enhance, construct and/or upgrade State hospitals shall be implemented. Building renovations shall aim at achieving on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction. The Haemodialysis unit at Paphos Hospital shall have a primary energy demand that is at least 20% lower than defined by the nearly zero-energy building (NZEB) requirement. The end of works shall be attested by taking over issued certificates, of the completed works.
18	C1.1I5 Enhancement, modernisation and upgrade of Cyprus State Hospitals	Target	Actions to enhance, construct and/or upgrade State hospitals	-	Number	7	9	Q2	2026	Nine actions to enhance, construct and/or upgrade State hospitals shall be implemented. Building renovations shall aim at achieving on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction. The Haemodialysis unit at Paphos Hospital shall have a primary energy demand that is at least 20% lower than defined by the nearly zero-energy building (NZEB) requirement. The end of works shall be attested by taking over issued certificates of the completed works.

## **B. COMPONENT 2.1: CLIMATE NEUTRALITY, ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY**

This component of the Cypriot Recovery and Resilience Plan aims to address the challenge of climate change mitigation by contributing to the country's transition to climate neutrality.

The objectives of the component are to improve the environment policy through measures relating to green taxation, the opening up of the electricity market and the facilitation of licensing of renewable energy and renovation projects. The component aims to improve the energy efficiency of the building stock and other infrastructure and to support green investments for SMEs, households, the wider public sector and NGOs. The component also targets the alleviation of energy poverty and aims to address Cyprus' energy isolation.

The component supports addressing the Country Specific Recommendations for the years 2019 and 2020 that recommend focusing investment and investment-related policies on energy efficiency and renewable energy (Country-Specific Recommendation 4 of 2019 and Country-Specific Recommendation 3 of 2020).

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

### **B.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

#### **Reform 1 (C2.1R1): Green Taxation**

The objectives of the measure are to promote a shift towards a more efficient use of environmental resources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to increase the penetration of renewable energy.

The reform shall consist in legislative changes introducing a carbon tax for fuels used in the sectors of the economy that do not fall under the EU greenhouse gas Emissions Trading System. The reform shall also entail the gradual introduction of a levy on water, as well as the introduction of a charge on household/landfill waste. The reform shall aim at making a tangible contribution to reaching the 2030 climate and energy targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase the share of renewable energy. The legislative changes shall be based on the findings of an independent study to be undertaken.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### **Reform 2 (C2.1R2): Independence of Cyprus Transmission System Operator (TSOC) from the incumbent Electricity Authority of Cyprus**

The objective of the measure is to enhance competition in the electricity market by creating conditions for new investors to participate in the generation, storage, aggregation, demand response and supply of electricity.

The reform shall consist in ensuring the independence of the Cyprus Transmission System Operator (TSOC) from the incumbent Electricity Authority of Cyprus (EAC) in terms of governance, financial and personnel management. The measure shall also facilitate supplier switching, which is expected to reduce the cost of electricity for domestic and commercial/industrial customers.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2021.

#### **Reform 3 (C2.1R3): Digital One-Stop Shops to streamline RES projects permitting and to facilitate Energy Renovation in Buildings**

The objective of the measure is to promote the implementation of RES projects by streamlining the RES projects permitting process. The reform shall also aim at accelerating the energy renovation of buildings.

The reform shall consist in digitalising the licensing permitting process for RES projects and establishing a single point of contact for technical and financial support for the purposes of energy renovation of buildings.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2022.

#### Reform 4 (C2.1R4): Energy Storage Regulatory Framework

The objective of the measure is to establish a regulatory framework for promoting the participation of storage facilities in the electricity market.

The reform shall consist in amending the Transmission and Distribution Rules (TDRs) and the Trading and Settlement Rules (TSRs) to allow storage facilities to participate in the wholesale electricity market. This is expected to promote the generation of electricity from renewable energy systems and to contribute to the efficiency and economic viability of the electricity market as a whole.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2021.

#### Investment 1 (C2.1I1): Promoting energy efficiency investments in SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector

The objective of the measure is to reduce the primary and final energy consumption and the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in buildings and/or facilities owned or operated by SMEs, local authorities (Municipalities and Communities) and organisations of the wider public sector.

The investment shall consist in providing support to at least 275 entities for building renovation and for making production processes more efficient. The grant scheme shall also promote the execution of energy audits, as well as the adoption of digital technologies and the integration of renewables. The investment shall aim at achieving on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction.

It is expected that this measure does not do significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measure and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01). In particular, the call for proposals for this measure shall reflect that the purchasing of biomass boilers shall comply with the provisions of the Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe, the Renewable Energy Directive 2018/2001/EU and relevant national legislation on air pollutant emissions.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

Investment 2 (C2.1I2): Promoting renewables and individual energy efficiency measures in dwellings and tackling energy poverty in households with people with disabilities

The objective of the measure is to encourage the use of renewable energy sources and energy savings by the large stock of old dwellings, as well as to subsidise the implementation of small-scale energy renovations in energy poor households as well as in households with people with disabilities.

The investment is composed of two sub-measures: (i) a support scheme for promoting renewables and individual energy efficiency measures in dwellings and (ii) a support scheme for addressing energy poverty in households with people with disabilities.

Sub-measure 1: promoting renewables and energy efficiency measures in dwellings

The investment shall consist in providing grants to at least 16 200 dwellings (including households of vulnerable electricity consumers) for thermal insulation of roofs and/or for the installation of a photovoltaic system and/or for the installation or replacement of Solar Water Heating (SWH) Systems of an existing dwelling.

Sub-measure 2: addressing energy poverty in households with people with disabilities

The investment shall consist in providing support for the implementation of small-scale energy renovations, such as thermal insulation and energy efficient equipment, in at least 270 energy poor households as well as households with people with disabilities.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

Investment 3 (C2.1I3): Encouraging the use of renewables and energy savings by local/wider public authorities as well as NGOs and facilitating the transition of local communities towards climate mitigation & adaptation

The objective of the measure is to promote the use of RES and energy savings by the large stock of old infrastructure used by local authorities, as well as to build a pipeline of sustainable energy and climate adaptation investment projects across rural communities in Cyprus.

The investment is composed of two sub-measures: (i) encouraging the use of renewables and energy savings by local/wider public authorities as well as NGOs; and (ii) facilitating the transition of local communities towards climate mitigation and adaptation. The investment shall aim at achieving on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction.

Sub-measure 1: Encouraging the use of renewables and energy savings by local/wider public authorities as well as NGOs

The sub-measure shall consist in setting up a grant scheme for providing support for large-scale energy efficiency and RES measures in buildings, infrastructure, and social housing targeting local public authorities and NGOs.

## Sub-measure 2: Facilitating the transition of local communities towards climate mitigation and adaptation

The sub-measure shall consist in providing technical support to rural Community Councils in developing Sustainable Energy and Climate Plans and implementing energy and climate investments, as well as in setting up a grant scheme to support sustainable energy and climate adaptation investments.

The two sub-measures together shall lead to at least 580 investments for improving energy performance and resilience to climate change to be undertaken by local authorities or NGOs.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

## Investment 4 (C2.1I4): Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in industries, businesses and organisations

The objective of the measure is to encourage industries, businesses and organisations to engage in transformations targeting decarbonisation and to implement action plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their operations and/ or supply chains.

The investment consists in setting up a support scheme providing financing, equivalent to the cost for the purchase of greenhouse gas emission allowances to be avoided due to the reduction in emissions resulting from the beneficiaries' actions. At least 354 566 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>eq shall be reduced as a result of the support provided.

In order to ensure that the measure complies with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the eligibility criteria contained in terms of reference for upcoming calls for projects shall exclude the following list of activities: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use<sup>1</sup>; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks<sup>2</sup>; (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators<sup>3</sup> and mechanical biological treatment plants<sup>4</sup>; and (iv) activities where the long-term disposal of waste may cause harm to the environment. The terms of reference shall additionally require that only activities that comply with relevant EU and national environmental legislation may be selected.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

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<sup>1</sup> Except projects under this measure in power and/or heat generation, as well as related transmission and distribution infrastructure, using natural gas, that are compliant with the conditions set out in Annex III of the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

<sup>2</sup> Where the activity supported achieves projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not significantly lower than the relevant benchmarks an explanation of the reasons why this is not possible shall be provided. Benchmarks established for free allocation for activities falling within the scope of the Emissions Trading System, as set out in the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/447.

<sup>3</sup> This exclusion does not apply to actions under this measure in plants exclusively dedicated to treating non-recyclable hazardous waste, and to existing plants, where the actions under this measure are for the purpose of increasing energy efficiency, capturing exhaust gases for storage or use or recovering materials from incineration ashes, provided such actions under this measure do not result in an increase of the plants' waste processing capacity or in an extension of the lifetime of the plants; for which evidence is provided at plant level.

<sup>4</sup> This exclusion does not apply to actions under this measure in existing mechanical biological treatment plants, where the actions under this measure are for the purpose of increasing energy efficiency or retrofitting to recycling operations of separated waste to compost bio-waste and anaerobic digestion of bio-waste, provided such actions under this measure do not result in an increase of the plants' waste processing capacity or in an extension of the lifetime of the plants; for which evidence is provided at plant level.

#### Investment 5 (C2.1I5): Energy Efficiency Upgrading of public buildings

The objective of the measure is to facilitate the energy upgrading and increased energy efficiency of selected public buildings, i.e. fire service properties, schools, the Nicosia General Hospital, water treatment plants and water pumping stations.

The investment is composed of three sub-measures: (i) Fire Service Properties and Schools; (ii) Nicosia General Hospital; and (iii) Installation of Grid connected Photovoltaic Energy Systems in Water Treatment Plants and water pumping stations.

##### Sub-measure 1: Fire Service Properties and Schools

The sub-measure consists in the implementation of energy upgrades in 17 urban and rural fire stations in Cyprus including the Fire Brigade Headquarters. The sub-measure shall also cover the installation of thermal insulation and photovoltaic systems in at least 405 schools.

The investment shall aim at achieving on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction.

##### Sub-measure 2: Nicosia General Hospital

The sub-measure shall consist in the setting up and installation of photovoltaics system at the Nicosia General Hospital of a total capacity of 943 KW.

##### Sub-measure 3: Water Treatment Plants and water pumping stations

The sub-measure shall consist in the installation of grid connected photovoltaic energy systems of total power of 2 MWp in water treatment plants and water pumping stations.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Investment 6 (C2.1I6): Upgrading renewable energy and smart grids testing infrastructure at the University of Cyprus

The objective of the measure is to upgrade the renewable energy and smart grids testing infrastructure at the University of Cyprus and to integrate this infrastructure in the future smart grid.

The investment shall consist in delivery, installation, testing, calibration, commissioning and acceptance of smart grids equipment, followed by final infrastructure integration. The measure shall also include personnel orientation and training.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2024.

#### Investment 7 (C2.1I7): Mass installation and operation by the Distribution System Operator (DSO) of Smart Metering Infrastructure (Advanced Metering Infrastructure)

The objective of the measure is to facilitate the mass roll-out of smart meters in Cyprus.

The investment shall consist in the delivery and installation of 400 000 smart meters to final electricity customers, including natural and legal persons.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 8 (C2.1I8): Monitoring and reduction of GHG emissions in agriculture



The objective of the measure is to enhance the monitoring for greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture in Cyprus and contribute to their reduction.

The investment shall consist in the establishment of a GHG monitoring system for agriculture, which shall provide data for the implementation of more efficient mitigation practices and contribute to achieving a 10% reduction of GHG emissions from agriculture by end 2025.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

Investment 9 (C2.1I9): Forests fire protection

The objective of the measure is to upgrade the capabilities of relevant authorities in Cyprus to cope with fire hazards and to strengthen the protection against the risks faced by citizens, infrastructure and forests.

The investment shall consist in the purchasing of firefighting aircraft, vehicles, equipment and related training and servicing for the period of implementation of the measure. This shall include the supply of the following vehicles, machinery and equipment: 75 transport vehicles for patrol purposes for forest protection and transfer of staff in fire incidents; 12 large fire trucks; 25 emergency firefighting vehicles; four bulldozers for the construction of fire protection works with the possibility of transport by truck for rapid transport to fires; four ground bulldozers for the construction of fire protection works; six agricultural tractors equipped with the necessary tools for the implementation of fire prevention measures; four-wheel excavators / loaders; six branch shredders; four loaders (trucks) and six 20-tonne tankers for fire protection purposes; one firefighting aircraft.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

Investment 10 (C2.1I10): Market Management System to facilitate the opening of the electricity market to competition

The objective of the measure is to introduce a Market Management System by the Cyprus Transmission System Operator as a tool for facilitating the opening of the electricity market to competition.

The investment shall consist in the installation and roll-out of the Market Management System for the Cyprus Electricity Market and related training of 100% of the personnel of the Transmission System Operator.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 March 2023.

## **B.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support**

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
19	C2.1R1 Green Taxation	Milestone	Entry into force of a law introducing a carbon tax for fuels, a levy on water and a charge on household/ landfill waste	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of a law introducing a carbon tax for fuels, a levy on water and a charge on household/ landfill waste	-	-	-	Q2	2023	Entry into force of legislative changes that shall aim at making a tangible contribution to reaching the 2030 target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The amendments shall be based on the findings of an independent study to be undertaken. The law shall in particular (a) introduce a carbon tax for fuels used in the sectors of the economy that do not fall under the EU greenhouse gas Emissions Trading System, (b) introduce gradually a levy on water that shall reflect the scarcity of this natural resource and the cost to the environment of its use and (c) introduce of a country wide charge on household/ landfill waste.
20	C2.1R1 Green Taxation	Milestone	Impact assessment report measuring the reform's effect on the environment and the economy	Publication of the impact assessment report measuring the reform's effect on the environment and the economy	-	-	-	Q2	2026	Impact assessment report measuring the reform's effect on the environment and the economic effect on households and businesses, as well as recommending further tax amendments, as necessary.
21	C2.1R2 Independence of Cyprus Transmission System	Milestone	Law for the Regulation of the Electricity Market of 2021	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the 2021 "Law	-	-	-	Q4	2021	Entry into force of the Law for the Regulation of the Electricity Market of 2021, which shall facilitate the opening of the electricity market to competition and boost the uptake of RES by: (a) achieving the independence of the Cyprus Transmission System Operator (TSOC) from the incumbent Electricity Authority of Cyprus (EAC) (autonomy in

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Operator (TSOC) from the incumbent Electricity Authority of Cyprus			for the Regulation of the Electricity Market"						governance, financial autonomy and independence of TSOC personnel), (b) introducing the necessary steps for reducing the cost of electricity for domestic and commercial/industrial customers and (c) creating conditions of transparency and trust to motivate new investors in generation and supply of electricity.
22	C2.1R3 Digital One-Stop Shops to streamline RES projects permitting and to facilitate Energy Renovation in Buildings	Milestone	Fully operational IT platform	Fully operational IT platform accepted by the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Fully operational IT platform for (1) guiding the applicant through the administrative permit application process in a transparent manner up to the delivery of one or several decisions by the responsible authorities, (2) providing the applicant with all necessary information and involve, where appropriate, other administrative authorities.
23	C2.1R4 Energy Storage Regulatory Framework	Milestone	Amendment of the Transmission and Distribution Rules (TDRs) and Trading and Settlement Rules (TSRs)	Publication on the website of the Cyprus Energy Regulatory Authority of Amendment of the Transmission	-	-	-	Q4	2021	Entry into force of an amendment to the Transmission and Distribution Rules (TDRs) and Trading and Settlement Rules (TSRs) which shall provide the necessary regulatory framework (market rules) and technical modalities that shall allow storage facilities to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- participate in the wholesale electricity market,</li> <li>- promote the development of an economically viable, efficient, safe and consumer-oriented electricity market that prioritises the generation of electricity from renewable energy systems.</li> </ul>

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
				and Distribution Rules (TDRs) and the Trading and Settlement Rules (TSRs)						
24	C2.1I1 Promoting energy efficiency investments in SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector	Milestone	Support scheme for Promoting energy efficiency investments in SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector	Publication of call for proposals for the support scheme for Promoting energy efficiency investments in SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector	-	-	-	Q4	2021	Issue call for proposals for the support scheme for promoting energy efficiency investments in SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector, following verification of state aid regulation to be applied by Commissioner for State Aid Control and Council of Ministers decision approving the scheme objectives. The investment shall aim at achieving on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction.
25	C2.1I1 Promoting energy efficiency investments in SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector	Target	Entities (SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector) having implemented energy		Number	0	125	Q4	2024	At least 125 entities (SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector) have implemented (1) energy efficiency interventions (energy efficiency measures) in buildings, or (2) energy efficiency measures related to their production processes or (3) energy efficiency measures in municipal sports facilities, due to the support provided with an objective to achieve on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction. The projects selected shall be in compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	wider public sector		efficiency interventions							and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.
26	C2.1I1 Promoting energy efficiency investments in SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector	Target	Entities (SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector) having implemented energy efficiency interventions		Number	125	275	Q4	2025	At least 275 entities (SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector) have implemented (1) energy efficiency interventions (energy efficiency measures) in buildings, or (2) energy efficiency measures related to their production processes or (3) energy efficiency measures in municipal sports facilities, due to the support provided with an objective to achieve on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction. The projects selected shall be in compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.
27	C2.1I2 Promoting renewables and individual energy efficiency measures in dwellings and tackling energy poverty in household	Milestone	First call for proposals for Promoting renewables and individual energy efficiency measures in dwellings	First call for proposals published	-	-	-	Q2	2021	The first call for proposals for promoting renewables and individual energy efficiency measures in dwellings has been published on the RES and Energy Conservation Fund website. The investment shall aim at achieving on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	s with people with disabilities									
28	C2.1I2 Promoting renewables and individual energy efficiency measures in dwellings and tackling energy poverty in households with people with disabilities	Target	Dwellings and households with people with disabilities having improved their energy performance	-	Number	0	8 600	Q4	2023	At least 8 500 dwellings and 100 households with people with disabilities have improved their energy performance due to the tailored solutions (support services and energy guidance) and the financial support provided with an objective to achieve on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction.
29	C2.1I2 Promoting renewables and individual energy efficiency measures	Target	Dwellings and households with people with disabilities having improved	-	Number	8600	16 470	Q2	2026	At least 16 200 dwellings and 270 households with people with disabilities have improved their energy performance due to the tailored solutions (support services and energy guidance) and the financial support provided with an objective to achieve on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	in dwellings and tackling energy poverty in households with people with disabilities		their energy performance							
30	C2.1I3 Encouraging the use of renewables and energy savings by local/wider public authorities as well as NGOs and facilitating the transition of local communities towards climate	Milestone	First call for proposals to support local authorities in energy efficiency measures	Publish First call for proposals	-	-	-	Q3	2021	The first call for proposals to support local authorities in energy efficiency measures has been published on the RES and Energy Conservation Fund Website. The investment shall aim at achieving on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	mitigation & adaptation									
31	C2.1I3 Encouraging the use of renewables and energy savings by local/wider public authorities as well as NGOs and facilitating the transition of local communities towards climate mitigation & adaptation	Target	Investments undertaken by local authorities or NGOs that have improved their energy performance, and resilience to climate change	-	Number	0	190	Q4	2023	At least 190 investments undertaken by local authorities or NGOs that have improved their energy performance, and resilience to climate change due to the technical assistance and the financial support provided with an objective to achieve on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction.
32	C2.1I3 Encouraging the use of renewable	Target	Investments undertaken by local authorities or NGOs that	-	Number	190	580	Q2	2026	At least 580 investments undertaken by local authorities or NGOs that have improved their energy performance, and resilience to climate change due to the technical assistance and the financial support provided with an objective to achieve on average at least a 30% primary energy demand



Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	s and energy savings by local/wider public authorities as well as NGOs and facilitating the transition of local communities towards climate mitigation & adaptation		have improved their energy performance, and resilience to climate change							reduction.
33	C2.II4 Reduction of CO2 emissions in industries, businesses and organisations	Target	Emissions reduced	-	Number	0	130 000	Q4	2024	At least 130 000 tonnes of CO2eq reduced due to support provided. Emissions reductions shall be verified through external experts' reports. The projects selected shall be in compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.
34	C2.II4 Reduction of CO2	Target	Emissions reduced further	-	Number	130000	354 566	Q2	2026	At least 354 566 tonnes of CO2eq reduced due to support provided. Emissions reductions shall be verified through external experts' reports. The projects selected shall be in

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	emissions in industries, businesses and organisations									compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.
35	C2.1I5 Energy Efficiency Upgrading of public buildings	Target	Thermal insulation and photovoltaic systems installed in schools	-	Number	0	405	Q1	2022	Thermal insulation and photovoltaic systems installed in at least 405 schools with an objective to achieve on average at least a 30% primary energy demand reduction.
36	C2.1I5 Energy Efficiency Upgrading of public buildings	Target	Completion of set up and installation of photovoltaics system at the Nicosia General Hospital	-	Number	0	943	Q4	2023	Completion of set up and installation of PV system at the Nicosia General Hospital of total capacity of 943 KW.
37	C2.1I5 Energy Efficiency Upgrading of public buildings	Target	Completion of installation of photovoltaic systems in water pump stations and fire stations	-	Number	0	2 200	Q4	2025	Completion of installation of photovoltaic systems, of a total capacity of 2 200KW, in water pump stations and fire stations.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
38	C2.1I6 Upgrading renewable energy and smart grids testing infrastructure at the University of Cyprus	Milestone	Signature of contract for the installation of equipment to upgrade the electricity grid into a smart grid	Contract Signature	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Signature of contract for the installation of equipment to upgrade the electricity grid into a smart grid following a successful public procurement procedure.
39	C2.1I6 Upgrading renewable energy and smart grids testing infrastructure at the University of Cyprus	Milestone	Delivery, successful installation and acceptance of the equipment for smart grids	Issued acceptance report	-	-	-	Q2	2024	Delivery, successful installation, testing, calibration, commissioning and acceptance of the equipment for smart grids, followed by final infrastructure integration.
40	C2.1I7 Mass installation and operation by the Distribution System Operator	Milestone	Contract Signature for smart electricity metering infrastructure	Contract Signature	-	-	-	Q1	2022	Contract Signature for smart electricity metering infrastructure (Hardware, software and support & other services).

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	(DSO) of Smart Metering Infrastructure (Advanced Metering Infrastructure)									
41	C2.1I7 Mass installation and operation by the Distribution System Operator (DSO) of Smart Metering Infrastructure (Advanced Metering Infrastructure)	Target	Delivery and installation of smart meters	-	Number	0	200 000	Q3	2024	Acceptance of delivery and installation of at least 200 000 smart electricity meters to final electricity customers, including natural and legal persons.
42	C2.1I7 Mass installation and	Target	Delivery and installation of smart meters	-	Number	200000	40 0000	Q2	2026	Acceptance of delivery and installation of 400 000 smart electricity meters to final electricity customers, including natural and legal persons.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	operation by the Distribution System Operator (DSO) of Smart Metering Infrastructure (Advanced Metering Infrastructure)									
43	C2.1I8 Monitoring and reduction of GHG emissions in agriculture	Milestone	Purchase and installation of monitoring units for measuring GHG emissions from agriculture	Approval of the equipment and installation by the receiving committee	-	-	-	Q2	2023	Purchase and installation of automobile unit and permanent monitoring units, for measuring GHG emissions from agriculture with the objective of implementing adequate policies to mitigate GHG emissions.
44	C2.1I8 Monitoring and reduction of GHG emissions in agriculture	Target	Reduction of GHG emissions from agriculture	-	% (Percentage)	0	10	Q4	2025	Achieve a 10% reduction of GHG emissions from agriculture through monitoring GHG emissions and calculation of National Emission Factors for GHG emissions and implementation of Emission Factors through the National Inventory for GHG emissions of the country. Reference total emissions from Agriculture soils based on the National Inventory Report of the country is 122,8 kt CO2 equivalent for 2019.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
45	C2.1I9 Forests fire protection	Milestone	Signing of the Agreements/ Contracts Signatures for the purchase of firefighting aircraft, vehicles, equipment and provision of services	Signing of the Agreements/ Contracts Signatures	-	-	-	Q2	2022	Signing of the Agreements/ Contracts Signatures with suppliers for the purchase of firefighting aircraft, vehicles, equipment and provision of services with the objective to contribute to climate change adaptation and to the reduction of the risk of explosion and expansion of forest fire and the strengthening protection against the risks faced by citizens, infrastructure and forests from a possible fire incident.
46	C2.1I9 Forests fire protection	Milestone	Delivery of firefighting aircraft, vehicles and equipment	Acceptance certificates issued for the delivery of firefighting aircraft, vehicles and equipment	-	-	-	Q4	2023	Delivery and acceptance of firefighting aircraft, vehicles and equipment.
47	C2.1I9 Forests fire protection	Milestone	Completion of services	Acceptance certificates issued to confirm the acceptance of services	-	-	-	Q4	2025	Completion of the following services: (1) firefighting operations and pilot training (2) silvicultural practices and (3) services for 3 unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) – drones.
48	C2.1I10 Market Management	Milestone	Completion, installation and roll-out of the Market	Issuing of Final Acceptance Certificate for	-	-	-	Q1	2023	Completion, installation and roll-out of the Market Management System for the Cyprus Electricity Market and training of the personnel of the Transmission System Operator on the rolled-out information system and related

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	System to facilitate the opening of the electricity market to competition		Management System and training of personnel	the Market Management System and verification of completion of personnel training						operational procedures.

### **B.3. Description of the reforms and investments for the loan**

#### Investment 11 (C2.1I11) Ending energy isolation – Project of Common Interest "EuroAsia Interconnector"

The objective of the measure is to ensure security of supply and more competitive wholesale electricity prices, and to enable the increased use of electricity from cleaner sources, in particular renewables, by connecting the electricity network of Cyprus to the EU continental system.

The investment shall consist in the completion and commissioning of the PCI 3.10.2 Interconnection between Cyprus and Greece, which shall include a DC 1 000 MW converter station in Cyprus and related infrastructure in Cyprus and Crete, connected through 898 km of HVDC submarine cables with 1 000 MW capacity. This is expected to be part of a broader investment building a cross-border interconnector with a total length of 1 208 km between Crete, Cyprus and Israel. Different parts of the project are expected to receive funding from different sources, namely the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the Connecting Europe Facility, a loan from the European Investment Bank, commercial loans and equity.

It is expected that this measure does not do significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measure and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01). In particular, the mitigating measures targeting the conservation of the marine environment shall be duly respected during the implementation of the project as set out in the Environmental Impact Assessment and the building permit. Any measures identified in the framework of the EIA and the assessment under Directive 2000/60/EC as necessary to ensure compliance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) shall be integrated into the project and complied with at the stages of construction, operation and decommissioning of the infrastructure.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.



#### B.4. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for the loan

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
49	C2.1I11 Ending energy isolation - Project of Common Interest "EuroAsia Interconnector"	Milestone	Start of the construction works of the HVDC Converter Station in Kofinou and the onshore infrastructure in Cyprus	Signed agreement for the construction of Kofinou Converter Station	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Start of the construction works of the HVDC Converter Station in Kofinou and the onshore infrastructure in Cyprus following the securing of relevant funding sources outside of the RRF.
50	C2.1I11 Ending energy isolation - Project of Common Interest "EuroAsia Interconnector"	Milestone	Completion of construction of converter station	Issuance of the taking over certificate for the construction of converter station	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Completion of construction of converter station including installation of high-voltage and control-equipment
51	C2.1I11 Ending energy isolation - Project of Common Interest "EuroAsia Interconnector"	Milestone	Completed and fully operational facility of the electricity interconnection between Cyprus-Crete (Greece)	Deliverables acceptance team signs off the operational efficiency of the project; public announcement of the start of operation of the interconnector	-	-	-	Q4	2025	Completed and fully operational facility of the electricity interconnection between Cyprus-Crete (Greece) to: (1) end the energy isolation of Cyprus as an EU member state and (2) ensure the security of energy supply (3) achieve national climate targets as specified in the National Climate Plan

## **C. COMPONENT 2.2: SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT**

This component of the Cyprus recovery and resilience plan aims at promoting cleaner, smarter, safer and fairer urban mobility by encouraging a modal shift from private cars to more sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, cycling, walking, and to promote the use of zero or low-emission vehicles (LEVs) as well as the use of digital systems in the transport sector.

The component addresses the country-specific recommendations on investment in sustainable transport (Country-Specific Recommendation 4 of 2019 and Country-Specific Recommendation 3 of 2020).

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

### **C.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

#### **Reform 1 (C2.2R1): Establishment of an Intelligent Transport System using Digital Twin technologies**

The objective of the measure is to enhance technological infrastructure, to enable better and more efficient monitoring of the infrastructure and to introduce smart features to it.

The reform consists in developing and implementing an Intelligent Transport System in order to improve the mobility management in urban areas and the Cyprus TEN-T network, also by improving the cooperation between various stakeholders. The reform shall include the delivery, installation and connection to the National Access Point of 300 sensors. This equipment is expected to constitute the basis for the digitalisation of the physical mobility networks in a geographical information system (GIS) database and the integration of mobility services.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### **Reform 2 (C2.2R2): Provide the regulatory framework for an interoperable and effective electric vehicle (EV) recharging infrastructure and an efficient EV recharging market**

The objective of the measure is to facilitate the creation of an efficient electro-mobility infrastructure for recharging EVs.

The reform consists in the entry into force of legislation on recharging infrastructure for EV. The reform aims at creating a mechanism for (i) implementation and monitoring of the recharging market for EV and (ii) coordinating data analysis allowing for the effective network monitoring as well as for ensuring compliance with national and EU law.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2024.

#### **Reform 3 (C2.2R3): Progressively phase out the most polluting vehicles, especially in polluted urban areas**

The objective of the reform is to provide the regulatory framework to create impetus for replacing old and polluting rolling stock, and to provide incentives for using sustainable commuting and mobility solutions.

This reform shall set up the legal framework allowing the implementation of measures aiming at the exclusion of polluting vehicles from key areas, such as no-emission zones, levies for the circulation of vehicles in certain areas, and compulsory use of EV in certain transport operations. The reform is supported by Investment 3 (Promote widespread use of EV, LEVs and alternative means of transport).

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Investment 1 (C2.2I1): Implementation of Sustainable Urban Mobility Projects (SUMP) and accessibility-enhancing measures

The objectives of the measures are to create the necessary infrastructure to enhance urban mobility with more environmentally friendly options, improve the city environment and road safety in Limassol and Larnaca. The investment shall also include measures to enhance the accessibility and safe movement of pedestrians, cyclists and persons with disabilities in all urban centres.

More specifically, the investment consists in the introduction of cycle ways, bus lanes and the relevant ITS equipment (i.e. smart traffic light system with bus priority system), as well as the introduction of cycle stands, bus shelters and improvement of road safety conditions at selected junctions. It also includes the creation of Park & Ride stations and the relevant ITS equipment as well as upgrades on existing road network in the urban centres (such as walkways, crossings for pedestrians, cyclists and/or people with disabilities, warning systems for the visually impaired, bicycle parking hubs, walkway ramps).

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 March 2026.

#### Investment 2 (C2.2I2): Creation of electro-mobility infrastructure

The objectives of the measures are to create the necessary infrastructure to facilitate the transition to electro-mobility and to contribute to the deployment of charging points.

The investment is composed of three sub-measures: (i) the installation of publicly accessible EV fast charging stations; (ii) a grant scheme for the installation of publicly accessible charging points on the premises of businesses and local authorities; and (iii) a grant scheme for charging EV from Renewable Energy Sources (RES).

##### Sub-measure 1: the installation of publicly accessible fast charging stations for EV

The investment consists in the installation of 10 fast charging stations as a demonstration project for the promotion of electro-mobility. It shall provide access to fast recharging infrastructure for EVs and therefore it is expected to contribute to removing consumer inhibitions concerning EV autonomy. The 10 fast charging stations shall be placed in publicly accessible areas such as hospitals, large publicly accessible parking places or outside public services buildings (such as Ministries or Courts).

##### Sub-measure 2: a grant scheme for the installation of publicly accessible charging points in the premises of businesses and local authorities

The scheme shall promote the installation of charging points in publicly accessible areas owned by businesses or local authorities.

##### Sub-measure 3: a grant scheme for charging EVs from RES

The scheme shall provide financial incentives to promote the development of the necessary infrastructure for electro-mobility especially through the charging of EVs from RES. The grant scheme shall include the installation of photovoltaic systems and charging equipment in dwellings

for the charging of electric private vehicles and the financing of local/public authorities for the construction of public charging points for EVs. The electricity for the public charging points is expected to be generated in large part from RES.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

### Investment 3 (C2.2I3): Promote widespread use of Electric Vehicles (EVs)

The objective of the measure is to promote the purchase of EVs, LEVs (i.e. a car emitting less than 50 g/km of CO<sub>2</sub>), electric bicycles and public or non-motorised modes of transport (such as bus, bicycle), while simultaneously gradually removing older polluting vehicles from circulation. The investment is expected to complement Reform 3 (Progressively phase out the most polluting vehicles, especially in polluted areas).

The investment is composed of three sub-measures: (i) kick-start the transition to electro-mobility in the government sector; (ii) a support scheme for the purchase of EV; and (iii) a scrapping scheme for the most polluting vehicles combined with incentives for non/low emission mobility options.

#### Sub-measure 1: kick-start the transition to electro-mobility in the government sector

The investment includes measures aiming to kick-start the gradual replacement of government conventional vehicle fleet with electric vehicles and promote the transition to electro-mobility. It shall include the purchase of 100 electric vehicles for the needs of the general government and the installation of the relevant charging points on government premises. In addition, the Department of Postal Services shall replace its whole motorcycle fleet with electric motorcycles.

This is expected to serve as a demonstration project for the promotion of electro-mobility to the wider public.

#### Sub-measure 2: a support scheme for the purchase of EVs

The scheme shall provide incentives, by means of grant, for the purchase and registration of EVs and the purchase of electric bicycles. It is directly linked to Reform 3, “Progressively phase out the most polluting vehicles, especially in polluted urban areas”, as a parallel, supportive and complementary measure.

#### Sub-measure 3: a scrapping scheme for the most polluting vehicles combined with incentives for non/low emission mobility options

The scheme shall incentivise motorists to give up older and more pollutant vehicles in exchange for alternative mobility options, such as the purchase of a LEV or of an electric bicycle and/or free annual bus tickets. The removal of older vehicles is expected to contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emission from transport, as well as to the mitigation of its impact on air, water, soil and noise pollution. The scrapped vehicles shall be recycled, by licensed recyclers. Priority shall be given to the oldest vehicles to be scrapped.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

## **C.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support**

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
52	C2.2R1 Establishment of an Intelligent Transport System using Digital Twin technologies	Target	Delivery and installation of at least 150 sensors	-	Number	0	150	Q1	2024	Delivery, installation and connection to the National Access Point of at least 150 traffic sensors to digitalise the networks and support the development of an Intelligent Transportation System.
53	C2.2R1 Establishment of an Intelligent Transport System using Digital Twin technologies	Target	Delivery and installation of a total of 300 sensors	-	Number	150	300	Q4	2025	Delivery, installation and connection to the National Access Point of a total of 300 traffic sensors to digitalise the networks and support the development of an Intelligent Transportation System.
54	C2.2R2 Provide the regulatory framework for an interoperable and effective electric vehicle (EV) recharging infrastructure and an efficient EV recharging market	Milestone	Entry into force of legislation related to electric vehicle charging points	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the legislation	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Entry into force of legislation regarding electric vehicle (EV) recharging infrastructure and an efficient EV recharging market. The regulatory framework shall promote: (1) a mechanism for implementation and monitoring of the recharging market of electric vehicles; and (2) a coordinated analysis of data allowing for effective network monitoring as well as for ensuring compliance with national and EU legislation.
55	C2.2R3 Progressively	Milestone	Entry into force of the	Provision in the	-	-	-	Q4	2023	Entry into force of legislative/administrative acts regarding the exclusion of polluting vehicles from

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	phase out the most polluting vehicles, especially in polluted urban areas		legislative/administrative acts related to the phasing out of the most polluting vehicles	legislative/administrative acts indicating the entry into force of the legislation						key areas/operations. The legislative/administrative acts shall create the legal basis to enforce the adoption of restrictive measures related to the circulation of motor vehicles, with the aim to progressively phase out the most polluting vehicles.
56	C2.2R3 Progressively phase out the most polluting vehicles, especially in polluted urban areas	Milestone	Implementation of at least two measures aiming at the exclusion of polluting vehicles	Implementation of two measures	-	-	-	Q4	2025	At least two measures are effective aiming at the exclusion of polluting vehicles from key areas/operations, such as no-emission zones, applying levies for the circulation of vehicles in certain areas, applying compulsory measures for use of electric vehicles in certain transport operations, or equivalent measures.
57	C2.2I1 Implementation of Sustainable Urban Mobility Projects (SUMP) and accessibility enhancing measures	Milestone	Contracts signature for the construction work of sustainable transport infrastructure and ancillary installations	Signed contracts	-	-	-	Q2	2024	Signature of contracts for (1) the construction of cycle ways, bus lanes and park & ride stations of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Projects (SUMP) and (2) the provision of ancillary installations related to sustainable transport, including bicycle-parking facilities and crossings for pedestrians, cyclists and/or people with disabilities.
58	C2.2I1 Implementation of Sustainable Urban Mobility Projects (SUMP) and accessibility	Target	Completion of construction work for at least 62km of sustainable transport routes	-	Number	0	62	Q1	2026	Completion of construction work for at least 62km of sustainable transport routes, including at least 40km of cycle ways, at least 14km of bus lanes and at least 8km of walkways.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	enhancing measures									
59	C2.2I1 Implementation of Sustainable Urban Mobility Projects (SUMP) and accessibility enhancing measures	Target	Completion of construction work for at least 645 ancillary installations related to sustainable transport	-	Number	0	645	Q1	2026	Completion of construction work for at least 645 ancillary installations related to sustainable transport, including at least 5 park & ride stations, at least 40 crossings, at least 300 ramps, at least 300 bicycle-parking hubs.
60	C2.2I2 Creation of electro-mobility infrastructure	Target	Installation of at least 330 charging points, due to the support granted	-	Number	0	330	Q4	2023	Due to the support granted by the support scheme, at least 330 charging points have been purchased and installed in public buildings, local authorities, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and/or private households.
61	C2.2I2 Creation of electro-mobility infrastructure	Target	Installation of at least 1 200 charging points, due to the support granted	-	Number	330	1 200	Q4	2025	Due to the support granted by the support scheme, at least 1 200 charging points (such as normal, double, fast charging and photovoltaic charging) have been purchased and installed in public buildings, local authorities, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and/or private households.
62	C2.2I3 Promote widespread use of Electric Vehicles (EVs)	Target	Purchase of electric vehicles, electric bicycles (at least 2 050), due to the support granted	-	Number	0	2 050	Q4	2023	Due to the support granted by the support scheme, at least 2 050 electric vehicles of categories M1, M2-3, N, L1e-L7e and bicycles have been purchased.
63	C2.2I3 Promote widespread use	Target	Purchase of electric vehicles, electric bicycles	-	Number	2 050	5 750	Q4	2025	Due to the support granted by the support scheme, at least 5 750 electric vehicles of categories M1, M2-3, N, L1e-L7e and bicycles have been

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	of Electric Vehicles (EVs)		(at least 5 750), due to the support granted							purchased.
64	C2.2I3 Promote widespread use of Electric Vehicles (EVs)	Target	Scrapping of high emission vehicles, due to the support granted	-	Number	0	1 000	Q4	2023	Due to the support granted by the support scheme, at least 1 000 high emission vehicles have been scrapped and replaced by electric bicycles, annual bus tickets and no- or low-emission or vehicles (below 50g CO2/km).
65	C2.2I3 Promote widespread use of Electric Vehicles (EVs)	Target	Scrapping of high emission vehicles, due to the support granted	-	Number	1 000	3 150	Q4	2025	Due to the support granted by the support scheme, at least 3 150 (up to 3 500) high emission vehicles scrapped and replaced by electric bicycles, annual bus ticket(s) and low emission vehicles (below 50g CO2/km).



## **D. COMPONENT 2.3: SMART AND SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT**

This component of the Cypriot recovery and resilience plan addresses inefficiencies in water management. The objectives of this component are to ensure adequate and uninterrupted supply of good quality drinking water, maximising the infrastructure for sewerage collection systems, sewerage treatment and reuse of treated effluent in agriculture; reducing water loss, non-revenue water and groundwater abstraction, improving anti-flood infrastructure, improving operational efficiency of the services being provided to the consumers through technological advances and establishing transparency in financial transactions.

The component addresses the Country Specific Recommendation on water management (Country-Specific Recommendation 3 of 2020 and Country-Specific Recommendation 4 of 2019).

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

### **D.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

#### **Reform 1 (C2.3R1): Water Resource Management Reform**

The objective of the measure is to define actions addressing structural weaknesses in the water resource management in Cyprus and improving its efficiency and sustainability.

The reform consists of the establishment of a high-level Working Party (the “Working Party”) led by the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment with participants from the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Finance, Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development and all Water and Sewerage Boards as well as Local Administration coordinative bodies to represent all stakeholders in national water management. The Working Party shall serve as the body for cooperation between the various water management authorities and as a coordination and monitoring body for the implementation of the investments and actions to be proposed. The Working Party shall propose an action plan with the necessary regulatory and adaptation measures to be implemented within the next 10 to 15 years. The objectives of the suggested action plan shall be (i) to increase operational efficiency through mergers of District Water & Sewerage Boards, (ii) to reduce non-revenue water, (iii) to improve water use, and (iv) to enhance the safety and sustainable operation of the infrastructures of the Water Development Department. The Working Party shall coordinate and monitor the implementation of the action plan and shall provide the necessary technical assistance to the relevant water management authorities for carrying out the reform measures as well as the investments included in the component.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2025.

#### **Investment 1 (C2.3I1): Choirokitia- Famagusta Conveyor Replacement**

The objectives of the measure are to enhance water supply security through an improved conveyor infrastructure with increased capacity of the duct between key water sources (such as water treatment plants) and consumption areas. The investment shall also contribute to minimising water losses and the occurrence of failures, improving water quality by mixing desalinated and refined water before it reaches the final consumers, and achieving energy savings through reduced water pumping.

The measure consists of the construction of a replacement of the existing water conveyor. The project shall include conducting topographical studies and environmental impact assessments. Following the aforementioned preliminary steps and the issuance of the necessary permits, the

Water Development Department shall assign the construction works to a contractor who shall be selected via public procurement procedures to carry out the works.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 2 (C2.3I2): Water Treatment Plants: upgrade for water quality improvement

The objectives of the measure are to improve water quality, reduce energy consumption and the cost of drinking water production by limiting the need for water desalination, as well as decrease disruptions to the supply and distribution of water.

The measure consists of refurbishing the Water Treatment Plants of Limassol, Asprokremmos, Tersefanou, Kornos and Kannaviou. This shall include replacing the existing chlorination infrastructure for these five Water Treatment Plants, installing activated carbon polishing units for Limassol, Asprokremmos and Tersefanou Water Treatment Plants, extending the capacity of Asprokremmos Water Treatment Plant by 10 000 m<sup>3</sup>/day and upgrading the monitoring and control system as well as its automation system.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Investment 3 (C2.3I3): Integrated Monitoring and Control Management System for the Water Development Department's infrastructure

The objective of the measure is to improve the water resource management efficiency and increase the operational capacity of the competent authorities. The measure aims to reduce the risk of business disruption by securing the various systems against cyber- and physical attacks, to reduce energy consumption and GHG emissions by increasing efficiency, to reduce non-revenue water in irrigation by improving infrastructure and monitoring capacity and to reduce the high-impact risk of contamination events and the impact of prolonged drought events by closely managing water resources and forecasting.

The measure consists of creating an integrated platform that shall be composed of a number of subsystems where each of them shall address key challenges, including water quality, flood management, water demand management and water allocation for irrigation purposes, energy efficiency as well as cyber- and physical security. The implementation of the measures shall include: (i) the installation of 500 hydraulic and quality sensors in all the lakes, reservoirs, rivers, as well as in the water transport network, up to the level of the communities; (ii) the installation of energy meters to monitor the energy consumption of pumping stations that shall be transmitted and stored in a database; (iii) a software platform linked with intelligent analytics and methods to help the decision-making process in relation to the production of water from different sources (desalination and treatment of water from reservoirs) taking into account security of water supply, cost of water production across different systems and drought forecasts. In addition, the measure shall address cyber- and physical security challenges through tools for enhancing the protection of ICT systems. The project shall be implemented by the following sequence of actions: detailed requirement analysis with the help of specialised consultants; procurement and installation of equipment; and implementation, assessment and commissioning of the IT sub-systems.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 4 (C2.3I4): Smart Water and Sewerage Networks Management

The objective of the measure is to enhance operational and energy efficiency through the digitalisation of Larnaca Sewerage and Drainage Board, Larnaca Water Board and Water Board of

Limassol, notably the upgrading of the organisations' operation and services and integrating the IT systems currently used into a unified system to operate under cloud services.

The measure consists of a series of smart and digital upgrades in each of the three organisations: (i) The Larnaca Sewerage and Drainage Board shall conduct a techno-economic study to map its energy footprint and identify potential for reductions in energy consumption, such as through solar and biogas solutions. It shall also install smart meters, sensors and systems for recording the hydrological balance to enable the timely detection of damaged pipelines and the monitoring of pathogens. (ii) The Larnaca Water Board shall install water quality and pressure sensors in its distribution networks and is thus expected to replace at least 50% of its conventional consumer meters with smart meters. Moreover, it shall develop a Digital Twin decision support tool and a data bank. These systems shall draw information from the installed sensors, smart water meters and existing systems to be combined to accurately estimate water flow, pressure and quality of water for the timely detection of events. (iii) The Water Board of Limassol shall replace conventional consumer meters with automated smart meters and install pressure and quality sensors for infrastructure monitoring and development of innovative customer services, such as early warning in the case of a leakage. Furthermore, it is expected to design a customised software integrating all its operations and to support data-driven decision making.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 5 (C2.3I5): Anti-flood and water collection measures

The objective of the measure is to mitigate the negative effects on human health, the environment, cultural sites and income from flooding events through managing flood risk. A specific objective resulting from the actions to be implemented is the reduction of erosion from extreme runoffs, both in agricultural and urban areas.

The measure consists of a series of anti-flood and water collection measures. The works shall concentrate in three areas, namely Livadia, Kladeri and the centre of Nicosia, as follows: (i) In Livadia, the Municipality of Larnaca shall upgrade and embellish flood channels, through improvements to the riverbed and riverbanks. (ii) In Kladeri area, the Municipality of Ypsonas shall construct a complete rainwater collection network of 4 600 meters in length to cover the area ending in 35 absorption pits. (iii) In Nicosia, the Municipality of Nicosia has already selected eight areas where a complete sewer system shall be constructed. The works shall include the reconstruction of streets and pavements and the expansion of the rainwater network.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Investment 6 (C2.3I6): Enhance water security for Nicosia and Larnaca regions

The objective of the measure is to increase the water adequacy for the needs of Nicosia and Larnaca Water Boards.

The measure foresees the construction of three new generation Glass Lined Steel (GLS) water reservoirs of 26 000 m<sup>3</sup> in total in Nicosia Region and the construction of a 10 000 m<sup>3</sup> water reservoir in a specific designated area at Klavdia, Larnaca.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2025.

#### Investment 7 (C2.3I7): Eastern Nicosia infrastructure for the re-use of treated wastewater

The objective of the measure is to increase the storage capacity of a Wastewater Treatment Plant in the area Vathia Gonia to enable the utilisation of the whole treated wastewater amount. This shall be achieved through the construction of the necessary infrastructure to utilise the water immediately, avoiding any discharge and satisfying the existing irrigation needs of farmers connected to the irrigation network.

The projects shall be implemented by the Water Development Department and involves also the pumping, conveyance, distributing and storage of treated effluent from the Vathia Gonia Wastewater Treatment Plant located in eastern Nicosia. The treated water shall eventually be used for irrigation purposes in specific agricultural regions situated in the broader eastern Nicosia area under the control of the Republic of Cyprus, thus avoiding any discharge.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 8 (C2.3I8) Protection of the marine ecosystem from hazards through oil spills

The objective of the measure is to protect marine ecosystems through an upgrade of the operational capacity of the Department of Fisheries and Marine Research to respond promptly, adequately and effectively to incidents from oil pollution to marine pollution.

The measure consists of the purchase of three detergent vessels with the possibility of autonomous oil recovery companies, two of which shall operate close to the shoreline and the larger one on the high seas, as well as the purchase of two autonomous oil dispersant air spraying units.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

## **D.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support**

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
66	C2.3R1 Water Resource Management Reform	Milestone	Adoption of an action plan on water resource management	Publication of the action plan on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment	-	-	-	Q2	2025	Adoption of an action plan on water resource management with regulatory and adaptation measures. The objectives of the suggested action plan shall be: (1) to assist the merging of District Water & Sewerage Boards, (2) to reduce Non-Revenue Water (3) to improve water use and (4) to enhance the safety and sustainable operation of Water Development Department's infrastructures.
67	C2.3I1 Choirokitia-Famagusta Conveyor Replacement	Milestone	Preparation of tender documents and issue call for tenders	Published call for tender for the conveyor replacement works	-	-	-	Q3	2023	Preparation of tender documents and issue of call for tenders following the completion of detailed design of the Choirokitia-Famagusta Conveyor replacement, including bill of quantities by quantity surveyor, topography, permits, other technical and environmental studies and licencing. Completed environmental impact assessment on the Environment from Projects Law (127(I)/2018) / Public Procurement procedures (Law 73(I)/2016).
68	C2.3I1 Choirokitia-Famagusta Conveyor Replacement	Target	Installation of new pipeline with total length of 20km		Number	0	20	Q2	2026	Completion of the construction and installation of a new pipeline with total length of 20km and operation of the equipment. A qualified engineering bureau shall verify the executed work.
69	C2.3I2 Water Treatment Plants: upgrade for water quality	Milestone	Completion of the works for the installation of activated carbon	Issued certificates by the project engineer for each of the three contracts	-	-	-	Q1	2024	Completion of the works for installation of activated carbon polishing units of a) 30 000 m <sup>3</sup> /day capacity for Tersefanou Water Treatment Plant; b) 30 000 m <sup>3</sup> /day capacity for Asprokremmos Water Treatment Plant; and

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	improvement		polishing units in Tersefanou, Asprokremmos and Limassol Water Treatment Plants							c) 20 000 m <sup>3</sup> /day capacity for Limassol Water Treatment Plant.
70	C2.3I2 Water Treatment Plants: upgrade for water quality improvement	Target	Completion of extension works and automation system at Asprokremmos Water Treatment Plant		Number	0	10 000	Q4	2025	Completion of works resulting in the extension of the capacity of Asprokremmos Water Treatment Plant by 10 000 m <sup>3</sup> /day, including upgrading the monitoring and control system and also the automation system.
71	C2.3I3 Integrated Monitoring and Control Management System for the Water Development Department's infrastructure	Milestone	Completion of the detailed requirements analysis and system design document	Approval of detailed requirements analysis and system design document by the Steering Committee of the Water Development Department	-	-	-	Q2	2022	The requirements analysis and system design document shall describe all the aspects, features and functionalities of the system, including: quality sensors, operational sensors (such as flow, level and pressure), energy meters, communications devices, IT equipment (hardware, software). The detailed requirements analysis and system design shall determine the exact number and type of equipment required for this project.
72	C2.3I3 Integrated	Target	Delivery and installation		% Percenta	0	50	Q1	2024	Delivery and installation of at least 50% of the total number of units that are prescribed in the

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Monitoring and Control Management System for the Water Development Department's infrastructure		of at least 50% of the equipment		ge					Detailed Requirements analysis and system design (quality sensors, communication devises and quality meters).
73	C2.3I3 Integrated Monitoring and Control Management System for the Water Development Department's infrastructure	Milestone	Completion of a fully functional Integrated Monitoring and Control Water Management System	Water Development Department project implementation team and responsible officer approves the operation and functionality of the entire system	-	-	-	Q2	2026	Completion of the Integrated Monitoring and Control Management System, which shall include verification that the system is capable of detecting, at an early stage, events that require immediate actions from the Water Development Department's personnel. The system shall be able to respond automatically to certain events and at the same time alert operators and/or the public. The system shall be capable of collecting and analysing a large amount of data that may be used for forecasting and to aid in decision making.
74	C2.3I4 Smart Water and Sewerage Networks Management	Target	Delivery and installation of photovoltaics at the Larnaca Wastewater Treatment Plant		Number	0	700	Q1	2023	Delivery and installation of photovoltaic equipment at the Larnaca Wastewater Treatment Plant generating power of at least 700KW.
75	C2.3I4 Smart Water	Target	Delivery and installation		Number	0	200	Q4	2024	Delivery and installation of at least 200 quality and pressure sensors in the Larnaca and Limassol

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	and Sewerage Networks Management		of at least 200 quality and pressure sensors							water networks.
76	C2.3I4 Smart Water and Sewerage Networks Management	Target	Installation and operation of at least 100 000 smart meters		Number	0	100 000	Q2	2026	At least 100 000 smart meters in operation (delivering consumption readings) and a complete smart water metering system, monitoring system, as well as installed and operational control and support systems in Larnaca and Limassol.
77	C2.3I5 Anti-flood and water collection measures	Milestone	Completion of construction works of drainage network and reconstruction of streets and pavements in areas of Nicosia	Project management team certifies the completion of the construction	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Completion of construction of drainage network and reconstruction of streets and pavements in Agios Antonios, Old city, Likavitos and Agioi Omologites areas of Nicosia with a total length of approx. 6.5km.
78	C2.3I5 Anti-flood and water collection measures	Milestone	Completion of construction works for the rainwater collection and recycling system in	Project management team certifies the completion of the construction	-	-	-	Q2	2024	Completion of construction of the rainwater collection and recycling system covering a total water collection system area of 4,5km in Kladeri area.



Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
			Kladeri area							
79	C2.3I5 Anti-flood and water collection measures	Milestone	Completion of construction works for the flood channel in Livadia	Project management team certifies the completion of the construction				Q4	2025	Completion of construction works for the flood channel with a total capacity of approx. 30 000m <sup>3</sup> in Livadia.
80	C2.3I6 Enhance water security for Nicosia and Larnaca regions	Target	Completion of construction of two glass lined steel reservoirs		Number	0	16 000	Q1	2023	Completion of construction of two glass lined steel reservoirs of a total capacity of 16 000m <sup>3</sup> .
81	C2.3I6 Enhance water security for Nicosia and Larnaca regions	Target	Completion of construction of three glass lined steel reservoirs and 1 concrete water reservoir		Number	16 000	36 000	Q2	2025	Completion of construction of three glass lined steel reservoirs and one concrete water reservoir of a total capacity of 36 000m <sup>3</sup> .
82	C2.3I7 Eastern Nicosia infrastructure for the re-use	Milestone	Signing of the contracts for the construction of a winter	Contracts signed by authorising officer	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Signing of the contracts for the construction of a winter storage reservoir with capacity of at least 1 400 000 m <sup>3</sup> , pipelines and ancillary works.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	of treated wastewater		storage reservoir							
83	C2.3I7 Eastern Nicosia infrastructure for the re-use of treated wastewater	Milestone	Completion and delivery of a fully operational wastewater treatment infrastructure	The project engineer issues taking over certificate for the completion of construction, which is verified by the project implementation team	-	-	-	Q2	2026	Wastewater treatment infrastructure including a winter storage reservoir with capacity of at least 1 400 000m <sup>3</sup> pipelines and ancillary works completed, delivered and fully operational.
84	C2.3I8 Protection of the marine ecosystem from hazards through oil spills	Milestone	Delivery, quality inspection to verify their operational effectiveness and acceptance of three vessels and two aerial spraying systems	Expert's reporting and issuance of quality certificate of the operational effectiveness and acceptance of vessels and aerial spraying systems	-	-	-	Q1	2023	Delivery, quality inspection to verify their operational effectiveness and acceptance of three vessels (one vessel of 25m in length approximately to operate within the Cypriot Exclusive Economic Zone and two vessels of 8-11m in length approximately to operate within coastal waters and two aerial spraying systems.

## **E. COMPONENT 3.1: NEW GROWTH MODEL AND DIVERSIFICATION OF THE ECONOMY**

The component addresses the challenges of the Cypriot economy with regards to competitiveness, productivity and investment, as well as overreliance on certain economic sectors, such as tourism.

The objective of the component is to help the economy to transit to a new economic growth model (Sustainable Business and Trade Centre of Europe) by addressing sectoral challenges as follows:

Primary Sector: the objective is to develop a competitive agriculture sector primarily through agri-tech and strong collaboration with business, higher-education institutions and research centres to excel.

Secondary Sector: the objective is to develop a competitive light manufacturing sector that includes a focus on areas such as green-tech and agri-tech.

Sustainable Tourism: the objective is to develop a strong agri-tourism and sustainable hospitality infrastructure and attracting health & wellness tourists through competitive and reputable healthcare.

Circular economy (with emphasis on waste management): the objective is to help move towards a circular economy by making better use of raw materials, reducing waste, raising awareness for sustainable development and switching to renewable energy in order to mitigate the climate crisis, protect social well-being and build a resilient economy. The component contributes to addressing the country specific recommendation related to “focus investment on the green and digital transition” and “on waste and water management” (Country-Specific Recommendation 3 of 2020), “focus investment-related economic policy on sustainable transport, environment” and “on environment, in particular waste and water management” (Country-Specific Recommendation 4 of 2019)

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

### **E.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

#### **Sub-Component 3.1.1 Resilient and competitive primary sector**

Reform 1 (C3.1R1): Move agricultural practices from the 20th century to the 21st century by investing in a national centre for excellence in agri-tech

The objective of the reform is to address challenges in the primary sector, including low productivity and lack of technological knowledge, by establishing a centralised operating model through strong collaboration between the Agricultural Research Institute and public universities.

The reform shall consist in establishing Cyprus’s Agricultural Research Institute as the country’s centre of excellence in agriculture, animal husbandry and environmental protection and to strengthen the cooperation between the Agricultural Research Institute and universities to develop new curricula.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2023.

Reform 2 (C3.1R2): On-line, cloud-based platform for improving the trade and information symmetry in the fresh produce supply chain

The objectives of the reform are to address long-standing drawbacks of the fresh produce supply chain, especially regarding traceability, market price distortions and the information asymmetry, which weakens producers' position in the market.

The reform shall consist of a new law on unfair practices in transactions in the local fresh produce market and the operation of a platform for recording transactions in the local fresh produce market.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

Reform 3 (C3.1R3): Genetic improvement of the Cyprus sheep and goat population

The objective of the reform is to enhance the productivity and sustainability of the primary sector through the promotion of agro-technology, advanced reproduction and genomic improvement of sheep and goats to optimise the production of dairy products.

The reform shall consist of support to the sheep and goat farmers to upgrade their record keeping on farm, their production processes, product quality evaluation efforts and participation in the nationally funded AGRICYGEN project, which shall provide them with advanced knowledge and guidance on the genetic merit of their animals. This shall allow farmers to make informed decisions on animal reproduction to improve productivity, primarily in terms of milk production.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

Investment 1 (C3.1I1): Construction of a collaborative marine aquaculture infrastructure (port and land facilities) in the Pentakomo coastal area

The objective of the measure is to cover the gap of not having sufficient port and land infrastructure for the daily needs of this activity, by covering existing as well as future needs of more than 70% of the marine aquaculture units operating in Cyprus, aiming at the smooth operation of this sector. The measure aims at maintaining the aquaculture's viability, improve its competitiveness and provide for its future further sustainable development and expansion, strengthening the resilience, competitiveness and contribution of the primary sector to sustainable development of the Cypriot economy.

The investment shall consist in the construction of a collaborative infrastructure for marine aquaculture in the Pentakomo area, which shall be specifically designed to accommodate the needs of marine offshore aquaculture activities (safe service vessels docking, maintenance areas of equipment, storage areas, loading and unloading areas and fuelling station). It shall cover the construction of a small port with the required and appropriate land facilities that shall have the capacity to serve seven aquaculture units with about 40 service vessels of various sizes.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 March 2026.

Investment 2 (C3.1I2): Enhancing the existing isotopic databases of Cypriot local traditional food/drinks, by developing a Block Chain platform, to ensure their identity

The objective of the measure is to develop a mechanism and a fit for purpose verification methodology for the authentication of Cypriot products as well as of European food in general, by using stable isotopic databases, thus utilising research and technology. In particular, the measure shall develop a verification methodology for at least three areas of authenticity (dairy products, honey and spirits) that are significantly affected by adulteration and fraud.

The investment shall consist in the establishment of a network of expertise that shall inform regulatory and production stakeholders about food authenticity issues and problems, existing datasets, available methodology and secure sharing of data and information. Also, it shall develop fit for purpose verification methodology for at least three areas of authenticity (dairy products, honey and spirits) that are significantly affected by adulteration and fraud. Moreover, it shall promote knowledge transfer of “IsoDataBase” outputs to the food industry, regulatory, enforcement, research and consumer stakeholders and shall build a configurable web and mobile Enterprise Resource Planning that may convert any paper-based supply chain to digital.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 March 2025.

**Investment 3 (C3.1I3): Upskill the existing farming community and professionalise future labour force by investing in human capital**

The objective of the measure is the upskilling of the farming community, through knowledge transfer and the promotion of innovation. In this way, it aims at fostering a more competitive agricultural sector with higher potential, through capacity building and knowledge transfer.

The investment shall consist in the granting of ten scholarships in the agricultural sector, of EUR 10 000 each, for supporting the development of the future labour force in the sector. It shall also support transfer of knowledge and innovation within the existing labour force, through the use of the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System with links to academia, bridging the gap between practical application on the one hand and knowledge, science, experience and research on the other.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2022.

**Sub-Component 3.1.2 Innovative and competitive secondary sector**

**Investment 4 (C3.1I4): Initiating the setup of the first Eco-Industrial Science Park**

The objective of the measure is to set the framework to encourage the growth of greenfield direct investment and host a cluster of light manufacturing entities that focus on renewables (emphasis on solar), agri-tech solutions, and ICT.

The investment shall consist in the approval of an action plan by the Council of Ministers, based on an underlying study, for the establishment of the Eco-Industrial Science Park. The park shall be a cluster of businesses specialising in manufacturing tech equipment focusing on renewable energy (in particular solar), agri-tech solutions and ICT.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 September 2023.

**Investment 5 (C3.1I5): Creation of a National Commercial Identity and promotion of the traditional product “halloumi”**

The objective of the measure is to establish a brand name for the Cypriot products in order to promote their export.

The investment shall consist in the development of action plans based on two studies: (a) one on the creation of a National Commercial Identity “Made in Cyprus” (branding) focusing on the quality and structural characteristics of Cypriot products and services combined with elements of the tradition and history of the island, and (b) a study for implementing a strategy for halloumi cheese

in order to increase its distinctiveness as an authentic Cyprus product and designing a promotional and awareness campaign.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 March 2022.

Investment 6 (C3.1I6): Scheme for modernisation and digitalisation of enterprises engaged in manufacturing and trading of agricultural products

The objective of the measure is to strengthen the resilience of the agricultural sector, promote diversification of economic activity and ultimately accelerate sustainable economic growth. The measure aims to incentivise investments in new businesses or in the technological advancement of existing businesses, thus helping them bring to the market improved products, increase productivity and strengthen their growth prospects, create local jobs and provide the base for sustained growth of the overall economy.

The investment shall consist in the use of a grant scheme that shall provide aid to existing and newly established enterprises, especially SMEs, engaged in the processing, marketing and development of agricultural products covered by Annex I of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, except wine, wine vinegar and activities related to fisheries and aquaculture. The scheme shall assist enterprises to finance investments in tangible or intangible assets to modernise and improve their production facilities, expand and increase their productive capacity, introduce new technologies and procedures and develop new or higher-quality agricultural products. The funding shall also help businesses to improve their digital capabilities, thus helping them improve their processes.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 March 2026.

Investment 7 (C3.1I7): Scheme for the enhancement of large enterprises competitiveness in the manufacturing sector

The objective of the measure is to help large enterprises with capital expenditures for modernisation efforts that are expected to enable these enterprises to grow, become more competitive, create employment and thus contribute to economic development of the country.

The investment shall consist in the grant scheme of up to EUR 7 000 000, to develop and promote existing and new large enterprises in the manufacturing sector. Each enterprise shall receive a maximum of EUR 750 000. The grant scheme shall provide incentives to the enterprises to maintain their activities and employment.

In order to ensure that the measure complies with the ‘Do no significant harm’ Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the eligibility criteria contained in terms of reference for upcoming calls for projects shall exclude the following list of activities<sup>5</sup>: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks; (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators and mechanical biological treatment plants; and (iv) activities where the long-term disposal of waste may cause harm to the environment. The terms of reference shall additionally require that only activities that comply with relevant EU and national environmental legislation may be selected.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

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<sup>5</sup> All footnotes set out in the text on measure C2.1I4 are also applicable to this measure.

### **Sub-component 3.1.3 Sustainable, high value-added tourism sector**

#### **Investment 8 (C3.1I8): Enhancing the added value of the tourism sector with emphasis on the countryside, mountainous and remote areas**

The objectives of the investment are to enrich the tourism product, attract new markets, while reducing seasonality and improving the built environment in the countryside, mountainous and remote areas.

The investment shall consist of grant support to three categories of businesses: (1) SMEs in the accommodation industry, such as hotels, in the countryside, mountainous and remote areas for renovation projects, (2) traditional restaurants or businesses selling traditional products, which shall be included in the label “Taste of Cyprus”, for renovation works, and (3) SMEs in the accommodation industry, such as hotels, to include medical and assisted living facilities.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### **Investment 9 (C3.1I9): Promotion of circular economy in hotel establishments**

The objectives of the investment are to facilitate the transition of hotels’ business model to circular, or to develop circular products or services.

The investment consists of diagnostics, recommendations, training and coaching, and monitoring of the implementation of recommendations leading to certification.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 March 2026.

#### **Investment 10 (C3.1I10): Enrichment of the tourism product in rural, mountainous and remote areas**

The objective of the investment is to support the economy in rural, mountainous and remote areas, by developing the offer of activities to visitors, such as workshops, live demonstrations and traditional souvenirs. It aims at enhancing the diversification of the tourism sector, creating jobs, reducing out-migration.

The investment consists of (i) a creation of an "Authentic Experience Route" of 300 kilometres, which shall pass through mountainous, rural and remote parts of the country, and (ii) grant support to enterprises and local community boards for limited-scale restoration of private and public buildings and mostly repurposing them in order to host micro and small businesses in the creative and manufacturing sectors, such as artists, handicrafts and traditional products.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

### **Sub-component 3.1.4 Circular economy**

#### **Reform 4 (C3.1R4): Enhancement of circular economy in the Industry**

The objective of the measure is to enhance the circular economy model in the country through the implementation of a concrete Action Plan. The Action Plan shall include a grant scheme to enhance business investment in the circular economy, as well as actions such as (i) raising awareness among the consumers and the business community regarding the benefits of circular products towards the environment and about the strengths and business opportunities that the circular economy offers, (ii) providing consulting services regarding business diagnostics, business coaching, training of employees and preparation of a roadmap for transitioning to circularity, and (iv) sharing a marketplace platform for the circular economy to connect supply and demand of materials, scrub and waste.

The grant scheme shall be open to SMEs aiming to move into a circular operating model. Grants may go up to EUR 317 500 for each beneficiary, covering up to 60% of the investment cost incurred by each SME.

In order to ensure that the measure complies with the ‘Do no significant harm’ Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the eligibility criteria contained in terms of reference for upcoming calls for projects shall exclude the following list of activities<sup>6</sup>: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks; (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators and mechanical biological treatment plants; and (iv) activities where the long-term disposal of waste may cause harm to the environment. The terms of reference shall additionally require that only activities that comply with relevant EU and national environmental legislation may be selected.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Reform 5 (C3.1R5): Establishment of a Coordinating Body between central and local government

The objective of the measure is to upscale waste management towards prevention of waste and separate collection, thus contributing to compliance with the EU waste management directives as well as promoting the circular economy. The reform shall provide a mechanism to support local authorities both technically and financially, help them to liaise with the central government, create expertise and exploit funding opportunities in the field of waste management.

The reform consists in the establishment of a Coordinating Body between central and local government that shall promote activities within the waste management hierarchy and the waste management plan and support local authorities in this perspective. It shall also participate in research programmes, support pilot programmes and conduct education and information campaigns that aim at waste prevention and separation of waste, as well as maintain the database of programmes and projects in the field of waste management.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2025.

#### Investment 11 (C3.1I12): Waste management towards circular economy

The objective of the measure is to contribute effectively to upscaling efforts towards reuse as well as recycling of bio waste and dry recyclables. The investment aims to assist the achievement of bio waste reduction targets, increase waste prevention as the most important way to improve resource efficiency and reduce the environmental impact of waste.

The investment consists of three constituents: (i) distribution of 50 small and medium size composters and 2 000 home composters in rural and semi-rural communities for facilitating the separate collection and proper treatment of bio waste, (ii) development, set-up, installation and operation of 50 green kiosks for dry recyclables to help municipalities in remote areas to improve their waste management schemes, and (iii) construction and operation of two Reuse and Repair Centres in strategic locations in Cyprus that can serve all 5 regions together with an associated network of reuse shops to improve resource efficiency and create a local green job potential.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

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<sup>6</sup> All footnotes set out in the text on measure C2.1I4 are also applicable to this measure.



## **E.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support**

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Base line	Goal	Quarter	Year	
85	C3.1R1 Move agricultural practices from the 20th century to the 21st century by investing in a national centre for excellence in agri-tech	Milestone	Cooperation between the Agricultural Research Institute and public universities, for joint MSc and PhD programmes	Entry into force of signed cooperation agreement(s)	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Entry into force of legally binding document(s) establishing the collaboration for joint MSc and PhD programmes signed between the Agricultural Research Institute and public universities.
86	C3.1R1 Move agricultural practices from the 20th century to the 21st century by investing in a national centre for excellence in agri-tech	Milestone	New joint Masters and/or PhDs in the wider domain of Agriculture	Media announcement and communication by competent authorities	-	-	-	Q2	2023	Enrolment of students and start of new joint Masters and/or PhDs in the wider domain of Agriculture.
87	C3.1R2 On-line, cloud-based platform for improving the trade and information symmetry in the fresh produce supply chain	Milestone	Law on unfair practices in transactions in the local fresh produce market	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the new law on unfair practices in transactions in the local fresh produce market	-	-	-	Q2	2022	Entry into force of a new law which shall address unfair trading practices in transactions in the local fresh produce market, such as unilateral and retroactive amendments to contracts, last minute cancellations, payment deadlines longer than 30 days, payment for damaged or unsold products and other actions affecting those involved in the production and distribution chain of agricultural products.
88	C3.1R2	Milestone	Platform for	The platform	-	-	-	Q2	2024	Fully operational platform for recording

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Base line	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	On-line, cloud-based platform for improving the trade and information symmetry in the fresh produce supply chain		recording transactions in the local fresh produce market	available on the website of the Agricultural Research Institute of the availability and communication by competent authorities						transactions in the local fresh produce market shall be available on the Agricultural Research Institute website.
89	C3.1R3 Genetic improvement of the Cyprus sheep and goat population	Target	Upgrade of record keeping in farms and participation of farmers in AGRICYGEN project	-	Number	0	40	Q4	2023	At least 40 farmers have upgraded their record keeping on farm, their production processes, product quality evaluation efforts and participate in the nationally funded AGRICYGEN project.
90	C3.1R3 Genetic improvement of the Cyprus sheep and goat population	Target	Adoption of advanced recording and genomic evaluation processes, and selection of the best performing animals	-	Number	0	15 000	Q2	2026	Farmers have adopted advanced recording and genomic evaluation processes, and selected the best performing animals based on genomic analysis outputs for at least 15 000 animals.
91	C3.1I1 Marine aquaculture construction	Milestone	Construction of the collaborative marine aquaculture	Contract signature	-	-	-	Q1	2023	Signing the contract for the construction of a collaborative marine aquaculture infrastructure (port and land facilities) that shall specifically be designed for aquaculture activity.
92	C3.1I1	Milestone	Operational	Signed statement	-	-	-	Q1	2026	Delivery of a fully functional / operational

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Base line	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Marine aquaculture construction		collaborative marine aquaculture Infrastructure	from the Contracting Authority of the delivery and operation of the infrastructure developed						collaborative marine aquaculture Infrastructure (port and land facilities) that shall specifically be designed for aquaculture activity and shall cover the needs of more than 70% of the marine aquaculture units operating in Cyprus.
93	C3.1I2 Enhancement of isotopic database of traditional Cypriot products	Milestone	Liquid Chromatography- Isotopic Ratio Mass Spectrometer (LC-IRMS) equipment	Signed statement of the acceptance of equipment to the standard quality and time specified in the tender documents and the signed contract	-	-	-	Q4	2021	Purchase and Install New Liquid Chromatography- Isotopic Ratio Mass Spectrometer (LC-IRMS) equipment for isotopic characterisation.
94	C3.1I2 Enhancement of isotopic database of traditional Cypriot products	Target	Local traditional foods/ drinks connected to the system	-	Number	0	10	Q1	2025	Integrated Isotopic DataBases (for at least ten traditional/local foods/ drinks) connected to a Blockchain system.
95	C3.1I3 Upskill existing and future farmers	Target	Scholarships granted	-	Number	0	5	Q4	2022	At least five scholarships granted to secondary school graduates to study degree courses related to agriculture, in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture, the Agricultural Research Institute and local universities.
96	C3.1I4 Initiate the setup of an Eco-Industrial Science Park	Milestone	Action Plan for the Science Park	Publication of the Council of Ministers' decision and of the action plan	-	-	-	Q3	2023	Approval by the Council of Ministers of an Action Plan for the establishment of the Eco-Industrial Science Park

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Base line	Goal	Quarter	Year	
97	C3.1I5 Creation of a National Commercial Identity and promotion of the traditional product “halloumi”	Milestone	Action Plans for (a) the “made in Cyprus” branding, and (b) for the promotion of the halloumi cheese	Publication of the Council of Ministers’ decision and of the action plan	-	-	-	Q1	2022	Adoption by the Council of Ministers of Action Plans that shall consist of: (1) assisting businesses to promote their products and services on the basis of the “made in Cyprus” branding, and (2) increasing the distinctiveness of the halloumi cheese as an authentic Cyprus product and designing a promotional and awareness campaign for it.
98	C3.1I6 Scheme for modernisation and digitalisation of enterprises engaged in manufacturing and trading of agricultural products	Target	Grants to SMEs engaged with trade and production of agricultural products	-	Number	0	65	Q4	2024	Award of grants to at least 65 Small and Medium Enterprises engaged in manufacturing and trading of agricultural products for their modernisation and digitalisation
99	C3.1I6 Scheme for modernisation and digitalisation of enterprises engaged in manufacturing and trading of agricultural products	Target	Grants to SMEs engaged with trade and production of agricultural products	-	Number	65	176	Q1	2026	Award of grants to at least 176 SMEs engaged in manufacturing and trading of agricultural products for their modernisation and digitalisation
100	C3.1I7 Scheme for the enhancement of large enterprises competitiveness in the manufacturing	Milestone	Start of the grant scheme on large enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector	Publication of the call for proposals on the Ministry website	-	-	-	Q2	2022	Following scheme approval by the Council of Ministers, issuance of call for proposals for the award of grants to at least three large enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector to expand existing business through investments that enhance the technological level, the

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Base line	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	sector									production process and their productivity. The terms of reference including eligibility criteria that ensure that the selected projects comply with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.
101	C3.1I7 Scheme for the enhancement of large enterprises competitiveness in the manufacturing sector	Target	Grants to large enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector	-	Number	0	3	Q4	2024	Award of grants to at least three large enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector to expand existing business through investments that enhance the technological level, the production process and their productivity.
102	C3.1I7 Scheme for the enhancement of large enterprises competitiveness in the manufacturing sector	Target	Grants to large enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector	-	Number	3	10	Q2	2026	Award of grants to at least 10 large enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector to expand existing business through investments that enhance the technological level, the production process and their productivity.
103	C3.1I8 Enhancing the added value of the tourism sector with emphasis on the country side, mountainous and remote areas	Target	Grant to SMEs to promote the tourism sector	-	Number	0	175	Q2	2023	Grants awarded to at least 175 SMEs, comprising food establishments, taverns, micro, small and medium enterprises selling traditional products, for investing in renovation or refurbishing.
104	C3.1I8 Enhancing the added	Target	Grant to hotels to promote the	-	Number	0	57	Q2	2026	Grants awarded to at least 57 hotels and other tourism establishments, in countryside,

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Base line	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	value of the tourism sector with emphasis on the country side, mountainous and remote areas		tourism sector							mountainous and remote areas, for investing in renovation or refurbishing, including digital investments.
105	C3.1I9 Promotion of circular economy in hotel establishments	Target	Coaching scheme for circular economy	-	Number	0	50	Q2	2022	Signed collaboration agreements with at least 50 hotels have been signed for tailored business coaching for circular economy.
106	C3.1I9 Promotion of circular economy in hotel establishments	Target	Coaching scheme for circular economy	-	Number	0	18	Q1	2026	At least 18 hotels have been certified according to national standards as circular hotels following audit.
107	C3.1I10 Enrichment of the tourism product in rural, mountainous and remote areas	Milestone	Aphrodite Route	Signed statement of the acceptance of the project by project team (contracting authority)	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Completion of the Aphrodite Route, which shall connect historical, religious and environmental points of the area (such as nature trails) with a special 2km long route, enhancing environmental awareness and promoting biodiversity.
108	C3.1I10 Enrichment of the tourism product in rural, mountainous and remote areas	Target	Grants to enterprises and local community boards to promote micro and small businesses in the creative and manufacturing sectors, such as artists, handicrafts and traditional products	-	Number	0	105	Q4	2025	At least 105 enterprises and local community boards have renovated, refurbished or visually upgraded private and public buildings / infrastructures in countryside, mountainous and remote areas and repurposed them to host micro and small businesses in the creative and manufacturing sectors, such as artists, handicrafts and traditional products.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Base line	Goal	Quarter	Year	
109	C3.1R4 Enhancement of circular economy in the Industry	Milestone	Approval of the National Action Plan for the Enhancement of Circular Economy in Cyprus	Publication of the Council of Ministers' decision for the approval of the National Action plan.	-	-	-	Q4	2021	Approval, by the Council of Ministers, of the National Action Plan for the Enhancement of Circular Economy in Cyprus
110	C3.1R4 Enhancement of circular economy in the Industry	Target	Aid for SMEs which are moving into a circular operating model	-	Number	0	40	Q2	2026	Aid granted to at least 40 eligible SMEs, in compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.
111	C3.1R5 Establishment of a Coordinating Body between central and local government	Milestone	Legislation on coordination between Central and Local Government	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the legislation	-	-	-	Q2	2025	Entry into force of Legislation, which shall establish a Coordinating Body between Central and Local Government. The Coordinating Body shall provide a mechanism to upscale waste management, contribute to compliance with EU waste management directives and promote circular economy.
112	C3.1I12 Waste management towards circular economy	Milestone	Signature of the contracts for the installation of Green kiosks, construction of reuse & repair centres and installation of composting systems	Signature of the contracts	-	-	-	Q3	2023	Signed contracts for (1) the set up and installation of at least 50 Green kiosks for dry recyclables (2) the construction/erection of two reuse & repair centres and (3) the installation of at least 2 050 composting systems.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Base line	Goal	Quarter	Year	
113	C3.1I12 Waste management towards circular economy	Target	Start of operation of reuse and repair centres	-	Number	0	2	Q4	2025	Completion of construction and start of operation of reuse and repair centres.
114	C3.1I12 Waste management towards circular economy	Target	Completion of set up, installation and start of operation of composting systems	-	Number	0	2 050	Q4	2025	Completion of set up, installation and start of operation of the composting systems.
115	C3.1I12 Waste management towards circular economy	Target	Completion of installation and start of operation of the green kiosks	-	Number	0	50	Q4	2025	Completion of set up, installation and start of operation of the green kiosks for dry recyclables.



### **E.3. Description of the reforms and investments for the loan**

#### **Investment 11 (C3.1I11): Improvement and extension of the Cyprus Green Points Network and creation of a network of Collection Points and Recycling Corners**

The objectives of the measure are the improvement of the management of solid waste, the protection of the environment and public health. It aims at mitigating uncontrolled and illegal dumping of waste in public areas, increasing the rate of recovery and recycling materials, and raising users' awareness of sustainable development and circular economy.

The investment foresees the construction of fourteen Green Points covering an area of at least 50 500 m<sup>2</sup> to serve citizens and local authorities to deposit specific household and municipal waste streams. In addition to the creation of new Green Points, the investments foresees the construction of Recycling Corners Network and Collection Points Network to give access to citizens of rural communities to dispose of their waste.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### **Investment 13(C3.1I13): Establishment of the Orounda Livestock Waste and Animal-By-Product Management Facilities**

The objective of the measure is to develop regional Livestock Waste Management Facilities to serve farms of the wider Orounda Complex area to provide an integrated solution for the effective management of the organic waste produced mainly from piggeries, poultry, sheep, goat and cattle farms. For those communities, the investment aims to achieve a close-loop operation, minimisation of externalities and recovery of nutrients for soil improvement as well as reduction of the social and environmental impact.

The investment foresees the construction of facilities for wastewater treatment, co-composting and anaerobic digestion to allow the treatment of the big quantities of livestock waste produced in the area, produce electricity from biogas, combat desertification at the local level, reduce odour annoyance of local communities to less than 10% of the duration of the day, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and produce water for irrigation.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

It is expected that this measure does not do significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measure and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01). In particular, the measure shall be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment in the first year of implementation and the requirement for adherence to the DNSH principle shall be included in all procurement procedures.

#### E.4. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for the loan

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Q	Y	
116	C3.1I11Improvement and extension of the Cyprus Green Points Network and creation of a network of Collection Points and Recycling Corners	Target	Completion of construction, expansion and start of operation of four Green Points	-	Number	0	4	Q4	2023	Completion of construction, expansion and start of operation of four Green Points at Avgorou, Troulloi, Eptagonia and Alambra in accordance with the National Strategic Plan for the Development of a National Green Point Network
117	C3.1I11Improvement and extension of the Cyprus Green Points Network and creation of a network of Collection Points and Recycling Corners	Target	Completion of construction, expansion and operation of 14 Green Points	-	Number	4	14	Q2	2026	Completion of construction, expansion and start of operation of fourteen Green Points at Avgorou, Troulloi, Eptagonia, Alambra, Aglantzia, Latsia, Derynia, Sotera, Pelentri, Egkomi, Lakatamia, Pano Platres, Kalo Horio Limassol, Souni Zanatzia in accordance with the National Strategic Plan for the Development of a National Green Point Network
118	C3.1I13Establishment of the Orounda Livestock Waste and Animal-By-Product Management Facilities	Milestone	Construction of facilities for wastewater treatment and co-composting	Licences for the construction obtained and proof of completed land acquisition	-	-	-	Q1	2024	All licences for the construction of facilities for wastewater treatment and co-composting (environmental, construction and operating permits and licenses) from all relevant authorities such as Department of Environment, Department of Town Planning and Housing and Department of Land and Surveys have been obtained and relevant land acquisition has been completed.
119	C3.1.I13Establishment of the Orounda Livestock Waste and Animal-By-Product Management Facilities	Milestone	Completion and start of operation of the Anaerobic Digestion facilities	Taking over certificate issued by the Project Engineer and approved by the Technical Steering Committee	-	-	-	Q2	2026	Completion and start of operation of the Anaerobic Digestion facilities, producing biogas (methane) to be used for electricity production of 3,5 MWh (for 20 hours of daily operation) at full capacity, 365 days a year. The electricity produced shall be supplied to the grid.

## **F. COMPONENT 3.2: ENHANCED RESEARCH AND INNOVATION**

The component of the Cypriot recovery and resilience plan addresses the challenges that Cyprus faces as regards the Research and Development ecosystem that plays a relatively limited role in economic growth. This is mainly due to a low share of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) graduates, limited interaction of the public research system with the business sector and limited access and availability of risk funding.

The objectives of the component are to strengthen links between research organisations and enterprises, commercialise research results, increase intensity in research & development (R&D) activity and investments by both public and private organisations, as well as to make all publicly funded research infrastructure accessible to the entire ecosystem. Furthermore, it aims to enhance financial support to start-ups, scale-ups, SMEs, internationalise the local research and innovation (R&I) ecosystem, develop local talent and attract talent from abroad to work in R&I with emphasis on specific thematic areas.

The component addresses the Country-Specific Recommendations on increasing the focus on investment-related economic policy on research and innovation (Country-Specific Recommendations 3 of 2020 and 4 of 2019).

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

### **F.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

#### **Reform 1 (C3.2R1): Comprehensive national Research and Innovation Policy supported by data-driven policy tools to support the R&I Ecosystem and to enhance links between policy making and implementation**

The objective of the measure is to promote the efficient coordination of the R&I governance system, to foster awareness raising and nurture innovation culture, to mobilise stakeholders and to develop and augment the fundamental building blocks of the national R&I ecosystem (of three levels: policy making, strategy and implementation, stakeholders and users/citizens).

The reform shall consist in the implementation of the Action Plan for the National Strategy for Research and Innovation. This shall follow the political endorsement of the Action Plan, together with the adoption of a National Strategy for R&I and the revised Smart Specialisation Strategy for Cyprus. It shall also consist in establishment of a mechanism for impact driven monitoring and support of the six Centres of Excellence and in the development of a digital tool for the dynamic mapping of the R&I ecosystem (stakeholders, policy measures and tools, R&I performance, registry of innovative companies and sector analytics).

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2024.

#### **Reform 2 (C3.2R2): Incentives to encourage and attract investments and human capital in Research and Innovation**

The objective of the measure is to attract investment in innovative companies and entrepreneurial and scientific talents from abroad.

The reform shall consist in the extension of the application of the tax scheme for investing in innovative companies to legal entities (from physical persons currently). Eligible investments of up to EUR 150 000 per investor, under this incentive, include equity, loans, guarantees and factoring. In addition, it shall consist in the review, promotion and, where appropriate, amendment of current incentive schemes aimed at attracting talents from third countries, including the Scientific VISA

scheme for researchers and their families and the Start-up VISA scheme for founders of innovative enterprises and their families.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 September 2022.

Reform 3 (C3.2R3): Introduce policies and incentives to facilitate and foster access to publicly funded research infrastructure and laboratories

The objective of the measure is to optimise utilisation of publicly funded research infrastructure and laboratories by the business community.

The reform shall consist in (i) an approval of an action plan focusing on the optimal utilisation of research infrastructure and adopting actions aimed at promoting and enhancing the collaboration among research organisations, academia and the private sector; (ii) the development and launch of a dynamic digital tool accessible to all stakeholders of the R&I ecosystem, providing information circulation, tools and services for the facilitation of a collaborative partnership arrangement between different R&I organisations and teams (public and private) in respect to publicly funded research infrastructures and laboratories; (iii) review of the legal and operational framework of the publicly funded research institutions and promote actions aiming to facilitate and support the optimal use of research infrastructure through opening up access to other research institutions and the business sector; (iv) introduction of measures and incentives (such as including in Research and Innovation Foundation grant agreement a clause for opening up funded infrastructure) in order to enhance the collaboration of Research Performing Organisations with business and spin-offs.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2024.

Investment 1 (C3.2I1): Set up and operate a central knowledge transfer office

The objective of the measure is to improve technology transfer in Cyprus, through improved academia-business collaboration and commercialisation of research.

The investment shall consist in the creation and putting in operation of a Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO) by the Research and Innovation Foundation, to provide a cost-efficient solution for the support of technology transfer, built on the principles of acquiring a critical mass of research output and economies of scale. The KTO shall provide knowledge transfer services, facilitating commercialisation of research, to universities, other research organisations and enterprises. Indicative list of services: (a) evaluation of commercialisation prospects, (b) intellectual property rights advice, (c) patents filed and intellectual property rights maintenance cases, (d) development of commercialisation strategy, (e) technology marketing, (f) support in setting up spin-off companies, and (g) provision of funding to support translational research. The reform shall also consist in a review of the existing institutional framework on knowledge transfer in Cyprus, including relevant legislation, as well as national and institutional policies relating to the commercial exploitation of intellectual property, knowledge transfer and the establishment of spin-off companies.

The KTO shall become self-financed starting from 1 January 2026, by retaining 20% of revenue from KTO managed agreements for operational costs, to be specified in the contractual arrangements between the Research and Innovation Foundation and the beneficiary.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

Investment 2 (C3.2I2): Innovation funding programmes & funding schemes for the enhancement of growth & competitiveness of start-ups, innovative companies and SMEs

The objective of the measure is to provide grant support through innovation programmes (such as Fast-Track Innovation, Pre-Seed, Seed, Innovate) as a means to improve access to funds for innovative SMEs and start-ups.

The investment shall consist in a grant support through innovation programmes (for instance, Fast-Track Innovation, Pre-Seed, Seed, Innovate) for businesses to develop innovative products and services with international orientation from concept to ready-for-market. The funding programmes shall (i) promote collaboration of businesses with research organisations; (ii) facilitate commercialisation of research results in targeting delivery of closer-to-market outputs and outcomes, thus allowing for shorter-term economic effects; (iii) lead to the creation of employment; (iv) promote business clustering, and (v) target accelerated transition to a green economy and towards a digital era of efficiency and productivity. These programmes shall require businesses to leverage private/own funds in conjunction with public funding (provided by the Research and Innovation Foundation), therefore contributing to the overall increase of R&D investment.

In order to ensure that the measure complies with the ‘Do no significant harm’ Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the eligibility criteria contained in terms of reference for upcoming calls for projects shall exclude the following list of activities<sup>7</sup>: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks; (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators and mechanical biological treatment plants; and (iv) activities where the long-term disposal of waste may cause harm to the environment. The terms of reference shall additionally require that only activities that comply with relevant EU and national environmental legislation may be selected.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 3 (C3.2I3): Thematic research and innovation funding program on green transition

The objective of the measure is to provide grant support through thematic R&I programmes of relatively high technology readiness levels focusing on green transition.

The investment shall consist in grant support of projects that shall be using the latest digital technologies to provide cost-effective solutions for green transition, thereby upgrading the country’s research capacity. The supported projects shall focus on renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport, entail collaboration with Centres of Excellence for R&I, and facilitate the commercialisation of research results.

In order to ensure that the measure complies with the ‘Do no significant harm’ Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the eligibility criteria contained in terms of reference for upcoming calls for projects shall exclude the following list of activities<sup>8</sup>: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks; (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators and mechanical biological treatment plants; and (iv) activities where the long-term disposal of waste may cause harm to the environment. The terms of reference shall additionally require that only activities that comply with relevant EU and national environmental legislation may be selected.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

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<sup>7</sup> All footnotes set out in the text on measure C2.114 are also applicable to this measure.

<sup>8</sup> All footnotes set out in the text on measure C2.114 are also applicable to this measure.

Investment 4 (C3.2I4): Funding schemes to support organisations performing R&D activities on dual technologies, including the creation of new or upgrade of existing laboratories and the development of classified laboratories

The objective of the measure is to promote dual-use research and to use technologies, which would otherwise only serve government/military purposes, for civilian, commercial and societal interests.

The investment shall consist in a grant support that would enable research organisations and companies to engage in R&D on dual-use technologies. The funding schemes shall enable the upgrade of the R&I capabilities and capacity of Research Centres of Excellence, academic institutions, research organisations as well as companies engaged in R&D on dual use technologies. In particular, they shall enable these organisations to acquire security classification certificates in order to be able to participate in consortia for European funding (such as Horizon Europe, European Defence Fund) as well as to enhance their R&I capabilities and competitiveness in the field of dual use technologies.

The funding shall focus on civil business only and research outcomes and infrastructure shall benefit civil applications only. The measure shall comply with the Council Regulation (EC) No 428/2009 of 5 May 2009 on setting up a Community regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items, regarding dual use technologies during the implementation of the funding scheme, and shall be designed in line with ‘EU Funding for Dual Use – A practical guide to accessing EU funds for European Regional Authorities and SMEs’.

In order to ensure that the measure complies with the ‘Do no significant harm’ Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the eligibility criteria contained in terms of reference for upcoming calls for projects shall exclude the following list of activities<sup>9</sup>: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks; (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators and mechanical biological treatment plants; and (iv) activities where the long-term disposal of waste may cause harm to the environment. The terms of reference shall additionally require that only activities that comply with relevant EU and national environmental legislation may be selected.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

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<sup>9</sup> All footnotes set out in the text on measure C2.1I4 are also applicable to this measure.

## **F.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support**

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
120	C3.2R1 National R&I Policy and policy tools	Milestone	Adoption of the national R&I Strategy and of the Action Plan to implement it	Publication of the Council of Ministers' decision	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Develop an integrated R&I Strategy, providing a long-term perspective framework, ensuring a focused effort and commitment for implementation, over time, on behalf of the State and stakeholders involved in the national R&I system, and a digital tool for the dynamic mapping of the R&I ecosystem.
121	C3.2R1 National R&I Policy and policy tools	Milestone	Completion of the Action Plan for the R&I Strategy	Publication of the Council of Ministers' approval of the progress report, attesting the completion of the action plan	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Implementation of the measures in the Action Plan of the National Research and Innovation Strategy, as evidenced by a progress report.
122	C3.2R2 Incentives for investments and human capital in R&I	Milestone	Tax exemption of legal entities for investing in innovative companies	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the legislation	-	-	-	Q1	2022	Entry into force a law establishing the tax exemption of corporate investors (legal entities) for investing in innovative companies.
123	C3.2R3 Policies to foster access to publicly funded research	Milestone	Digital registry to record and publish research infrastructure	Link to the digital registry published in the Deputy Ministry for Research,	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Development and start of operation of a digital registry to record and publish research infrastructure that shall facilitate the request of access of interested parties to such infrastructure. It shall include the mapping of all publicly funded research institutions (under Horizon

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	infrastructure and laboratories			Innovation and Digital Policy website						2020, national schemes). It shall also improve visibility of the Research Institutions and support collaboration with the private sector.
124	C3.2R3 Policies to foster access to publicly funded research infrastructure and laboratories	Milestone	Collaboration of Research Performing Organisations with business and spin-offs	Publication of measures and incentives adopted on the Research and Innovation Foundation website	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Adoption of measures and incentives to enhance the collaboration of Research Performing Organisations with business and spin-offs, such as including in Research and Innovation Foundation grant agreement a clause for opening up funded infrastructure.
125	C3.2I1 Set up and operate a central Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO)	Milestone	Launch of KTO	Opening of KTO's first case	-	-	-	Q2	2022	The Research and Innovation Foundation, responsible for putting in operation the KTO, has hired or contracted highly trained staff and/or experts to provide expert knowledge transfer services. Systems and tools shall be in place to support KTO operation. The KTO shall start the provision of services to universities, other research organisations or enterprises.
126	C3.2I1 Set up and operate a central Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO)	Target	Case files closed attesting provision of relevant knowledge transfer services	-	Number	0	30	Q4	2025	At least 30 completed cases of knowledge transfer services provided by the central KTO to universities, other research organisations or enterprises.
127	C3.2I2 Innovation funding programmes	Milestone	Signature of grant agreements for 50% of budget	Grant agreements signed	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Signing of grant agreements which commit at least 50% of total budget (contracts of a total value of at least EUR 26 000 000 total budget) for innovation funding programmes for start-ups,



Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	for start-ups, innovative companies and SMEs									innovative companies and SMEs, with terms of reference including eligibility criteria that ensure that the selected projects comply with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.
128	C3.2I2 Innovation funding programmes for start-ups, innovative companies and SMEs	Target	Organisations supported to carry out R&I related activities	-	Number	0	70	Q3	2023	Funding support to at least 70 organisations to carry out R&I related activities such as industrial research, experimental research innovation activities, start-up activities, knowledge transfer activities, including (but not limited to) activities for the management and protection of intellectual property, for establishing links between research organisations and companies, for building knowledge transfer capacity and for commercialising research results, in compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.
129	C3.2I2 Innovation funding programmes for start-ups, innovative companies	Target	Organisations supported to carry out R&I related activities	-	Number	70	200	Q2	2026	Funding support to at least 200 organisations to carry out R&I related activities, in compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	and SMEs									
130	C3.2I3 R&I funding program on green transition	Milestone	Signature of grant agreements for the whole budget	Grant agreements signed by the Director of the Research and Innovation Foundation	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Signing of grant agreements for R&I funding program on green transition, with terms of reference including eligibility criteria that ensure that the selected projects comply with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.
131	C3.2I3 R&I funding program on green transition	Target	Organisations supported by grants on green transition R&I activities	-	Number	0	10	Q2	2026	At least 10 enterprises supported by grants on green transition R&I activities, in compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.
132	C3.2I4 Funding to organisations performing R&D activities on dual technologies	Milestone	Signing of grant agreements which commit 80% of total budget for funding to organisations performing R&D activities on dual technologies	Grant agreements signed	-	-	-	Q2	2023	Signing of grant agreements which commit 80% of total budget (contracts of at least a total value of 2 400 000 euro total budget) for funding to organisations performing R&D activities on dual technologies, with terms of reference including eligibility criteria that ensure that the selected projects comply with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.
133	C3.2I4 Funding	Target	Funding for the development of	-	Number	0	16	Q2	2026	At least 16 enterprises are receiving funding for the development of classified laboratories. An

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	organisations performing R&D activities on dual technologies		classified Laboratories							enterprise may be counted more than once if it participates in more than one project, in compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.

### **G. COMPONENT 3.3: BUSINESS SUPPORT FOR COMPETITIVENESS**

This component of the Cypriot Recovery and Resilience addresses the challenges of low productivity and competitiveness of the economy, driven by the enterprises' small size on average, the complex licensing process requested for an investment and difficulties of access to funding to business. The objectives of this component are to support entrepreneurs and enterprises and improve their competitiveness and contribution to the growth of the economy by improving the regulatory framework regarding investment and entrepreneurial activity and to enhance SMEs productivity, mainly through digitalisation. It consists of six reforms and six investments, to be completed by Q2 2026.

The component addresses the Country-Specific Recommendation 3 of 2020 and Country-Specific Recommendation 4 of 2019.

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

#### **G.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

##### **Reform 1 (C3.3R1): Facilitation of Strategic investments**

The objective of the measure is to develop a new system supporting strategic investments, aiming at stimulating investment activity in the country through streamlined rules and mechanisms, simplifying the licencing and permit procedures, reducing the administrative burden and making the strategic investment environment more efficient. The definition of strategic investment refers to investments in strategic sectors (including Health and Social Care, Education, Culture, Sport, Environment, Industry, Tourism, Energy, Research, Development and Innovation) that significantly contribute to the development of the economy.

The reform shall consist in the entry into force of a legislation for the facilitation of strategic investments, in regards to the efficiency of obtaining investment licenses and building permits. A dedicated governmental sector shall be assigned for the processing of strategic investments. It shall consist in the preparation of the operational guidelines, process flows, and other ISO 9001:2015 requirements for mainstreaming the process. It shall develop Memorandum of Understandings with other Departments relevant to parts of the process in order to ensure the fast-track mechanism's feasibility. Moreover, it shall include training of employees in the procedures to be introduced. In addition, the reform shall benefit from the set-up of a digital platform that shall enable applying, studying and issuing Planning and Building Permits digitally, through an application management tool and a GIS system (project under Component 3.4: "enhancing e-system for issuing building permits").

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2023.

##### **Reform 2 (C3.3R2): Enhancing Fast-Track Business Activation Mechanism**

The objectives of the measure are the simplification of the procedures, the digitalisation of the governmental services and the operation of a Business Support Centre that shall provide all necessary and supportive information and services

The reform shall consist in the establishment of an interactive digital platform, enhancing the Fast-track Business activation Mechanism that is already in operation. Through the platform the investor

shall be able to track his/her application but also the competent authorities will be able to interact, exchange documents and process the application.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Reform 3 (C3.3R3): Modernisation of the Companies Law

The objective of the measure is to support the improvement of the business environment by the review of the Companies Act, making it clearer in interpreting and applying the law in practice.

The reform shall consist in modernising the Cyprus Companies Law by using best practices from other common law jurisdictions to provide a foundation of knowledge and clarity in the form of case law and literature, to assist in interpreting and applying the law in practice. The accompanying Companies Rules shall also be reviewed. Moreover, Cyprus shall assign a team of legal experts to undertake the project for advisory and drafting services of the new Companies Law and Regulations. Moreover, the law review shall include the insolvency proceedings under the Companies Law, which are Liquidations, Receivership and Examinership. Also, the reform shall include the undertaking of an SME test during the preparing of the bill.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Reform 4 (C3.3R4): Design and establish a National Promotional Agency

The objective of the reform is to improve access to finance for Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) by facilitating access to loans, guarantees and equity financing and enhance the absorption capacity of EU financing through EU tools.

The reform shall consist in an ex-ante assessment analysis covering SMEs' access to finance in all sectors of the economy with a focus on green and circular economy, digital enablement and alternative financing. The report shall define the scope of intervention of the proposed NPA. The legal and organisational set-up of the National Promotional Agency shall be defined after the final selection of its scope of activity. The proposed structure shall allow a high transparency of NPA's operations and autonomy. The Agency shall not operate with a banking license and therefore will not need to be capitalised a priori. A steering committee, with the participation of representatives of the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry shall monitor the implementation.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 September 2025.

#### Reform 5 (C3.3R5): Strategic Investor of the Cyprus Stock Exchange

The objective of the reform is the privatisation of the Cyprus Stock Exchange.

The reform shall consist in a tender process, which is currently underway whereby the Cyprus Stock Exchange seeks to appoint a reputable independent advisor or consortium thereof, with extensive relevant expertise to find the most suitable strategic investor for the Cyprus Stock Exchange. The privatisation phase of the contract shall be concluded upon final approval by the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus, after all other conditions have been met.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2024.

#### Reform 6 (C3.3R6): Incentives to promote mergers & acquisitions

The objective of the measure is to incentivise the increase of SMEs' size.

The reform shall consist in targeted incentives to promote the mergers or acquisitions of enterprises in order to scale-up and become more competitive. In particular, the reform shall consist in the approval of a report and an accompanying action plan by the Council of Ministers, following the evaluation of similar regimes within the EU and consultation with stakeholders for specific incentives for promoting mergers and acquisitions.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2022.

#### Investment 2 (C3.3I2): Creation of a Regulatory Sandbox to enable FinTech

The objective of the measure is to enable FinTech, start-ups, and other innovative companies to expand their offering in new products or services, by regulators establishing a "testing ground" that would allow them to conduct live experiments in a controlled environment under their supervision.

The investment shall consist in facilitating the development of a suitable and attractive regulatory regime on FinTech and innovative technologies and strike a balance between the seamless deployment of innovative products or services and ensuring investors' protection.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 September 2024.

#### Investment 3 (C3.3I3): Consulting services for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

The objective of the measure is to promote the development of SMEs in Cyprus and increase in their competitiveness, through tailor-made advisory services and other non-financial support tools.

The investment shall consist in providing to SMEs expert assistance, business advice, targeted training and business matching activities.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Investment 4 (C3.3I4): Scheme for the digital upgrade of enterprises

The objective of the investment is to enhance the integration of digital technology in existing and future SMEs established in Cyprus. More specifically, the measure aims to enhance the digital identity of the businesses, increasing the share of Small and Medium Enterprises that use information and communication technologies, including the e-commerce sector, and to promote digital entrepreneurship.

The investment shall consist in the provision of financial grants of about EUR 30 000 to each beneficiary, as a share of what they shall have invested in eligible investment for the digital upgrade of their enterprises.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 5 (C3.3I5): Support extroversion and openness of Cyprus firms to international trade

The objective of the investment is to strengthen the extroversion of new and existing enterprises active in the fields of manufacturing and processing and marketing of agricultural and industrial products as well as service providers.

The investment shall consist in a grant scheme of a total of EUR 8 000 000 to at least 140 Cypriot firms through funding actions to strengthen their extroversion for enterprises active in the fields of manufacturing/processing and marketing of agricultural and industrial products and service providers. Selectable funding expenditures might include consultancy and other eligible, under the state-aid regulations, expenses.

In order to ensure that the measure complies with the ‘Do no significant harm’ Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the eligibility criteria contained in terms of reference for upcoming calls for projects shall exclude the following list of activities<sup>10</sup>: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks; (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators and mechanical biological treatment plants; and (iv) activities where the long-term disposal of waste may cause harm to the environment. The terms of reference shall additionally require that only activities that comply with relevant EU and national environmental legislation may be selected.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 6 (C3.3I6): State funded equity fund

The objective of the measure is the establishment of a Fund to support the efforts of the Government to enhance access to alternative sources of finance aiming to (i) foster economic development and growth and enhance the competitiveness of small-medium enterprises in Cyprus; (ii) increase the availability of alternative financing sources, particularly for innovative companies and start-ups; and (iii) contribute to the enhancement of the ecosystem for equity and venture capital investments.

The investment shall consist in a tender procedure to select and appoint an external fund manager for an investment period that is foreseen to be five years.

In order to ensure that the measure complies with the ‘Do no significant harm’ Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the legal agreement between Cyprus and the Fund in charge of the financial instrument and the subsequent investment policy of the financial instrument shall

- i. require the application of the Commission’s technical guidance on sustainability proofing for the InvestEU Fund; and
- ii. exclude the following list of activities and assets from eligibility: (i) activities and assets related to fossil fuels, including downstream use<sup>11</sup>; (ii) activities and assets under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks<sup>12</sup>; (iii) activities and assets related to waste landfills,

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<sup>10</sup> All footnotes set out in the text on measure C2.1I4 are also applicable to this measure.

<sup>11</sup> Except projects under this measure in power and/or heat generation, as well as related transmission and distribution infrastructure, using natural gas, that are compliant with the conditions set out in Annex III of the ‘Do no significant harm’ Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

<sup>12</sup> Where the activity supported achieves projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not significantly lower than the relevant benchmarks an explanation of the reasons why this is not possible should be provided. Benchmarks established

incinerators<sup>13</sup> and mechanical biological treatment plants<sup>14</sup>; and (iv) activities and assets where the long-term disposal of waste may cause harm to the environment; and

- iii. require the verification of legal compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation of the projects by Fund for all transactions, including those exempted from sustainability proofing.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

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for free allocation for activities falling within the scope of the Emissions Trading System, as set out in the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/447.

<sup>13</sup> This exclusion does not apply to actions under this measure in plants exclusively dedicated to treating non-recyclable hazardous waste, and to existing plants, where the actions under this measure are for the purpose of increasing energy efficiency, capturing exhaust gases for storage or use or recovering materials from incineration ashes, provided such actions under this measure do not result in an increase of the plants' waste processing capacity or in an extension of the lifetime of the plants; for which evidence is provided at plant level.

<sup>14</sup> This exclusion does not apply to actions under this measure in existing mechanical biological treatment plants, where the actions under this measure are for the purpose of increasing energy efficiency or retrofitting to recycling operations of separated waste to compost bio-waste and anaerobic digestion of bio-waste, provided such actions under this measure do not result in an increase of the plants' waste processing capacity or in an extension of the lifetime of the plants; for which evidence is provided at plant level.



## **G.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support**

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
134	C3.3R1 Facilitation of Strategic investments	Milestone	Law for strategic investments	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the law	-	-	-	Q1	2022	Entry into force of a law supporting strategic investments in Cyprus which shall include the following elements: streamlining of procedures for licencing strategic investment, project manager for each project, timely issuance of building permits.
135	C3.3R1 Facilitation of Strategic investments	Milestone	Organisational capacity's enhancement for the facilitation of strategic investments	Publication in the official gazette the setup of a government sector facilitating the reform, and of the process system and guidelines, and stated verification by the coordinating authority of training completion	-	-	-	Q2	2023	Publication in the official gazette of the completion of the setup of a sector in the Department of Town Planning and Housing for the enhancement of the facilitation of strategic system; publication of the process system and of the guidelines design; and reporting by the Coordinating authority of key personnel training for the implementation of the reform.
136	C3.3R2 Enhancing Fast-Track Business Activation Mechanism	Milestone	Establishment of a platform where investors can track their online application	Announcement by the Ministry of Commerce of the platform accepting applications	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Upgrade of the services of applications for business permit issuance, guidance for establishment and operation, provision of information for all the necessary permits required by the company to start operations, facilitation for the issuance of residence and employment permits in Cyprus for third-

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
			and interact with the competent authorities							country nationals through the establishment of a platform where investors may track their online application and interact with the competent authorities.
137	C3.3R2 Enhancing Fast-Track Business Activation Mechanism	Target	Assessments of applications for investment through the platform	-	Number	0	50	Q4	2025	Completion of the assessment of at least 50 applications for investment through the platform.
138	C3.3R3 Modernisation of the Companies Law	Milestone	Submission of the draft law to the Parliament for approval, restructuring the Companies Law	Submission of the draft law to the Parliament, after its adoption by the Council of Ministers	-	-	-	Q3	2024	Submission of the draft law to the Parliament for approval. The draft law shall restructure the Companies Law. It shall in particular modernise the Cyprus Companies Law by using best practices from other common law jurisdictions to provide a foundation of knowledge and clarity in the form of case law and literature and to assist in interpreting and applying the law in practice.
139	C3.3R3 Modernisation of the Companies Law	Milestone	Entry into force of the Companies Law	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the law	-	-	-	Q4	2025	Entry into force of the Companies Law which shall restructure the Companies Law. It shall in particular modernise the Cyprus Companies Law by using best practices from other common law jurisdictions to provide a foundation of knowledge and clarity in the form of case law and literature and to assist in interpreting and applying the law in practice.
140	C3.3R4 Design and	Milestone	Approval by the Council of	Publication of the Council of	-	-	-	Q2	2023	Approval by the Council of Ministers of the roadmap for the creation and establishment

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	establish a National Promotional Agency		Ministers of the roadmap for the creation and establishment of a National Promotional Agency	Ministers' decision						of a National Promotional Agency which shall facilitate access to loans, guarantees and equity financing to Small and Medium Enterprises and enhance the absorption capacity of EU financing through EU tools
141	C3.3R4 Design and establish a National Promotional Agency	Milestone	Start of operations of Cyprus National Promotional Agency	Initial set-up validated by Permanent Secretary	-	-	-	Q3	2025	Start of operations of Cyprus National Promotional Agency, including staffing with required staff
142	C3.3R5 Strategic Investor of the Cyprus Stock Exchange	Milestone	Selection of a strategic investor to buy a controlling stake in Cyprus Stock Exchange	Council of Ministers approves Agreement	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Selection of a strategic investor to buy a controlling stake in Cyprus Stock Exchange, signing of the relevant agreements, achieving financial closing of the transaction.
143	C3.3R6 Incentives to promote mergers and acquisitions.	Milestone	Action Plan for incentives for mergers and acquisitions	Council of Ministers adoption of a report and the accompanying action plan	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Approval of a report and an accompanying action plan by the Council of Ministers on specific incentives for promoting mergers and acquisitions, following the evaluation of similar regimes within the EU and consultation with stakeholders.
144	C3.3I2 Creation of a Regulatory	Milestone	Regulatory Sandbox with a view on	Announcement for the launch of the regulatory	-	-	-	Q2	2023	Launch a Regulatory Sandbox which shall facilitate the development of a suitable and attractive regulatory regime on FinTech and

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Sandbox to enable FinTech		FinTech and innovative technologies	Sandbox by Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission.						innovative technologies and strike a balance between the seamless deployment of innovative products or services and ensuring investors' protection.
145	C3.3I3 Consulting services for SMEs	Milestone	Support scheme on consulting services for SMEs	Public announcement of the launch of the Scheme	-	-	-	Q3	2022	Launch of the support scheme on consulting services for SMEs through an open call for proposals aiming to strengthen SMEs' competitiveness and support their business growth, aiming at increased productivity and sales, modernised production line and technology, upgraded product ranges and production processes.
146	C3.3I3 Consulting services for SMEs	Target	SMEs receiving support by accredited consultants	-	Number	0	375	Q4	2025	At least 375 SMEs shall receive support by accredited consultants through the support scheme, with terms of reference including eligibility criteria that ensure that the selected projects comply with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation. The provision of services shall be verified by the Computerised System of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry - Industry and Technology Service - verified by Department of Industry and Technology Service staff running the scheme before submitting approved applications to accounts department for administrative verification and payment of grant.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
147	C3.3I4 Scheme for the digital upgrade of enterprises	Milestone	Publication of call for proposals following approval of the scheme by the Council of Ministers	Official announcement of the call for proposals in the press, the MECI/ITS website and MECI/ITS social media	-	-	-	Q2	2023	Publication of call for proposals for grants covering a percentage of expenditure that shall enhance the digital identity of the businesses, or shall increase the amount of small and medium-size enterprises that use information and communication technologies (including the e-commerce sector), or shall promote digital entrepreneurship or will include, following approval of the scheme for the digital upgrade of enterprises by the Council of Ministers.
148	C3.3I4 Scheme for the digital upgrade of enterprises	Target	SMEs supported following submission of payment applications.	-	Number	0	290	Q2	2026	At least 290 SMEs supported following submission of payment applications and administrative and on the spot verifications performed by the responsible Scheme Management Team.
149	C3.3I5 Support extroversion and openness of Cyprus firms to international trade	Target	Enterprises supported for trade extroversion activities	-	Number	0	40	Q4	2023	At least 40 Enterprises supported for trade extroversion activities, following submission of payment application and verification performed by the responsible Scheme Management Team.  The call of proposals shall have terms of reference that shall include eligibility criteria that ensure that the selected projects comply with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
150	C3.3I5 Support extroversion and openness of Cyprus firms to international trade	Target	Enterprises supported for trade extroversion activities	-	Number	40	140	Q2	2026	At least 140 Enterprises supported for trade extroversion activities, following submission of payment application and verification performed by the responsible Scheme Management Team, in compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) through the use of an exclusion list and the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.
151	C3.3I6 State funded equity fund	Milestone	Setup of the Registered Alternative Investment Fund in the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission register	Registration of the RAIF in the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission (CySec) Register	-	-	-	Q4	2022	<p>The setup of the Registered Alternative Investment Fund (RAIF) in the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission (CySec) register is completed. The Fund shall increase the availability of alternative financing sources, particularly for innovative companies and start-ups.</p> <p>The investment policy shall include eligibility criteria for investees to ensure compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) of supported transactions under this measure through the use of sustainability proofing, the requirement of compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation, and the requirement for beneficiaries that derived more than 50% of their revenues during the preceding financial year from activities or assets in the exclusion list to adopt and publish green transition</p>

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										plans.
152	C3.3I6 State funded equity fund	Target	Investees supported through the Fund	-	Number	0	12	Q2	2026	At least 12 investees (start-ups and innovative companies) supported through the Fund.

### **G.3. Description of the reforms and investments for the loan**

#### **Investment 1 (C3.3I1): Integrated Information system for the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver.**

The objectives of the measure are the design, development, implementation, maintenance and operation of an Integrated Registry Platform solution supporting the processes and services of the Companies Section and Intellectual and Industrial Property Section of the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver, in such a way to drive the digital transformation of the two aforementioned sections to become established as frontrunners in digital presence, online capabilities and outstanding customer service delivered by efficient internal processes and supported by flexible IT systems.

The investment shall consist in the installation of the hardware and software of the system, completing the network infrastructure, and the training of the personnel for the new system.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.



#### G.4. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for the loan

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
153	C3.3I1 Integrated Information system for the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver	Milestone	System hardware and software installation and networking completed	Issuance of completion and of operation for the installation of system hardware & software and networking completed	-	-	-	Q1	2023	Installation of system hardware & software and networking completed (servers, hard disks, PCs and peripherals, RDBMS, operating systems and routers).
154	C3.3I1 Integrated Information system for the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver	Target	Training of personnel	-	% (Percentage)	0	100	Q4	2025	Training of 100% of personnel of the Registrar of Companies, Official Receiver and the Department of Information Technology Services personnel on the rolled-out information system and related operational procedures.

## **H. COMPONENT 3.4: MODERNISING PUBLIC AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES, MAKING JUSTICE MORE EFFICIENT AND FIGHTING CORRUPTION**

This component of the Cypriot recovery and resilience plan addresses long-standing challenges in the functioning of public administration, at both the central and the local levels, the justice system and the anti-corruption framework. The objectives of the component are: (i) to increase the effectiveness, efficiency and relevance of government processes, considering current challenges, needs, and expectations of citizens and businesses, (ii) to strengthen the administrative capacity and cooperation of the Ministry of Interior and local governments to ensure the effective implementation of the new local administration model, (iii) to improve the effectiveness, including quality and efficiency, of the justice system, through accelerating the administration of justice and reducing the backlog of cases, and (iv) to achieve greater coherence to the government's efforts to fight corruption.

The reforms and investments included in the component contribute to addressing the Country-Specific Recommendations on improving efficiency in the public sector, in particular as regards the functioning of the public administration and of local governments (Country-Specific Recommendations 1 of 2019 and 4 of 2020), on promoting flexible working arrangements (Country-Specific Recommendation 2 of 2020), on improving the efficiency and digitalisation of the judicial system (Country-Specific Recommendation 5 of 2019 and Country-Specific Recommendation 4 of 2020) and on anti-corruption reforms (Country-Specific Recommendation 5 of 2019).

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

### **H.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

#### **Subcomponent 3.4.1: Modernising the Public Sector**

##### **Reform 1 (C3.4R1): Enhance the administrative capacity and improve the functioning of public administration for better policy making and implementation**

The objective of the reform is to improve the functioning of general public administration by improving its human resource management framework and to restructure and enhance the administrative capacity of the Cyprus Police.

The reform shall consist of two elements:

- i) Development and implementation of an action plan to strengthen the administrative capacity and the strategic role in human resource management of the Public Administration and Personnel Department relating to the formulation and monitoring of implementation of public administration and human resource management policies in the public sector, such as policy setting, formulation of guidelines and basic principles on human resource management matters, review of existing policies, legislation and practices, and industrial relations. In parallel, the reform shall enhance line Ministries' capacity to implement public administration policies and human resource functions, while ensuring adequate accountability and responsiveness;
- ii) reorganisation and modernisation of the Cyprus Police by designing and implementing a new model of policing and operations, a new management framework for learning and development, and a new human resources management framework.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

##### **Reform 2 (C3.4R2): Regulate flexible working arrangements in the public sector**

The objective of the reform is to increase productivity and effectiveness of the public service through the use of flexible working arrangements, such as working remotely, partly remotely, and part-time.

The reform shall consist in implementing flexible working arrangements in the public sector on the basis of an assessment by the Public Administration and Personnel Department of the recommendations of an external study of best practices and possible limitations noted by other national public administrations. The study shall review the terms and conditions for flexible working arrangements in the public service as applied in other jurisdictions.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2024.

### Reform 3 (C3.4R3): Introduce new framework for evaluation and selection process for filling public service vacancies and new regulations for the evaluation of employees' performance

The objective of the reform is to improve the functioning of the public service through a review of the recruitment and promotion framework and of the performance appraisal system.

The reform shall consist of: (i) introducing a new framework in the public service for the evaluation and selection of candidates for promotion posts, including managerial posts, based on merit; (ii) introducing a new performance appraisal system to be used for development and promotion purposes in order to make appraisal and promotion more transparent, fair, skill-based and effective; and (iii) improving the recruitment procedures through training, update of the Schemes of Service (the set of requirements and duties for jobs in the public administration) and changes in the two relevant laws for recruitment.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 March 2025.

### Reform 4 (C3.4R4): Strengthen administrative capacity and transparency through the professionalisation of public procurement and further digitalisation of its process

The objective of the reform is to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of public procurement by introducing new procurement processes using digital tools and increasing knowledge and expertise of personnel.

The reform shall consist in introducing an integrated fully digitalised e-procurement system using modern technologies, thus reducing administrative burden for participants while safeguarding accountability and transparency. It shall be accompanied by measures aimed at the professionalisation of public procurement, such as revising the organisational structure of the central professional public procurement function and training and certification of procurement professionals.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

### Reform 5 (C3.4R5): Enhancement of the capacity of the Law Office

The objective of the reform is to implement a digital transformation of the Law Office, aiming to increase its efficiency and effectiveness, as well as the productivity, quality of work and working conditions of the employees.

The reform shall consist in digitalising all the processes and procedures of the Law Office by introducing an IT system (eLaw System), which shall be delivered as a complete Software-as-a-Service solution. It shall include the supply, development and customisation of an existing web-based management system to provide features such as the creation of electronic case files and

folders, case management and monitoring, internal communication and workflows, tracking of cases, financial management and payments. During the implementation of the project, a business analysis shall assess needs for process re-engineering. All existing paper files shall be migrated into the core eLaw System.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2023.

#### Investment 1 (C3.4I1): Rationalisation of the shift system through the implementation of a Roster Planning System

The objective of the investment is to optimise shift patterns and deliver productivity and efficiency gains in public sector organisations that provide services in different time shifts.

The investment shall consist in implementing a roster planning system that features day-to-day administration and tactical planning tools, automation of shift plans/rotations, and timely automated communication with the employees and managers. The system should be interfaced with the human resource management module of the enterprise resource planning system being implemented in the public sector (outside of the recovery and resilience plan). The measure shall include training of administrator users of the roster planning system.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 2 (C3.4I2): Digitalisation of the law-making process

The objective of the investment is to improve the quality of regulation and increase legal certainty and transparency by modernising the legislative drafting process and publication of applicable legislation.

The investment shall consist in establishing a legislation preparation platform enabling easier drafting, consolidation, management and storing of laws and regulations. The system shall also become the official government single point of digital access for the public to all legislation texts in an interoperable format. The investment shall cover the upload of all existing laws and regulations into the new platform.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Investment 3 (C3.4I3): Economic Policy Modelling Hub

The objective of the investment is to improve policymaking and implementation by increasing the use of quantitative modelling techniques for regulatory impact assessment.

The investment shall consist in developing modelling tools and expertise among public personnel to allow for better policy impact assessment. This shall be achieved by (i) establishing an Economic Policy Modelling Hub disposing of the tools and data for policy analysis and evaluation; (ii) transferring the policy analysis and evaluation knowledge to the employees of the Ministry of Finance; and (iii) developing tools for big data and data analytics.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### **Subcomponent 3.4.2: Local Administration and Spatial reform**

##### Reform 6 (C3.4R6): New legal framework for Local Authorities and relevant support measures

The objective of the measure is to reform the local government system in Cyprus to improve its decision-making power and administrative autonomy, to increase efficiency of governance and to align resources and responsibilities to ensure financial sustainability.

The reform shall consist in adopting new legislation that shall: reduce the number of municipalities and create community clusters for the centralised provision of services in order to improve administrative capacity; introduce a new model of administration and a new staff structure for municipalities; transfer competences and resources from the central government to the municipalities, in particular in the areas of issuing permits, social policy, local infrastructure maintenance, schools and the provision of local services to the citizens; reform the financing of municipalities; and ensure adequate legal supervision, transparency and democratic accountability. The reform shall also include capacity building through training.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2024.

#### Reform 7 (C3.4R7): Urban land consolidation

The objective of the reform is to reduce the pressure for municipalities' expansion and increasing soil seal by facilitating the utilisation of available land for construction purposes.

The reform shall consist in setting up a legislative framework for urban land consolidation and promoting implementation of urban land consolidation master plans in selected areas or in areas of strategic significance for the island. The reform shall also include the preparation of an expert study, a digital platform for enabling urban land consolidation, and the preparation of urban land consolidation pilot master plans.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Investment 4 (C3.4I4): Enhancing e-system for issuing building permits

The objective of the investment is to increase the efficiency of building permit procedures.

The investment shall consist of (i) expanding the e-application environment of the existing Hippodamos IT system for planning and permitting, to enable all planning authorities and building authorities (municipalities) to submit applications for planning and building permits from a common platform; (ii) upgrading the Hippodamos system to enable applying, studying and issuing planning and building permits digitally; and (iii) upgrading or expanding other Hippodamos modules, such as construction contract management and administration.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2024.

#### Investment 5 (C3.4I5): Smart cities

The objective of the investment is to coordinate on-going smart cities initiatives into a nationwide implementation plan.

The investment shall consist in putting forward a Smart City National Master Plan, focussing on three priority smart solutions for municipalities: smart parking, smart lighting and smart waste collection management. The investment shall entail the design and implementation of the smart city infrastructure (central platform) as well as the design and implementation of the three priority smart solutions, including the installation of sensors. The investment is expected to include 30 municipalities. The central platform shall have the necessary flexibility for future additions of new smart cities solutions.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

### Investment 6 (C3.4I6): Regeneration and Revitalisation of Nicosia Inner City

The objective of the investment is to revitalise the Nicosia inner city by attracting young residents, new investments and fostering economic activity.

The investment shall consist of (i) the renovation of the Faneromeni School to be used as a department of the University of Cyprus; (ii) the purchase and renovation of buildings in the inner city to be transformed into student accommodation; and (iii) the introduction of private sector incentives to provide student accommodation in the area.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

### **Subcomponent 3.4.3: Efficient Justice System**

#### Reform 8 (C3.4R8): Efficiency of Justice

The objective of the reform is to reduce the high backlog of cases pending before the courts and to increase the overall efficiency and quality of the justice system.

The reform shall consist in preparing an action plan to eliminate the backlog of cases and appeals with specific annual targets and setting up a taskforce of judges, which is expected to coordinate the implementation of the action plan to reduce the backlog of pending cases. The action plan is expected to be completed by 31 December 2021. Pending cases shall be defined as cases pending for more than two years. On 31 December 2020 there were: 24 777 pending civil cases, 2 222 pending appeals of civil cases, and 475 pending appeals of administrative cases. The reform shall also consist in implementing the revised Rules of Civil Procedure, which were adopted by the Supreme Court on 19 May 2021 and which shall increase efficiency in the judicial proceedings including in adjudicating cases.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Reform 9 (C3.4R9): Digital transformation of courts

The objective of the reform is to address the inefficiencies of the justice system caused by the courts operating based on manual and paper-based systems. The digitalisation of the system shall streamline and expedite justice.

The reform shall consist in installing and operating (i) the i-justice system an interim solution to address the most pressing needs before the e-justice is available, (ii) an integrated e-justice system and (iii) digital audio recording in court proceedings. The e-justice system shall be accessible to courts, lawyers, citizens, the Law Office of the Republic and the Police. It shall introduce several functions such as digital case filing and payment, case categorisation, case searching, document production and management, tracking and monitoring systems to support the streaming of cases, monitoring compliance with orders and protocols, managing allocations of cases to hearing, decision execution and management, case closing and evidence management.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 March 2025.

### Investment 7 (C3.4I7): Training of judges

The objective of the investment is to address the low level of training and lifelong learning for judges.

The investment shall consist in training of judges on the revised Civil Procedure Rules and/or other judicial trainings on various legal topics and judicial skills organised by the Cyprus School for Judicial Training.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Investment 8 (C3.4I8): Upgrading the infrastructure of courts

The objective of the investment is to address inefficiencies of the justice system caused by inadequate court buildings, both in terms of quantity and quality.

The investment shall consist of the construction of an extension to the Famagusta District Court building.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2021.

### **Subcomponent 3.4.4: Fighting Corruption**

#### Reform 10 (C3.4R10): Improving the legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption

The objective of the reform is to achieve greater coherence in the fight against corruption by implementing the national horizontal action plan against corruption.

The reform shall consist of: (i) legislation to protect whistle-blowers, to enhance transparency in public decision-making processes and to prevent conflict of interest, (ii) establishment and operation of an independent authority against corruption, which shall coordinate the efforts of all bodies engaged in the fight against and prevention of corruption and shall supervise the timely implementation of actions by the different competent services (iii) anti-corruption public awareness and trainings and (iv) reinforcement of the Internal Audit Units in all the Ministries and the Internal Audit Service.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2024.

## **H.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support**

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
155	C3.4R1 Enhance the administrative capacity and improve the functioning of public administration for better policy making and implementation	Milestone	Action Plan on the efficient management of human resource issues in the national public administration	Adoption of the Action Plan by the Council of Ministers	-	-	-	Q1	2022	The Council of Ministers has adopted an Action Plan that shall include: - Guidelines, templates and implementation support by the Public Administration and Personnel Department (PAPD) to line ministries' administration in relation to human resource management issues such as re-organisation and re-structuring, simplification of procedures and workforce planning; - Implementation of a revised organisational structure of PAPD - Learning and Development Plan for PAPD staff; - Training Plan for line ministries' administration
156	C3.4R1 Enhance the administrative capacity and improve the functioning of public administration for better policy making and implementation	Milestone	New human resources management framework for Cyprus Police	Adoption by the Chief of Police and the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice and Public Order, and entry into force	-	-	-	Q4	2023	The new human resources management framework for Cyprus Police has entered into force and shall cover following areas: - Analysis and creation of job descriptions - Recruitment - Motivation - Training and Development - Compensation and Benefits - Labour and employee relations and communication - Management of retired members - Safety and Health - Human resource management strategy
157	C3.4R1 Enhance the	Milestone	Implementation of the Action	Final report approved by the	-	-	-	Q4	2025	The Action Plan has been implemented, including:



Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	administrative capacity and improve the functioning of public administration for better policy making and implementation		Plan on the efficient management of human resource issues in the national public administration	Council of Ministers on the implementation of the Action Plan						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Guidelines and manuals for line ministries' administration regarding recruitment procedures, disciplinary procedures, workforce planning, re-organisation and simplification of processes reviews</li> <li>- Legislative amendments where appropriate</li> <li>- Training of staff in line ministries' administration</li> </ul>
158	C3.4R2 Regulate flexible working arrangements in the public sector	Milestone	Decision on flexible working arrangements in the public sector	Decision by the Council of Ministers	-	-	-	Q1	2023	A study regarding flexible working arrangements in the public sector shall be conducted. The PAPD shall assess the study's recommendations considering appropriate safeguards aiming at improving the effectiveness of the public service. Following the assessment of the study's recommendations, a decision regarding their implementation shall be taken by the Council of Ministers.
159	C3.4R2 Regulate flexible working arrangements in the public sector	Milestone	Implementation of flexible working arrangements	Final report by the PAPD on implementation of the Council of Ministers Decision	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Implementation of the decision of the Council of Ministers, through, where relevant, amendment of law/regulations, communication of policies and trainings, on the basis of an action plan developed by the Public Administration Personnel Department.
160	C3.4R3 Introduce new framework for evaluation and selection process for	Milestone	Entry into force of legislation for the evaluation and selection process for public service	Provision in the relevant law(s) and regulations indicating their respective entry into force	-	-	-	Q4	2021	<p>The main elements shall be:</p> <p>(i) entry into force of a law providing for the evaluation and selection of candidates to fill the public service promotion posts, including managerial posts, with new criteria and methods based on objective assessment and merit, and amendment of the Public Service Law where deemed</p>

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	filling public service vacancies and new regulations for the evaluation of employees' performance		vacancies and regulations for employees' performance evaluation.							necessary, and (ii) entry into force of new regulations for implementing a new performance appraisal system for public employees, to be used for development and promotion purposes in order to make the performance appraisal procedure and the promotion mechanism more transparent, fair, skill-based and effective
161	C3.4R3 Introduce new framework for evaluation and selection process for filling public service vacancies and new regulations for the evaluation of employees' performance	Milestone	New framework for performance evaluation and filling of vacancies in the public service.	Entry into use of the new framework	-	-	-	Q1	2025	Civil servants' performance shall be evaluated and public service vacancies filled in accordance with the new legal framework, following its effective implementation including through training of relevant employees.
162	C3.4R4 Strengthen administrative capacity and transparency through the professionalisation of public procurement	Milestone	New integrated e-procurement system	First calls for tender have been launched under the new e-procurement system	-	-	-	Q4	2025	The new integrated e-procurement system shall be fully operational including all development, testing and training of users.  The main functionalities of the system shall be: - support the only once principle for submission of data by private users - statistical reporting - support the use of emerging technologies that may be used

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	and further digitalisation of its process									by both contracting authorities and economic operators in their administrative functionalities - Facilitate the administrative work of the contracting authorities - User-friendly interface to economic operators with emphasis on SMEs - Publication of open data regarding the public procurement procedures - Provide the contracting authorities and the decision-makers information regarding public procurement procedures, throughout the project life cycle.
163	C3.4R5 Enhancement of the capacity of the Law Office	Milestone	New IT system for the Law Office	Entry into service of the new IT system	-	-	-	Q4	2023	Full operationalisation of a Software-as-a-Service solution for the Law Office that shall have the following features: - creation of electronic case files and folders, - case management and monitoring, - internal communication and work flows, - tracking of cases, financial management and payments, - digitalisation of paper files. Training of users has been concluded.
164	C3.4I1 Rationalisation of the shift system through the implementation of a Roster Planning System	Milestone	Implementation of a new Roster Planning System in public sector organisations	Entry into service of the new Roster Planning System	-	-	-	Q2	2026	Completion of development and entry into use of the Roster Planning System. Main functionalities of the System shall be: - day-to-day administration and tactical planning tools, with automated shift planning and communication to the employees and managers; - workforce and shift management, with monitoring of labour costs, absences and overtimes.
165	C3.4I2 Digitalisation of the law-	Milestone	Implementation of the Cyprus Legislation	Entry into service of the new system	-	-	-	Q1	2025	Entry into operation of the Platform and completion of training for administrators and privileged users.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	making process		Preparation Platform							The fully functioning Legislation Preparation Platform shall enable: - drafting and management of bills through a web editor, with possibility to export in XML format at all stages of the law preparation process, - a central database to store and disseminate the legal texts as open data through Application Programming Interfaces, as well as in bulk; - a tool to consolidate laws and amendments.
166	C3.4I2 Digitalisation of the law-making process	Milestone	Digitalisation of laws & regulations in the new platform	Public announcement on the platform	-	-	-	Q4	2025	All past laws and regulations have been uploaded into the new platform, so that all legislation is available online on a governmental platform.
167	C3.4I3 Economic Policy Modelling Hub	Milestone	Setting up a Modelling Hub for Economic Policy Analysis	Entry into service of the Hub	-	-	-	Q4	2023	Full operationalisation and equipment of the Hub including appointment of the team of scientific staff. The team shall consist of experts on macroeconomic models, econometricians, data analytics experts and economists.
168	C3.4I3 Economic Policy Modelling Hub	Target	Number of developed impact assessment models and data analysis tools	-	Number	0	20	Q4	2025	Complete development of at least 20 macro-econometric impact assessment models and new data analytics tools for the Cyprus economy based on different methodologies shall be simulated, tested and applied for economic policy analysis and forecasting.
169	C3.4R6 New legal framework for Local Authorities and relevant support measures	Milestone	New legal framework on local authorities	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the legislation	-		-	Q2	2024	The intervention shall consist of the entry into force of three laws: Municipalities Law, Communities (Amending) Law and the Law on District Local Government Organisations).  The new legal framework shall entail: - Reduction in the number of municipalities - Creation of community clusters for the provision of services

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transfer of new competences and funds from central government to the municipalities</li> <li>- New system of financing of municipalities</li> <li>- Rules on legal supervision, transparency and accountability</li> <li>- Improvement of the efficiency of water supply, sewerage and solid waste management as well as permitting by creating five District Organisations for Local Administration.</li> </ul>
170	C3.4R6 New legal framework for Local Authorities and relevant support measures	Target	Number of local authority staff participating in capacity building	-	Number	0	500	Q4	2024	Completion of a series of thematic capacity building programmes for local administration, providing training to at least 500 participants (members and staff of local authorities).
171	C3.4R7 Urban land consolidation	Milestone	Entry into force of the law on urban land consolidation	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the law	-	-		Q3	2022	Entry into force of the law on urban land consolidation with the aim to reduce urban sprawl through rational utilisation of existing residential areas
172	C3.4R7 Urban land consolidation	Target	Number of master plans for urban planning in residential zones	-	Number	0	10	Q4	2025	Master plans for urban planning in residential zones have been drafted, published and approved for utilisation in selected areas or in areas of strategic significance. The master plans shall integrate and redistribute into land parcels segmented and inaccessible land (within the development limits of an area).
173	C3.4I4 Enhancing e-system for issuing	Milestone	Enhancement of the e-application environment of the Hippodamos	Applications being received through the enhanced e-	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Completion of the enhancement of the e-application environment of the existing Hippodamos system to enable the submission of applications for planning and building permits for all planning authorities and building authorities

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	building permits		System	application environment						(municipalities) from a common platform.
174	C3.4I4 Enhancing e-system for issuing building permits	Milestone	Enhancement of planning and control and project management functionalities of Hippodamos	Fully digital process for permit issuance and construction contract management	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Completion of the enhancement of the planning and control tool, project management tool and of the upgrade of the hardware and software of existing Hippodamos System to support the additional functionalities.
175	C3.4I5 Smart cities	Target	Installation of smart sensors in service as part of the smart cities initiative	-	Number	0	97 000	Q4	2024	Full operationalisation of at least 97 000 smart sensors as part of the smart cities initiative consisting of smart parking sensors, smart lighting sensors, and smart waste management sensors delivered and installed in municipalities and connected to the central smart cities platform.
176	C3.4I5 Smart cities	Target	Development of mobile applications developed as part of the smart cities initiative	-	Number	0	3	Q2	2026	Development of three mobile applications (for smart parking, smart lighting, smart waste management), which shall be available for download by users.
177	C3.4I6 Regeneration and Revitalisation of Nicosia Inner City	Target	Rooms renovated and converted to student dorms	-	Number	0	250	Q4	2024	At least 250 rooms in Nicosia's inner city have been renovated and converted to student dorms
178	C3.4I6 Regeneration and Revitalisation	Target	Rooms renovated and converted to student dorms	-	Number	250	560	Q2	2026	At least 560 rooms in Nicosia's inner city have been renovated and converted to student dorms

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	of Nicosia Inner City									
179	C3.4I6 Regeneration and Revitalisation of Nicosia Inner City	Milestone	Renovation of Faneromeni School	Completion of the renovation of Faneromeni school	-	-	-	Q2	2026	Faneromeni School has undergone extensive renovation and complete anti-seismic upgrade to house the School of Architecture of the University of Cyprus and is ready for use
180	C3.4R8 Efficiency of Justice	Milestone	Entry into force of new Rules of Civil Procedure	Provision in new Rules of Civil Procedure (published in the Official Gazette) indicating the entry into force of the Rules of procedures (1 September 2023)	-	-	-	Q3	2023	Implementation of the new Rules of Civil Procedure for the new cases submitted to the court as from 1 September 2023. The new Rules of Civil Procedure shall modernise the hearing of cases in order to deliver a less costly, more accessible and timelier service to parties.
181	C3.4R8 Efficiency of Justice	Target	Reducing the backlog of cases and appeals	-	% (Percentage)	0	20	Q2	2024	Reduction of the backlog of cases and appeals pending for over two years before the District Courts and the Supreme Court by 20% from the 31 December 2020 level, as verified by an Annual Progress Report of the Action Plan to reduce backlog.
182	C3.4R8 Efficiency of Justice	Target	Further reducing the backlog of cases and appeals	-	% (Percentage)	20	40	Q2	2026	Reduction of the backlog of cases and appeals pending for over two years before the District Courts and the Supreme Court by 40% from the 31 December 2020 level, as verified by an Annual Progress Report of the Action Plan to reduce backlog.
183	C3.4R9 Digital transformation	Milestone	e-justice system	Verification of the contract and acceptance of the	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Installation and full operation of the e-justice system and completion of on-site operational support of the i-justice system. Both systems shall be available through the court's

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	of courts			deliverables by the project teams for the two systems. Both systems available through the court's website						website.
184	C3.4R9 Digital transformation of courts	Milestone	Digital audio recording in court proceedings	Verification of the contract and acceptance of the deliverables by the project team for the system.	-	-	-	Q1	2025	Installation and full operation of digital audio recording in court proceedings.
185	C3.4I7 Training of judges	Target	Training of judges	-	Number	0	110	Q4	2025	At least 110 (out of 130) judges have completed trainings on the new Civil Procedure Rules and other judicial skills.
186	C3.4I8 Upgrading the infrastructure of courts	Milestone	Extension of the Famagusta District Court	Project management team certifies the completion of the construction.	-	-	-	Q4	2021	Completion of construction of the extension to the Famagusta District Court building to support the operation of new courtrooms to try in addition to criminal also civil cases.
187	C3.4R10 Improving the legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of the law establishing the Independent Authority against Corruption	Provision of the law indicating the entry into force of the law and start of operation of the Independent Authority against Corruption with key management	-	-	-	Q1	2022	The Independent Authority against Corruption has been established on the basis of the entry into force of the corresponding law and is operational. The Authority shall coordinate the efforts of all bodies engaged in the fight against and prevention of corruption and shall supervise the timely implementation of actions by the different competent services.



Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
				positions filled and staff recruited.						
188	C3.4R10 Improving the legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of the law on Transparency in Decision-Making and Related Matters	Provision of the law indicating the entry into force of the law	-	-	-	Q4	2021	Entry into force of the law on Transparency in Decision-Making and Related Matters, including provisions to prevent conflict of interest. The law shall create the obligation to publicise contacts made between persons interested in being involved in public decision-making procedures and officials or members of the State service or of the wider public sector or with employees for the benefit of officials who, by their very position, have competence or possibility of initiating such procedures or formulating their content or contributing or determining the final outcome of such procedures. Information on such a contact, as well as its content and purposes, shall be officially recorded and be publicly available.
189	C3.4R10 Improving the legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of the law to protect whistle-blowers	Provision of the law indicating the entry into force of the law	-	-	-	Q4	2021	Entry into force of a law to protect whistle-blowers reporting fraud and corruption from internal sanctions. The law shall include supplementary provisions on the protection of persons reporting acts of corruption both in the public and the private sectors (whistle-blowers, persons not involved in the acts), further to the protection already provided for in the Protection of Witnesses Law 95(I)/2001. The law shall also provide measures of leniency for those who are involved in acts of corruption, but voluntarily report to the police and/or offer cooperation with the authorities resulting in the full investigation and prosecution of the case.

### **H.3. Description of the reforms and investments for the loan**

#### **Investment 9 (C3.4I9): Aid Scheme for the private and public sector for certification with ISO 37001 (Anti Bribery)**

The objective of the investment is to contribute to the fight against corruption by introducing to the private and public sector the accreditation ISO 37001, which shall help in increasing transparency, stamping out bribes and creating an ethical business culture.

The investment shall consist of grant support to the private and public sector, including local governments, for consulting services and certification against bribery in accordance with the standard ISO 37001.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### H.4. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for the loan

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
190	C3.419 Aid Scheme for the private and public sector for certification with ISO 37001 (Anti Bribery)	Target	ISO 37001 anti-bribery management systems	-	Number	0	120	Q4	2025	At least 120 organisations are ISO accredited for the Standard “ISO 37001 ANTI-BRIBERY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS” due of the support granted

## **I. COMPONENT 3.5: SAFEGUARDING FISCAL AND FINANCIAL STABILITY**

This component of the Cypriot recovery and resilience plan addresses the challenges of fiscal and financial vulnerabilities, including macroeconomic imbalances related thereto. The aim is to safeguard financial stability by reducing legacy risks in the banking sector, putting in place measures against high private indebtedness, and improving supervision in the non-bank sector. To ensure fiscal stability, Cyprus aims at combating tax evasion, tax avoidance and aggressive tax planning; and providing policy makers with comprehensive data in order to design a fair tax system. The envisaged measures are expected to make revenue collection more efficient and Cyprus' tax system fairer, reducing the spill-over effects from aggressive tax planning.

The component supports addressing the Country-Specific Recommendations on financial stability and private indebtedness (Country-Specific Recommendations 2 and 5 of 2019), and on addressing features of the tax system that facilitate aggressive tax planning by individuals and multinationals (Country-Specific Recommendation 4 of 2020 and Country-Specific Recommendation 1 of 2019).

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

### **I.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

#### **Safeguarding financial stability**

##### **Reform 1 (C3.5R1): Legal Framework for crisis management for credit institutions**

The objective of the measure is to improve the resilience of the banking sector by introducing a framework for a coherent and concrete procedure for supporting credit institutions facing financial difficulties.

The reform shall consist in (i) reviewing and amending the national insolvency framework for credit institutions to increase its effectiveness and efficiency, in line with best European practices; and (ii) laying down a framework for precautionary recapitalisation of credit institutions and for government stabilisation tools for the purpose of participating in the resolution of a credit institution.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 September 2023.

##### **Reform 2 (C3.5R2): Framework and Action Plan for addressing non-performing loans**

The objective of the measure is to address financial risks related to legacy non-performing loans in the banking sector by continuing efforts to improve the asset quality of banks and strengthening the working environment for servicing of loans.

The reform shall consist in (i) implementing an action plan to address the remaining stock of legacy non-performing loans and (ii) adopting a package of three amending laws regarding credit acquiring companies and servicers (placing of loan servicers under regulation and supervision by the Central Bank; granting access for loan servicers and credit acquiring companies to the Land Registry; and aligning notification requirements in case of purchase of a loan by a credit acquiring company). A progress report on the action plan shall be prepared by 30 June 2023 and approved by the Council of Ministers, tracking the reduction of non-performing loans in the banking sector towards the

indicative reference values of 6% gross and 3% net non-performing loans ratio<sup>15</sup> and proposing policy measures where appropriate.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2023.

#### Reform 3 (C3.5R3): Strategy for addressing inadequacies of the property transaction system (title deeds)

The objective of the reform is to address inefficiencies in the system of issuing and transferring title deeds, which results in property rights not being defined, complicates foreclosure procedures and hinders the liquidation of collateral.

The reform shall consist in: (i) examination and issuance of title deeds for pending cases, (ii) extension of the new planning and building permit policy, currently up to two residential units, to four residential units in a plot, which shall reduce the time needed to issue building and spatial permits, (iii) review of the Streets and Buildings Regulation Law to introduce the right incentives for the supervising engineer to further discourage irregularities that would result in title deeds not being issued, (iv) amendment of the Sale of Property (Specific Performance) Law, which shall ensure in advance that the transfer of immovable property is executed as soon as the buyer fulfils his/her contractual obligations.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2023.

#### Reform 4 (C3.5R4): New legal framework and system of exchange of data and credit bureaus

The objective of the measure is to fight high private indebtedness by improving the assessment of credit risk for new lending through involvement of the credit registry, to enable the market to offer services such as credit scoring in full conformity with data protection rules.

The reform shall consist in amending the existing system for exchange of credit data, under which a private company owned by the Association of Cyprus Banks is the credit registry, so as to allow the provision of credit scoring services. The main elements of the amendment shall be to alleviate the legal uncertainty regarding the ownership of the system and the distinct roles of the credit registry and credit bureaus, to ensure continuation of the duty to collect data on credit facilities by credit institutions and to provide data from the Insolvency Department, and to define the terms and conditions of access to data and its protection.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2024.

#### Reform 5 (C3.5R5): Action plan for the development of a liability monitoring register

The objective of the measure is to improve the ability of the authorities to design and implement targeted policies to prevent and manage the stock of private debt. This shall be pursued by creating a liabilities monitoring register covering the amounts of all debts to all types of creditors.

The reform shall consist in implementing an action plan that shall involve the design and development of the credit liability register to generate credit scores for individuals and legal entities, the development of a credit rating system for individuals and legal entities, and the connection of the system with other credit rating agencies.

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<sup>15</sup> These reference values are based on the definition of non-performing loans as used in the “Monitoring Report on Risk Reduction Indicators” (November 2020), available at [https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/46978/joint-risk-reduction-monitoring-report-to-eg\\_november-2020\\_for-publication.pdf](https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/46978/joint-risk-reduction-monitoring-report-to-eg_november-2020_for-publication.pdf)

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2024.

#### Reform 6 (C3.5R6): Reinforcing and strengthening the insolvency framework

The objective of this reform is to strengthen the implementation of the insolvency framework, promote the use of insolvency schemes and tools, and ensure full and effective functioning of the Department of Insolvency.

The reform shall consist in (i) implementing the remaining measures and actions specified in the 2018 Action Plan that were not already implemented and (ii) setting-up digital systems necessary for improving the work of the Department of Insolvency and which promote the use of the insolvency tools. The Action Plan was approved by the Council of Ministers in 2018, and reflects the national policy for the field of insolvency. This reform shall include actions such as digitalisation of systems (enhancement of existing systems and introduction of new ones), training delivered to the staff of the Department of Insolvency, implementation of a Customer Service line and a web portal for customers, and full implementation of the regulatory framework for Insolvency Practitioners.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2025.

#### Reform 7 (C3.5R7): Strategy for Combating Financial Illiteracy

The objective of the measure is to promote financial literacy. It aims at enhancing financial education within the general population, improve financial decision making, correct wrong attitudes and biases, support more informed and financially responsible citizens and ultimately, help improve debt repayment discipline.

The reform shall consist in preparing a strategy for combating financial illiteracy by: (i) identifying the issues of financial illiteracy (ii) reviewing the international literature on the topic, and (iii) providing an action plan for implementation. The Strategy shall include concrete goals, measurable objectives, specify the channels for promoting financial literacy and include specific actions (both short-term and long terms measures) for implementation. The reform shall also include full implementation of the short-term measures of the strategy.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2023.

#### Reform 8 (C3.5R8): Enhancing supervision of Insurance and Pension Funds

The objective of the measure is to enhance the supervision of the insurance and pension funds.

The reform shall consist in (i) increasing the administrative capacity of the supervisory authorities, (ii) preparing and implementing the necessary tools for ensuring compliance with the regulatory frameworks conveyed to the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA) (such as the revised Institutions for Occupational Retirement Provision (IORP II) Directive) and (iii) undertaking specific supervisory actions according to plans as conveyed to EIOPA, for ensuring financial stability and for protecting the interests of pension funds members and insurance policy holders.

The Department of the Registrar of Occupational Retirement Benefit Funds (RORBF) supervising the pension sector, shall increase permanent staff by 13 persons. The Insurance Companies Control Service (ICCS) supervising the insurance sector shall increase its permanent personnel by three persons.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2023.

### Investment 1 (C3.5I1): Enhancement of the Supervisory Function of Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission

The objective of the measure is to enhance the supervisory capacity of Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission (CySec) through digitalisation – allowing for better supervision of transactions.

The investment shall consist in developing an advanced digital system, based on cloud architecture, covering the supervision needs of European Market Infrastructure Regulation (EMIR), the Securities Financing Transactions Regulation (SFTR) and the Markets in Financial Instruments Regulation (MiFIR). The new system shall support the following features: (i) connect to the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) hub; load and pre-process transaction data, (ii) aggregate and perform queries on data to generate regulatory insights (iii) generate on-schedule and ad-hoc reports.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2023.

### Safeguarding fiscal stability

#### Reform 9 (C3.5R9): Improving tax collection and effectiveness of the Tax Department

The objective of the measure is to make tax collection more efficient and effective, through a higher level of digitalisation and tax compliance, and improve customer service.

The reform shall consist in integrating different tax units, procedures and processes, so as to offer single point of taxpayer service, legislative changes and implementing a new IT system and digitising the Tax department. The latter shall include: (a) a single registration to the tax base and Taxisnet (for electronic submission of Income Tax Returns by Individuals, Legal Persons and Employers); (b) an integrated tax auditing process based on risk assessment; (c) an integrated refunds audit; (d) an integrated and enhanced single point of service, including the direct payment of VAT and connecting businesses to a server held within the Tax Department, without the use of specialised mechanisms; (e) a process to issue single tax clearances; (f) possibility for immediate adjustments of the system to accommodate any changes in the legislation and/or procedures and extension of secure interfaces with other information systems; (g) data analysis capabilities and (h) scanning and electronic storage of all taxpayer paper documents regarding the real estate (immovable property) and capital gains with relevant security, integrity and confidentiality parameters. The newly acquired building for the integrated Nicosia District Office and Large Taxpayers' Office shall enhance the efforts of integrating the district tax offices in the capital, from five different office-buildings at different locations deemed technologically unsuitable previously, and allow the provision of taxpayer services from one single location in Nicosia district. The legislative changes shall include: (a) a recently introduced legislation to implement the mandatory submission of tax returns by every natural person with income as defined in Article 5 of the Income Tax Law, regardless of the threshold starting from the tax year 2020 (subject to exceptions); and (b) criminalising the non-payment of income taxes.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Reform 10 (C3.5R10): Addressing Aggressive Tax Planning

The overall objective of the measures under the reform is to increase the effectiveness, efficiency and fairness of the tax system by combatting tax evasion and aggressive tax planning by Multinational Enterprises.

The measure shall consist in three different reform sub-measures.

The first reform sub-measure shall consist in imposing a withholding tax on outbound payments of interest, dividends and royalty payments and the introduction of a further corporate tax residency test based on the incorporation of each entity. A withholding tax shall be imposed to jurisdictions in Annex I of the EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions on tax matters, as a first step through enactment of the Law by 31 December 2021, providing for its entry into force by 31 December 2022.

The corporate tax residency test shall be additional to the management and control test. It shall be enacted by 31 December 2021, providing for its entry into force by 31 December 2022. The first test shall be the management and control and, in cases where a company is incorporated in Cyprus but its management and control is done from another jurisdiction, it shall be considered as a Cyprus tax resident and shall be taxed in accordance with the relevant provision of the Income Tax Law, provided that the company is not a tax resident elsewhere (to avoid dual residency status).

A second reform sub-measure shall consist in introducing a withholding tax on outbound payments of interest, dividends and royalty payments to low tax jurisdictions. In respect of interest and royalty payments, the Cypriot authorities may explore instead the approach of applying non-deductibility. Such legislative change shall enter into force by 31 December 2024.

As a third reform sub-measure, Cyprus shall assess the effectiveness of the overall set of measures related to aggressive tax planning, via an independent evaluation to be completed by 31 December 2024. This evaluation shall assess the Cyprus tax framework holistically including all measures adopted by then. The evaluation shall lead to policy action to be undertaken by Cyprus to address any shortcomings identified, including in the form of legislative changes, which shall enter into force by 30 June 2026.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 2 (C3.5I2): Modernisation of Customs and Electronic Payment System

The objective of the measure is to develop and implement the electronic systems envisaged under the Union Customs Code. The measure is expected to simplify and expedite customs formalities and reduce the administrative cost for all stakeholders and thus make revenue collection more efficient.

The investment shall consist in developing and putting into operation twelve systems, consisting in three different types: (i) the Declaration Systems (such as Manifest, Automated Import, Transit, Automated Export and Excise Movement Control System), which shall communicate with the Operational Components, the Management Components and External Interfaces using the Integration Layer; (ii) the Operational Systems, which shall consist of the Risk Analysis, Accounting, Audit, Tariff, Customs Warehouse, Case Management, Surveillance and Quota and (iii) the Management Systems, which shall consist of the Business Rule Management, Business Process Management, Reference Data Management, Internal IAM and Reporting.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.



## **I.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support**

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
191	C3.5R1 Completing the legal framework for Crisis Management for Credit Institutions	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendment of the national insolvency framework for credit institutions, and introduction of government tools for preservation of financial stability	Provision in the laws indicating their entry into force of the	-	-	-	Q3	2023	Entry into force of the following two legislative packages: (a) the 'Insolvency of Credit Institutions' law which shall introduce flexibility and necessary tools to competent authorities for the effective liquidation of insolvent credit institutions and (b) the Financial Stability Law and Financial Support under Resolution Law, which shall lay the framework for government intervention, in particular through precautionary recapitalisation of a credit institution and through government stabilisation tools for the purpose of participating in the resolution of an institution.
192	C3.5R2 Framework and Action Plan for addressing NPLs	Milestone	Entry into force of the package of amending laws regarding credit acquiring companies (CAC) and credit servicers to improve the working environment for non-performing loans management	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the respective laws	-	-	-	Q4	2021	Entry into force of the following three laws: (a) The Credit Facilities Purchase and Related Matters (Amending) Law of 2021, which shall put non-performing loan servicers under regulation and supervision by the Central Bank; (b) The Immovable Property (Transfer, Registration and Valuation) (Amending) Law of 2021, which shall give access for non-performing loan servicers and credit acquiring companies to the Land Registry (c) Evidence (Amending) Law 2020, which shall align notification requirements in case of purchase of a loan by a credit acquiring company.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
193	C3.5R3 Strategy for addressing inadequacies of the property transaction system (title deeds)	Target	Reduction of backlog of cases for issuance of title deed	-	% (Percentage)	0	80	Q2	2023	Reduction of backlog of unissued title deeds (the legal document constituting the evidence of a right to the ownership of a property). Title deeds for 1 050 developments are pending of issuance, corresponding to 20 000 title deeds. Of this total of 20 000 pending title deeds, 80% shall be issued.
194	C3.5R3 Strategy for addressing inadequacies of the property transaction system (title deeds)	Milestone	Extension of the New Planning and Building Permit Policy	Decree issued by the Minister of Interior	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Extension of the New Planning and Building Permit Policy for up to four residential units in residential plots. The Policy provides the possibility to submit applications electronically and introduces fixed deadlines to grant planning and building permits (ten to twenty days).
195	C3.5R3 Strategy for addressing inadequacies of the property transaction system (title deeds)	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendment of the Sale of Property (Specific Performance) Law	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the amended Sale of Property (Specific Performance) Law	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Entry into force of the amended Sale of Property (Specific Performance) Law to safeguard the buyers interests in advance. The amendment shall allow for transfer of Title Deeds, under full safety and legal certainty, while minimizing operational costs and delays through checks at a preliminary stage to identify specific obstacles to the transfer before the payment of the purchase price. The aim is to create a mechanism to safeguard the interests of the buyers of immovable property and ensure in advance that the transfer of immovable property shall be executed as soon as the buyer fulfils his/her contractual obligations.
196	C3.5R3 Strategy for addressing inadequacies of the property transaction system (title deeds)	Milestone	Review of the Streets and Building Regulation	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the amended	-	-	-	Q4	2023	Entry into force of the law amending the Streets and Building Regulation which shall introduce the right incentives for the supervising engineer to (i) oversee the project development in accordance with the permit issued, to further discourage irregularities that would result in title deeds not

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
				Streets and Building Regulation						being issued and (ii) submit to the competent authority a certificate confirming the completion of work in line with the permit issued.
197	C3.5R4 New legal framework and system of exchange of data and credit bureaus	Milestone	Entry into force of the framework and system of exchange of data and credit bureaus Law	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the law	-	-	-	Q1	2023	Entry into force of the law on the framework and system of exchange of data and credit bureaus, which shall eliminate impediments in the current framework so as to allow it to provide credit scoring services. The main elements of the amendment shall be to make the Central Bank of Cyprus the owner of the system, to introduce a duty to collect data for credit facilities by credit institutions and to provide Insolvency Department data, and to define the terms and conditions of access to data and its protection.
198	C3.5R4 New legal framework and system of exchange of data and credit bureaus	Milestone	Upgraded digital system of exchange of data and credit bureaus	Successful Production of Credit Scores	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Full implementation and entry into service of the upgraded digital system of exchange of data and credit bureaus in accordance with the law on the framework and system of exchange of data and credit bureaus, and start of provision of credit scores services.
199	C3.5R5 Action plan for the development of a liability monitoring register	Milestone	Action Plan for the development of a liability monitoring register	Approval of the Action Plan by the Council of Ministers	-	-	-	Q4	2022	The Action Plan shall put forward the necessary steps for introducing the liability monitor register that shall: - set-up an electronic database, collecting data on liabilities from various public and private creditors, such as the public credit registry - enable the design and implementation of targeted policies for preventing and managing private indebtedness.
200	C3.5R5 Action plan for the	Milestone	Action plan for the development	Confirmation by the	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Full implementation of Action Plan for the development of a liability monitoring register that

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	development of a liability monitoring register		of a liability monitoring register	Council of Ministers on the implementation of the Action plan						shall - set-up an electronic database, collecting data on liabilities from various public and private creditors, such as the public credit registry - enable the design and implementation of targeted policies for preventing and managing private indebtedness.
201	C3.5R6 Reinforcing and strengthening the insolvency framework	Milestone	Full implementation and full operation of the legal and institutional framework for insolvency	Appointment of staff confirmed by the Official Gazette. Council of Ministers' approval of the Progress Report	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Full implementation and full operation of the legal and institutional framework on insolvency through: (a) appointment of staff for all levels of the organisational structure of the Department of Insolvency, and delivery of trainings for the personnel, (b) establishment of a communication plan for promoting insolvency proceedings, (c) approval of a customer service line, (d) establishment of a framework for continuous professional development for insolvency Practitioners.
202	C3.5R6 Reinforcing and strengthening the insolvency framework	Milestone	Operation of all digital systems developed for the Department of Insolvency	Approval of the Progress Report by the Council of Ministers	-	-	-	Q2	2025	The new digital systems shall increase the relevance and efficiency of the existing operational and technical systems of the Department of Insolvency.
203	C3.5R7 Strategy for Combating Financial Illiteracy	Milestone	Strategy for Combating Financial Illiteracy	Approval of the Strategy for Combating Financial Illiteracy by the Council of Ministers	-	-	-	Q4	2023	The Strategy for Combating Financial Illiteracy shall include concrete goals, measurable objectives, specify the channels for promoting financial literacy and include specific actions for implementation (both short-term and long terms measures). The reform shall also include full implementation of the short-term measures of the strategy.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
204	C3.5R8 Enhancing supervision of Insurance and Pension Funds	Target	Strengthening the human resources of the Registrar of Occupational Retirement Benefits Fund (RORBF) and the Insurance Companies Control Service (ICCS)	-	Number	0	16	Q3	2022	Increase staff by thirteen employees for the Registrar of Occupational Retirement Benefit Funds (RORBF) and by three employees for the Insurance Companies Control Service (ICCS). This shall be a permanent increase in staff.
205	C3.5R8 Enhancing supervision of Insurance and Pension Funds	Milestone	Supervisory tools including data collection and analysis tool	Support tools for enhancing the supervision of pension funds and insurance companies	-	-	-	Q4	2023	Full implementation of tools (such as procedures, checklists, fitness and propriety applications) necessary for compliance with new legislation (providing for the establishment, activities and supervision of Institutions for Occupational Retirement Benefits Law of 2020 -L 10(I)/2020.
206	C3.5I1 Enhancement of the Supervisory Function of the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission	Milestone	Digital system for supervision of transactions for the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission	Project management committee verifies acceptance of deliverables in due time; and quality and	-	-	-	Q4	2023	Full implementation of a new digital system of supervision of transactions. The new digital system shall have the following features: - Loading and pre-processing of Transaction data. - Aggregations and queries on data to generate regulatory insights. - Generation of on-schedule and ad-hoc reports.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
				standards as specified in tender documents						
207	C3.5R9 Improving tax collection and effectiveness of the Tax Department	Milestone	Operation of VAT Services within an Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS)	Project Board Approval of the Project Deliverables for completion, installation and operation of a new integrated VAT System	-	-	-	Q1	2022	The Cyprus Tax Department (CTD) shall put into operation an Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS) that shall support the tax administration functionalities and processes. The functionalities related to the VAT Services shall be completed and operational within this system.
208	C3.5R9 Improving tax collection and effectiveness of the Tax Department	Milestone	Integration of operations of the direct tax administration department within the ITAS	Project Board approval of the System Deliverables for completion installation and operation of ITAS for direct taxes and go-live	-	-	-	Q2	2024	The tax administration services related to direct taxes of natural and legal persons (in addition to VAT) shall be operational within the ITAS.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
				acceptance report						
209	C3.5R10 Addressing Aggressive Tax Planning	Milestone	Entry into force of the law to tackle aggressive tax planning	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the law	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Entry into force of a law to tackle aggressive tax planning by (a) imposing a withholding tax on interest, dividends and royalty payments to jurisdictions included in Annex I of the Council conclusions on the revised EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes and (b) introduction of a further corporate tax residency test based on the incorporation of each entity.
210	C3.5R10 Addressing Aggressive Tax Planning	Milestone	Entry into force of the law to tackle aggressive tax planning via payments to low tax jurisdictions	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the law	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Entry into force of a law to tackle aggressive tax planning via payments to low tax jurisdictions by introducing a withholding tax on interest, dividends, and royalty payments to low tax jurisdictions. In respect of interest and royalty payments, the Cypriot authorities may explore instead the approach of applying non-deductibility.
211	C3.5R10 Addressing Aggressive Tax Planning	Milestone	Entry into force of legislative changes addressing the findings of an independent evaluation on the effectiveness of measures related to aggressive tax planning	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the law	-	-	-	Q2	2026	Cyprus shall assess the effectiveness of the overall set of measures related to aggressive tax planning, via an independent evaluation to be completed by 31 December 2024. This evaluation shall assess the Cyprus tax framework holistically including all measures adopted by then. The evaluation shall lead to policy action to be undertaken by Cyprus including in the form of legislative changes to address any shortcomings identified.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
212	C3.5I2 Modernisation of Customs and Electronic Payment System	Target	Putting into operation the information systems– envisaged under the Union Customs Code (UCC)	-	Number	0	2	Q4	2023	At least two of the following import-related information systems have been completed, installed and put into operation: 1. Automated Export System 2. New Computerised Transit System 3. EU Single Window 4. Union Customs Code 5. Guarantee Management 6. Union Customs Code 7. SURVEILLANCE 3 8. Union Customs Code - Import Control System 2 9. Import Applications under the Union Customs Code 10. Customs Union Performance – Management Information System 11. Union Customs Code Proof of Union Status 12. Uniform User Management and Digital Signature
213	C3.5I2 Modernisation of Customs and Electronic Payment System	Target	Putting into operation of the information systems envisaged under the UCC	-	Number	2	12	Q4	2025	The 12 information systems have been completed, installed and put into operation



## **J. COMPONENT 4.1: Upgrade infrastructure for connectivity**

This component of the Cypriot recovery and resilience plan contributes to addressing infrastructure challenges in the area of data connectivity, in particular in rural areas, with a view to narrowing the rural-urban divide, as well as differences along gender, age, income and education.

The objective of the component is to enhance access to communication infrastructure for all citizens, thus bridging the digital divide and supporting an inclusive digital transformation.

The component addresses the country-specific recommendation on investment in the digital transition and the digitalisation (Country-Specific Recommendation 4 of 2019 and Country-Specific Recommendation 3 of 2020).

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

### **J.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

#### **Reform 1 (C4.1R1): Empower the National Regulatory Authority (OCECPR)**

The objective of the measure is to facilitate and accelerate investments in Very High Capacity Networks (VHCN) in underserved areas by providing stakeholders with the relevant information to improve transparency and enhance the incentives for market operators to invest faster in VHCN, thereby increasing connectivity in Cyprus.

The reform consists in providing the proper tools, through the adoption of secondary legislation, to the Office of the Commissioner of Electronic Communications and Postal Regulation (OCECPR) to launch a survey in order to collect geographical data on electronic communication networks. The data shall then be accessible through a web portal providing detailed information regarding network roll-out in areas where it is needed. This is expected to help bridge the gap with private investments for VHCN.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2024.

#### **Reform 2 (C4.1R2): Empower the National Broadband Competence Office (DEC of the DMRIDP)**

The objective of the measure is to facilitate the build-up of VHCN infrastructure by simplifying the necessary administrative procedures for its deployment while implementing the Connectivity Toolbox Recommendation (set of best practices for reducing the cost of deploying electronic communications networks and for efficient access to 5G radio spectrum).

The reform consists in identifying the administrative bottlenecks and barriers to the rapid deployment of VHCN and possible measures to address them. It shall be followed-up by the entry into force of legislation to effectively address such bottlenecks and barriers.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2024.

#### **Investment 1 (C4.1I1): Expansion of Very High-Capacity Networks in underserved areas**

The objective of the measure is to improve connectivity with VHCN (such as fibre and 5G), by supporting the build-up of VHCN in areas of no private interest and thereby addressing territorial disparities of broadband availability.

The investment consists in organising public tenders through an open tender procedure addressed to telecom operators to select contractors that shall undertake the design, construction and operation of the network, as well as part of the financing. The geographical territory of the Republic of Cyprus which is under the control of the Government of Cyprus is expected to be divided into three lots. The maximum amount of public financial contribution shall be set separately for each lot, and award criteria are expected to include the requested public support as well as the price offered to end-users and to other retail operators. Wholesale obligations shall be imposed to the contractors.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### Investment 2 (C4.1I2): Enhance building cabling to be “Gigabit-ready” and promote connectivity take-up

The objectives of the measure are to encourage the digital transition through support of widespread take-up of VHCN.

The investment consists in the implementation of a demand subsidy (voucher) scheme, addressed exclusively to physical persons (i.e. excluding enterprises), encouraging them to proceed with the construction of their building internal cabling, to be ready for connection to a VHCN passing close to their premises. It applies to single tenant units, as well as apartments in multi-dwelling buildings with no internal cabling capable of supporting very high capacity services. The voucher value per premise shall be fixed. End-users shall be able to select an installer of their choice to perform the works. After the completion of works, installers shall upload in the IT system the “Gigabit-ready” certificate for the building, along with the acceptance form signed by the owner/tenant who issued the voucher, thus triggering redemption of the voucher.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2025.

#### Investment 3 (C4.1I3): Submarine link to Greece

The objective of the measure is to create high-capacity resilient backbone internet connectivity for Cyprus through a new submarine link for data connectivity between Cyprus and Greece.

The investment consists in the installation of new submarine cables to connect Cyprus with the Greek subsystem, through which Cyprus shall have access to some of the region’s most important internet exchanges (Athens, Sofia and Chania). The deployment of a new separate backbone route between Cyprus and Greece shall strategically support connectivity in the island. It is also expected to have a positive impact on the available capacity and the commercial offers of backbone connectivity needed to provide very-high-speed services to end-users. Furthermore, it shall offer significantly higher performance (in terms of resilience, security, redundancy and latency) compared to existing dated cables. The investment is to be carried out by a contractor to be selected in an open tender procedure. The selection criteria are expected to include the total capacity (such as in terms of fibres/wavelengths/capacity) to be provided, the commercial price to be offered to operators/customers of the cable system, as well as the requested amount of public support.

It is expected that this measure does not do significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measure and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01). In particular, the mitigating measures targeting the conservation of the marine environment shall be duly respected during the implementation of the project as set out in the Environmental Impact Assessment and the building permit. Any measures identified in the framework of the EIA and the assessment under Directive 2000/60/EC as necessary to ensure compliance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) shall be integrated into

the project and complied with at the stages of construction, operation and decommissioning of the infrastructure.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

## **J.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support**

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
214	C4.1R1 Empower the National Regulatory Authority (OCECP R)	Milestone	Launch of the geographical survey and entry into force of secondary legislation	Entry into force of the secondary legislation and launch of the survey	-	-	-	Q1	2022	The secondary legislation shall enter into force and cover the main aspects related to the survey such as the type, the degree of analysis and the form of the required information, as well as the persons from whom the required information is requested. Launch of the geographical survey of the reach of electronic networks capable of delivering broadband networks and physical infrastructures based on Article 22 of the European Electronic Communications Code.
215	C4.1R1 Empower the National Regulatory Authority (OCECP R)	Milestone	The web portal on broadband and infrastructure mapping is operational and accessible to the target audience	The web portal on broadband and infrastructure mapping is accessible	-	-	-	Q4	2024	The web portal on broadband and infrastructure mapping is completed, tested, operational and accessible to the target audience (such as the Office of the Commissioner for Electronic Communications and Postal Regulation, Public Authorities, Electronic Communication Network Operators and end-users).
216	C4.1R2 Empower the National Broadband Competence	Milestone	Entry into force of the administrative acts for very high capacity networks' deployment	Provision in the administrative acts indicating the entry into force of the respective acts	-	-	-	Q2	2024	Entry into force of the administrative acts that shall effectively streamline and reduce administrative barriers (such as shortening permit granting procedures and lowering fees as well as facilitating access to physical infrastructure) for the deployment of very high capacity networks in line with the Connectivity Toolbox Recommendation (including a set of best practices for reducing the cost of deploying

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Office (DEC of the DMRID P)									electronic communications networks and for efficient access to 5G radio spectrum).
217	C4.1I1 Expansion of Very High Capacity Networks in underserved areas	Milestone	Start of very high capacity networks' deployment in underserved areas	Signed contracts with contractors to deploy very high capacity networks in areas of no interest to private very high capacity network investors	-	-	-	Q4	2023	Contracts have been signed with contractors, which shall have been selected through an open tender procedure, to deploy very high capacity networks (in particular, fixed and mobile (5G) networks offering a download speed of at least 100Mbps, which shall be readily upgradable to Gigabit for fixed access) in areas of no interest to private very high capacity network investors.
218	C4.1I1 Expansion of Very High Capacity Networks in underserved areas	Target	Expansion of very high capacity networks' deployment in underserved areas	-	Number	0	10 000	Q4	2024	At least 10 000 premises in areas of no interest to private very high capacity network investors are covered by very high capacity networks with fixed or mobile (5G) network, offering a download speed of at least 100Mbps, which shall be readily upgradable to Gigabit (for fixed networks).
219	C4.1I1 Expansion of Very High Capacity	Target	Completion of very high capacity networks' deployment in	-	Number	10 000	44 000	Q4	2025	At least 44 000 premises in areas of no interest to private very high capacity network investors are covered by very high capacity networks with fixed or mobile (5G) network, offering a download speed of at least 100Mbps, which shall be readily upgradable to

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Networks in underserved areas		underserved areas							Gigabit (for fixed networks).
220	C4.112 Enhance building cabling to be “Gigabit-ready” and promote connectivity take-up	Target	Expansion of intra-building Gigabit-ready cabling	-	Number	0	24 300	Q2	2023	Intra-building cabling has been upgraded to be able to support provision of Gigabit connection in at least 24 300 homes.
221	C4.112 Enhance building cabling to be “Gigabit-ready” and promote connectivity take-up	Target	Completion of intra-building Gigabit-ready cabling	-	Number	24 300	82 000	Q2	2025	Intra-building cabling has been upgraded to be able to support provision of gigabit connection in at least 82 000 homes.
222	C4.113 Submarine link to	Milestone	Signature of the contract for the design,	Signature of the contract	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Signature of the contract with the company that shall undertake the design, construction and operation of the submarine cables following the conclusion of an

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Greece		construction and operation of the submarine cables							open tender procedure.
223	C4.1I3 Submarine link to Greece	Target	Completion of the construction of the submarine internet cables	Completion of the construction; service availability	Km	0	700	Q2	2026	Completion of the construction of 700km of submarine internet cables for connectivity to Greece from Yeroskipou to Crete since 2020. The cables are operational.

## **K. COMPONENT 4.2: PROMOTE E-GOVERNMENT**

This component of the Cypriot recovery and resilience plan contributes to accelerating the digital transformation of Cyprus through the digitalisation of government services enhancing the efficiency and the provision of online, secure and prompt services to citizens, in a user friendly, efficient and effective way. This is expected to facilitate the interaction between citizens and the public services, without the need for physical presence.

The objective of the component is to build a secured, integrated and modern digital architecture to achieve the transformation to a digital government.

The component addresses the country-specific recommendation on investment in the digital transition and the digitalisation (Country-Specific Recommendation 4 of 2019 and Country-Specific Recommendation 3 of 2020).

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

### **K.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

#### **Reform 1 (C4.2R1): Digital Services Factory (DSF)**

The objective of the measure is to build a new Service Delivery Model for the development of end-to-end quality digital services to the public, in a user-friendly, efficient and effective way that shall ultimately facilitate the interaction with public services, without the need for physical presence.

The reform shall consist in designing and developing this new delivery model, the DSF. First, the project shall (i) set up the core team of the DSF (comprised of experts of different specialties with the appropriate skills and qualifications), (ii) define the standards and procedures for the development of digital services, and (iii) build and develop a number of digital services. Second, using the methodologies defined, digital services shall be developed in an industrialised fashion, in cooperation with the private sector. Services shall be provided securely to citizens through a single government website portal Gov.Cy. Single sign-on and digital identity are expected to be the basic key enablers for the secure provision of eServices. Furthermore, existing common mechanisms like ‘ePayment’ offering several methods of payments (such as visa, instant payments and direct banking) and ‘notification’ (such as SMS, email) are expected to be utilised.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### **Reform 2 (C4.2R2): Definition and implementation of a new cloud policy with regard to government IT systems and services**

The objective of the measure is to elaborate the cloud policy of the government, notably the data classification, data residency, the hosting and operation of the government IT systems either in a public cloud or in a government private cloud (G-Cloud) environment.

The reform shall consist in setting up the G-Cloud to host the IT systems and digital services of certain government departments / ministries (such as the registrar of companies system, the customs system and the tax department system). Two local data centres shall be acquired through rental, while consultancy services as well as training shall be acquired for the development of the G-Cloud. A tender for the development and operation of the G-Cloud environment is also expected to be issued.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.



### Reform 3 (C4.2R3): Police procedures digitalisation (“Digipol”)

The objective of the measure is to eliminate the use of paper procedures and physical presence of the citizens by moving to digitalised procedures for the Cyprus Police Force. This is expected to be beneficial for both citizens and police officers as procedures shall be simplified and efficient.

The reform shall consist in the creation of a new platform (Digipol) of demands for police procedures and services for citizens to achieve remote communications. Both citizens and police officers will make use of it. To maximise the uptake, trainings (such as online courses, videos, step-by-step guides) for police officers as well as for citizens shall be organised to help transitioning to online services.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 September 2025.

### Reform 4 (C4.2R4): Setting up the beneficial ownership registry

The objective of the measure is to set up the register for the submission of the data of beneficial owners of all corporate and other legal entities. Such registration shall improve corporate trust and transparency in Cyprus by making it clear who ultimately owns and controls companies and other legal entities.

The reform shall consist in setting up the register. Currently, an online platform has been developed as an interim solution but its functionalities are limited. The reform shall result in a solution with all necessary functionalities to support the maintenance of the register and management of relevant information (such as sending out notifications for updating, enforcement of late filing fees, search facilities with prescribed levels of access). This is expected to support the registration of the data of beneficial owners of all corporate and other legal entities and achieve interconnection with the beneficial ownership registers of other Member States.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2023.

### Investment 1 (C4.2I1): Digitalisation in various central government ministries/services

The objective of the measure is to digitalise key workflows in a number of ministries and central government services, to improve efficiency in the delivery of government services, simplify compliance with government regulations, strengthen citizen participation and trust in government, and yield cost savings.

The investment shall consist in digitalisation in the following ministries, deputy Ministries or services of the government: (i) Road Transport Department of the Ministry of Transport, Communication and Works, (ii) Deputy Ministry of Shipping, (iii) Ministry of Foreign Affairs, (iv) Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development and (v) Department of Town Planning and Housing of the Ministry of Interior (for Architectural Heritage). Digitalisation of the Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development shall include development of a transitory repository system and of a final dedicated Monitoring Information System for recording and storing the relevant data related to the implementation of the recovery and resilience plan (in particular on the achievement of milestones and targets, data on final recipients, contractors, subcontractors and beneficial owners).

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

### Investment 2 (C4.2I2): Digitalisation of the Cyprus Ports Authority

The objective of the measure is to digitalise key processes in the Cyprus Ports Authority (CPA) to improve their efficiency and effectiveness, including communications between vessels and the relevant authorities and improvements to monitoring vessel traffic in Cyprus waters. The latter is to ensure the safe navigation of vessels, reduce the risk of environmental damages due to spills from accidents and reduce vessel emissions by plotting more efficient routes.

The investment shall consist of (i) several upgrades to the CPA's network infrastructure, hardware and software, and server capacity; (ii) incorporation of new Management Systems to automate procedures; (iii) overhaul of the existing Port Community System to increase the efficiency of the maritime transport sector and to reduce administrative burdens; and (iv) installation of Vessel Traffic Control Stations at the Ports of Larnaca and Vassiliko (in addition to the existing one in Limassol port).

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

## **K.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support**

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Timeline for completion (indicate the quarter and the year)		Description and clear definition of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
224	C4.2R1 Digital Services Factory	Milestone	Definition of the Service Delivery Model for the Digital Services Factory	Appointment decision of the Deputy Minister of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy establishing the team; publication of the standards on the website of the Deputy Ministry	-	-	-	Q4	2022	The Service Delivery Model for the Digital Services Factory has been defined so as to enable the efficient provision of high-quality and user-friendly digital services to the public. This shall include: (a) the establishment of the core Digital Services Factory team (including the procurement of services of experts from the private sector), and (b) definition of the standards and procedures for the development of digital services.
225	C4.2R1 Digital Services Factory	Target	Expansion of delivery of government services online through the Digital Services Factory	-	Number	0	45	Q4	2023	Digitalisation and delivery online of at least 45 previously non-digital services to the public through the Digital Services Factory, using the defined Service Delivery Model (under milestone with a sequential number 224) and agile methodologies.
226	C4.2R1 Digital Services Factory	Target	Delivery online of at least 150 previously non-digital services to the public	-	Number	45	150	Q2	2026	Digitalisation and delivery online of at least 150 previously non-digital services to the public through the Digital Services Factory, using the defined Service Delivery Model (under milestone with a sequential number 224) and agile methodologies.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Timeline for completion (indicate the quarter and the year)		Description and clear definition of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
			through the Digital Services Factory							
227	C4.2R2 Definition and implementation of a new cloud policy with regard to government IT systems and services	Milestone	The government cloud (G-cloud) is operational	Services migrated to G-cloud	-	-	-	Q4	2022	G-cloud is operational, providing cloud services for data storage to at least the Registrar of Companies, the Digital Services Factory, and the customs system. These three services have been migrated to the G-cloud and are no longer using the old IT system.
228	C4.2R2 Definition and implementation of a new cloud policy with regard to government	Target	Data centres operational and offering cloud services	-	Number	0	2	Q4	2025	Two new data centres shall be fully operational, including the premises, hardware and software, and offer cloud services.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Timeline for completion (indicate the quarter and the year)		Description and clear definition of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	nt IT systems and services									
229	C4.2R3 Police Procedures digitalisation Digipol	Milestone	Digipol operational on a pilot basis	Declaration by the Cyprus Police confirming that the new platform (Digipol) is operational	-	-	-	Q2	2023	The new platform (Digipol) is operational on a pilot basis. Police users have access to the Digipol pilot for the services addressed to the police officers.
230	C4.2R3 Police Procedures digitalisation Digipol	Target	Citizens use Digipol	-	Number	0	500	Q3	2025	Digipol shall be accessible online through the Cyprus Police ICT infrastructure. At least 500 citizens have used one or more of the services available on the Digipol platform for citizens.
231	C4.2R4 Setting up the beneficial ownership registry	Milestone	Beneficial ownership registry available for use	Beneficial ownership registry publicly available online at national and European Level	-	-	-	Q4	2023	The beneficial ownership registry shall be deployed and become available for use at national level and European level, enabling users to check the ultimate beneficial ownership information of legal entities and to achieve interconnection of the beneficiary ownership registers with other Member States.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Timeline for completion (indicate the quarter and the year)		Description and clear definition of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
232	C4.2I1 Digitalisation in various Central Government Ministries - Services	Milestone	Repository system for audit and control: information for monitoring implementation of RRF	An audit report confirming repository system functionalities	-	-	-	Q1	2022	A repository system for monitoring the implementation of the RRF shall be in place and operational. The system shall include, as a minimum, the following functionalities: (1) collection of data and monitoring of the achievement of milestones and targets; (2) collect, store and ensure access to the data required by Article 22(2)(d) (i) to (iii) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241.
233	C4.2I1 Digitalisation in various Central Government Ministries - Services	Target	Start of the digital upgrade of a number of central government ministries and departments	-	Number	0	4	Q1	2022	The contracts with providers selected through public procurement procedures have been signed to digitalise/digitally upgrade at least four of the following central government ministries/departments: 1. Road Transport Department of the Ministry of Transport, Communication and Works, 2. Deputy Ministry of Shipping. 3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs 4. Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development 5. Department of Town Planning and Housing of the Ministry of Interior (for Architectural Heritage).
234	C4.2I1 Digitalisation in various Central Government Ministries	Target	Advancement of the digital upgrade of a number of central government ministries	-	Number	0	4	Q4	2023	Development completed and systems put into operation for four government ministries/departments from the list in target with sequential number 233.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Timeline for completion (indicate the quarter and the year)		Description and clear definition of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	- Services		and departments							
235	C4.2I1 Digitalisation in various Central Government Ministries - Services	Target	Finalisation of the digital upgrade of a number of central government ministries and departments	-	Number	4	5	Q4	2025	Development completed and systems put in operation for all five government ministries/departments from the list in target with sequential number 233.
236	C4.2I2 Digitalisation of the Cyprus Ports Authority	Target	Start of the digital upgrade of the Cyprus Ports Authority	-	Number	0	4	Q2	2023	<p>The contracts with providers selected through a public procurement procedure have been signed to develop/upgrade at least four of the following seven systems for the Cyprus Ports Authority:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Upgrade of the Port Community System;</li> <li>2. Installation of VTS Station;</li> <li>3. Digitisation of CPA archives;</li> <li>4. Upgrade of IT infrastructure (such as network, switches);</li> <li>5. Update IS systems;</li> <li>6. Installation of an HR Management System;</li> <li>7. Upgrade CPA Servers;</li> </ol> <p>and to develop the following e-services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• administrative and reporting formalities between ships</li> </ul>

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Timeline for completion (indicate the quarter and the year)		Description and clear definition of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										arriving and/or departing from the Republic of Cyprus; • monitoring and safety of navigation to and from the ports of Larnaca and Vasiliko.
237	C4.2I2 Digitalisation of the Cyprus Ports Authority	Target	Advancement of the digital upgrade of the Cyprus Ports Authority	-	Number	0	4	Q4	2024	Finalisation and installation of at least four of the systems from the list in target with sequential number 236 for all relevant ports.
238	C4.2I2 Digitalisation of the Cyprus Ports Authority	Target	Finalisation of the digital upgrade of the Cyprus Ports Authority	-	Number	4	7	Q4	2025	All of the seven systems from the list in target with sequential number 236 for all relevant ports are installed and operational, with all hardware/equipment installed and set up.



## **L. COMPONENT 5.1: EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM MODERNISATION, UPSKILLING AND RETRAINING**

This component of the Cypriot Recovery and Resilience plan addresses the challenges of low participation in vocational education and training (VET) and lifelong learning, rising skills mismatches (particularly among young graduates) and poor digital skills. It further addresses the quality of teaching and the availability and affordability of early childhood education and care (ECEC) for children aged four years old. Its objective is to (i) improve the quality and effectiveness of education and training at all levels, (ii) foster the uptake of labour market-relevant reskilling and upskilling opportunities, in particular regarding the twin transitions, across society regardless of employment status, skills level or age, and (iii) modernise the school structures making them fit for the digital transition.

The reforms and investments included in the component address the country-specific recommendations on education and skills (country-specific recommendation 2 2020 and country-specific recommendation 3 2019), early childhood education and care (country-specific recommendation 3 2019) as well as on digital skills (country-specific recommendation 4 2019 and country-specific recommendation 3 2020).

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

### **L.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

#### **Reform 1 (C5.1R1): Addressing skills mismatch between education and labour market (Secondary and Higher Education)**

The objective of the reform is to address the skills mismatch between the labour market and the secondary and higher education system.

For this purpose, key initiatives of the National Action Plan shall be implemented including the introduction of (i) a higher education graduate tracking system, (ii) a reform of secondary schools' educational curricula to improve soft and entrepreneurial skills, (iii) an in-job shadowing programme for secondary general education pupils, and (iv) new programmes of study in secondary general as well as vocational education and training tailored to labour market needs. It shall further entail the provision of high-quality training to secondary education teaching staff in close collaboration with labour market experts as well as the upgrading of school laboratories with the latest technology and equipment.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

#### **Reform 2 (C5.1R2): A new teacher and school evaluation system**

The aim of the reform is to improve the quality of education and consequently students' educational outcomes.

This reform shall modernise and update the current teachers and schools evaluation system by developing a single evaluation scheme for primary, secondary and technical and vocational education with differentiated elements. This contemporary evaluation system of schools and teachers shall incorporate the training of teachers and evaluators.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

### Reform 3 (C5.1R3): Extension of free compulsory pre-primary education from the age of four

The objective of this reform is to enhance the availability and affordability of early childhood education and care (ECEC) promoting the (re-)entry of people with childcare responsibilities, mostly women, into the labour market as well as children's educational outcomes and social inclusion.

It shall include the gradual eight-month extension of the entry age in free compulsory pre-primary education (from children aged four years and eight months and over, to children aged four years and over). The measure shall be accompanied by the provision of a grant to cover tuition fees in community or private kindergartens for children that cannot be enrolled in public kindergartens due to capacity constraints.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

### Reform 4 (C5.1R4): Digital transformation of school units with the aim of enhancing digital skills and skills related to STEM education

The aim of the reform is to support the digital transition of the education system.

This measure shall entail the modernisation of educational structures through the development of e-classes and the equipment of classrooms with digital tools, the transformation of curricula and educational material to enhance digital skills and STEM methodology, as well as the relieving of costs for the purchase of digital equipment (laptops/tablets) for students from low socio-economic background. It shall further include the provision of digital skills and STEM methodology training to at least 675 (out of which 300 primary, 300 secondary general and 75 secondary vocational teachers) teachers per year for 5 years (in total at least 3 375 teachers which accounts for around 32% of all teachers (primary and secondary)).

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

### Reform 5 (C5.1R5): E-skills Action Plan – Implementation of specific actions

This measure aims at enhancing digital competences across all population groups.

It shall include the (i) development of an e-skills policy framework and action plan, (ii) the design and delivery of targeted programmes for public sector professionals promoting cross-sectoral competencies, as well as (iii) the design of reskilling/upskilling interventions enhancing the digital literacy of the workforce in the private sector and unemployed persons, with a special focus on women and vulnerable groups. Furthermore, this measure shall entail a communication strategy to promote lifelong learning and a digital culture in Cyprus, investments in digital infrastructure to support digital learning and the development of an e-learning platform with key content material on digital skills and cross-sectoral competences accessible to all target groups.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

### Investment 1(C5.1I1): Construction of two Model Technical Schools

The objective of the investment is to provide students and educators with a modern well-equipped environment for learning increasing the capacity, quality and attractiveness of vocational education and training (VET) in Cyprus.

This measure shall comprise of the construction of two new technical schools, one in Limassol (in replacement of current A' Technical School) and one in Larnaca (in replacement of Agios Lazaros Technical School).

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 2 (C5.1I2): Skilling, Reskilling and Upskilling

The aim of this investment is to strengthen the digital skills of the population in line with the e-skills action plan, to enhance the knowledge and skills of persons in green and blue sectors of the economy and to promote entrepreneurship competences.

The measure shall include the delivery of trainings for the strengthening of digital, green and blue skills for all, entrepreneurship trainings for the unemployed, with a special emphasis on women and vulnerable groups, as well as trainings in digital skills for people over the age of 55.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

## L.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
239	C5.1R1 Addressing skills mismatch between education and labour market (Secondary and Higher Education)	Milestone	Implementation of key measures from the National Action Plan	Publication of reports and communication by competent authorities	-	-	-	Q4	2024	Full implementation of key measures from the National Action Plan, including at least: (a) report on the preliminary results of "Graduate Tracking of Cyprus Higher Education" survey is published; (b) 320 of the secondary schools' educational curricula are reformed to improve digital literacy, emotional intelligence, soft skills and entrepreneurship skills; and (c) two new programmes of study are developed.
240	C5.1R1 Addressing skills mismatch between education and labour market (Secondary and Higher Education)	Target	Secondary education teaching staff trained	-	Number	0	3 100	Q4	2025	At least 3 100 secondary education teaching staff are trained in the reformed educational curricula.
241	C5.1R2 A new teacher and school evaluation system	Milestone	Entry into force of the law for establishing a new Teacher and School Evaluation	Provision in the law(s) indicating the entry into force of the law(s)	-	-	-	Q4	2023	Entry into force of the law for establishing a new Teacher and School Evaluation mechanism, which shall stipulate that the new mechanism applies at the latest from the school year 2024/2025.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
			mechanism							
242	C5.1R2 A new teacher and school evaluation system	Target	Training of teaching staff	-	Number	0	1 100	Q4	2025	At least 1 100 teaching staff (teachers, deputy heads and school heads) have been trained for the new Teachers and School Evaluation system.
243	C5.1R3 Extension of free compulsory pre-primary education from the age of four	Milestone	Entry into force of the new Law regarding extension of free compulsory pre-primary education from the age of four years and adoption of grant scheme by the Council of Ministers	Provision in the law(s) indicating the entry into force of the law(s)	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Entry into force of the Law which shall extend the free compulsory pre-primary education from the age of four years and the adoption of the grant scheme to cover tuition fees in community or private kindergartens for children that cannot be enrolled in public kindergartens by the Council of Ministers.
244	C5.1R3 Extension of free compulsory pre-primary	Target	Children benefitting from tuition fees support	-	Number	0	2 500	Q4	2024	Providing tuition fee support for the free compulsory pre-primary education of at least 2 500 children from the age of four in community and private kindergartens.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	education from the age of four									
245	C5.1R3 Extension of free compulsory pre-primary education from the age of four	Target	Children benefitting from tuition fee support	-	Number	2500	7 425	Q2	2026	Providing tuition fee support for the free compulsory pre-primary education of at least 7 425 children from the age of four in community and private kindergartens.
246	C5.1R4 Digital transformation of school units with the aim of enhancing digital skills and skills related to STEM education	Target	Classrooms digitally equipped	-	Number	0	700	Q2	2023	Classrooms in at least 700 schools have been digitally equipped with laptops, projectors, microphones, speakers, digital graphic boards.
247	C5.1R4 Digital transformation of school units with the aim of enhancing digital skills	Target	Curriculum transformation and production of educational material for digital	-	Number	0	120	Q4	2024	Curriculum transformation and production of educational material for digital skills and STEM methodology for 120 school subjects.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	and skills related to STEM education		skills and STEM methodology							
248	C5.1R4 Digital transformation of school units with the aim of enhancing digital skills and skills related to STEM education	Target	Teachers benefitting from In-Service Training & Professional Development	-	Number	0	3 375	Q2	2026	At least 3 375 primary and secondary teachers have benefitted from In-Service Training & Professional Development on Digital Competences.
249	C5.1R5 E-skills Action Plan – Implementation of specific actions	Milestone	National e-Skills Action Plan is adopted by the Council of Ministers	National e-Skills Action Plan is adopted by the Council of Ministers	-	-	-	Q4	2021	National e-Skills Action Plan is adopted by the Council of Ministers, which shall include at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• development of an e-learning platform, containing a self-assessment tool for digital fitness, index of all available skilling programmes, and content material on digital skills and cross-sectoral competences;</li> <li>• design and delivery of programmes and interventions for professionals within the public sector in areas such as Project management, Microsoft tools, cybersecurity, social media, e-collaboration and productivity tools;</li> <li>• investment in digital infrastructure.</li> </ul>
250	C5.1R5 E-skills	Milestone	Implementation of	Publication of annual	-	-	-	Q4	2025	Full implementation of key measures from the e-Skills Action Plan, which shall include at least:

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Action Plan – Implementation of specific actions		key measures from the e-Skills Action Plan	report by Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy and relevant postings /announcements on the e-learning platform						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- design and delivery of targeted programmes for professionals within the public sector for digital skills and cross-sectoral competencies (such as project management);</li> <li>- relevant investments in digital infrastructure (such as laptops, computers);</li> <li>- design of one e-learning platform with educational material is provided to include courses offered by educational institutions;</li> <li>- implementation of communication strategy through, amongst others, funded events.</li> </ul>
251	C5.1I1 Construction of two Model Technical Schools	Milestone	Contracts for the construction of two Technical Schools	Contracts Signature and initiation of construction	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Signing of two contracts with the contractors selected under a competitive call for proposals for the construction of two Technical Schools - one in Limassol and one in Larnaca - and issue of respective construction initiation orders by the project Engineers.
252	C5.1I1 Construction of two Model Technical Schools	Milestone	Completion of construction of two Technical Schools	Issue of Taking-Over Certificates for two construction projects	-	-	-	Q2	2026	Completion of construction of two Technical Schools - one in Limassol and one in Larnaca - and issue of respective taking over certificates. Schools fully operational from start of the school year 2026-2027.
253	C5.1I2 Skilling, Reskilling and Upskilling	Target	Completion of trainings for at least 11 500 participants	-	Number	0	11 500	Q4	2024	Completion of trainings for at least 11 500 participants in programmes for digital skills, skills related to blue and green economy, entrepreneurship programmes for unemployed and inactive people and training programmes for people over 55.



Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
254	C5.II2 Skilling, Reskilling and Upskilling	Target	Completion of trainings for at least 25 600 participants	-	Number	11 500	25 600	Q4	2025	Completion of trainings for at least 25 600 participants in programmes for digital skills, skills related to blue and green economy, entrepreneurship programmes for unemployed and inactive people and training programmes for people over 55.

## **M. COMPONENT 5.2: LABOUR MARKET, SOCIAL PROTECTION AND INCLUSION**

This component of the Cypriot Recovery and Resilience plan addresses: (i) inefficiencies and gaps in social protection notably for self-employed and people working in non-standard forms of employment, (ii) the lack of legislation for flexible working arrangements in the form of teleworking, (ii) challenges related to unemployment and youth unemployment and the high level of young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs), (iii) gaps in early childhood education and care (ECEC) and (iv) challenges with respect to social inclusion and welfare, including a high level of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion (AROE) and increasing needs in long-term care.

The reforms and investments included in the component address the country-specific recommendations on improving the effectiveness of the public employment services and the education and training system (country specific recommendation 3 of 2019 and country specific recommendation 2 of 2020), providing social protection for all and introducing flexible working arrangements (country specific recommendation 2 of 2020), and improving the efficiency and digitalisation of the public sector (country specific recommendation 1 of 2019 and country specific recommendation 4 of 2020).

It is expected that no measure in this component does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, taking into account the description of the measures and the mitigating steps set out in the recovery and resilience plan in accordance with the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).

### **M.1. Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support**

#### **Reform 2 (C5.2R2): Flexible work arrangements in the form of telework**

The objective of the reform is to promote flexible work arrangements in the form of telework to enhance work-life balance and increase employment opportunities.

The reform consists of new legislation for flexible work arrangements in the form of telework and the promotion of collective agreements to regulate telework. It shall also include a scheme relieving part of staff costs as an incentive for employers to hire unemployed persons who shall telework.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 September 2025.

#### **Investment 1 (C5.2I1): Improving the effectiveness of the Department of Labour and Public Employment Services (PES) and reinforcing support for young people**

The objectives of the investment are to: (i) safeguard the successful implementation of employment schemes through digitalisation of their administration, (ii) improve the operational performance of the PES, (iii) minimise the risk for young persons not in employment, education or training (NEETs) to become long-term unemployed, (iv) support NEETs who are not yet registered with the PES by promoting outreach activities and facilitating the integration of young registered unemployed in the labour market.

The investment consists of: (i) the set-up of four mobile units for carrying out the outreach activities for NEETs and (ii) the completion of platforms/IT systems for digitalising the schemes managed by the Department of Labour, developing a Performance Management System for the PES and developing an early warning and tracking system for NEETs. In addition, the investment shall include coaching and career guidance for the labour market orientation and integration of NEETs and an incentive scheme for employers to hire NEETs.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 2 (C5.2I2): Establishment of Multifunctional Centres and Childcare Centres

The objective of the investment is to increase the labour market participation of carers (often women), and to enhance the availability of quality care and social development infrastructure for children, thereby contributing to gender equality and equal opportunities for all.

The investment consists of a scheme targeted at local authorities and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for establishing new or improving existing multifunctional centres and child centres for children aged 0 to 3 years and 8 months, as well as for children until the age of 13 based on needs assessment and viability analysis. In addition, in line with Article 7 (2) of the Recovery and Resilience Facility Regulation, the investment includes a study under the Technical Support Instrument (TSI) to analyse the state of provision of early childhood education and care services for young children (aged 0 to school age) in Cyprus and to develop recommendations for investment in the sector, and specifically in child centres. Following the recommendations of the TSI project, a national strategy on early childhood education and care (ECEC) and an accompanying action plan shall be adopted.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 3 (C5.2I3): Establishment of home structures for children, adolescent with conduct disorders, persons with disabilities and people in need of long-term care

The objectives of the investment are to: (i) support the Republic of Cyprus to meet its obligations under the Refugee Act 2000-2016 to provide care and to safeguard the rights of unaccompanied minors who arrive in the Republic, (ii) meet the housing needs for children and adolescents with particular difficulties who are placed under the guardianship of the social welfare services, (iii) enhance community-based supported living structures for persons with disabilities to avoid institutionalisation and social exclusion and (iv) address gaps in long-term care services.

The investment consists of the establishment of at least eight state structures for children or persons with disabilities (through a tender procedure) and provision of support for the establishment or renovation of at least eighteen homes for children, adolescents with conduct disorders and people in need of long-term care (through an aid scheme).

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### Investment 4 (C5.2I4): Child centres in municipalities

The objective of this investment is to facilitate the participation and re-entering of workers with caring responsibilities, mostly women, in the labour market, thereby promoting gender equality. It further aims at enhancing the social inclusion of children from disadvantaged and/or migrant background.

The investment consists of the construction of four (4) child care centres in the municipalities of Ayios Athanasios, Ayia Napa, Paralimni and Yermasoyia.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2024.

#### Investment 5 (C5.2I5): Construction of two model special education schools

The objective of the investment is to improve the school environment for pupils with severe disabilities or other special educational needs and support their academic and social development.

The investment consists of the replacement of two special schools in the Limassol district: (i) the Special Education School of Apostolos Loucas and (ii) the Red Cross Recovery Special Needs School. The schools shall be constructed adjacent to each other and shall share the multi-purpose hall as well as a therapeutic indoor swimming pool.

The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2025.

**M.2. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for non-repayable financial support**

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
255	C5.2R2 Flexible Work Arrangements in the Form of Telework	Milestone	Entry into force of the law for flexible work arrangements in the form of telework	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the law for the flexible work arrangements in the form of telework	-	-	-	Q2	2023	Entry into force of a new law which shall regulate flexible work arrangements in the form of telework. The law shall include a definition of telework, description of the economic activities where telework is applicable, the conditions for taking up telework and the rights and obligations of employers and employees.
256	C5.2R2 Flexible Work Arrangements in the Form of Telework	Target	Grant awarded for at least 400 persons in telework	-	Number	0	400	Q3	2025	Grant awarded to employers to employ at least 400 previously unemployed persons after completing 12 months of employment with at least 30% in telework.
257	C5.2I1 Improving the effectiveness of the Department of Labour and Public Employment Services	Target	Set-up and putting into operation of four mobile units for outreach to NEETs		Number	0	4	Q2	2022	Set-up and putting into operation of four mobile units for outreach to young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs).

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	and reinforcing support for young people									
258	C5.2I1 Improving the effectiveness of the Department of Labour and Public Employment Services and reinforcing support for young people	Target	Implementation of completed, fully operational platforms	-	Number	0	3	Q4	2024	Implementation of completed, fully operational platforms for (1) digitalising the hiring schemes of the Department of Labour, (2) developing a Performance Management System for the Public Employment Services and (3) developing an early warning and tracking system for young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) for the Public Employment Services.
259	C5.2I1 Improving the effectiveness of the Department of Labour and Public Employment	Target	Grant awarded to employers for hiring at least 600 young people not in employment or in education or training (NEETs)	-	Number	0	600	Q4	2025	Grant awarded to employers for hiring at least 600 young people (aged 15-29) not in employment, education or training (NEETs), for a 12-month employment period, following completion of a two-month subsidised training period (two months subsidised training and 10-month subsidised employment).

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	nt Services and reinforcing support for young people									
260	C5.2I1 Improving the effectiveness of the Department of Labour and Public Employment Services and reinforcing support for young people	Target	Coaching and career guidance for young people not in employment or in education or training (NEETs)	-	Number	0	5 500	Q2	2026	Coaching and career guidance for the labour market orientation and integration of young people offered to at least 5 500 young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs) through the public employment services.
261	C5.2I2 Establishment of multifunctional centres and childcare centres	Milestone	Adoption of a national strategy on early childhood education and care (ECEC) and an accompanying action plan by the	Publication of the national strategy on ECEC and the accompanying action plan	-	-	-	Q4	2024	A national strategy on enhancing early childhood education and care (ECEC) covering children aged zero to school age, and an accompanying action plan have been adopted by the Council of Ministers, taking into account the recommendations of the completed TSI project.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
			Council of Ministers							
262	C5.2I2 Establishm ent of multifuncti onal centres and childcare centres	Target	Grant awarded to at least ten local authorities/ Non-Governmental Organisations for establishing or enhancing Multifunctional Centres or Child Centres	-	Number	0	10	Q4	2024	At least ten local authorities/ Non-Governmental Organisations have received a grant for establishing or enhancing Multifunctional Centres or Child Centres.
263	C5.2I2 Establishm ent of multifuncti onal centres and childcare centres	Target	Grant awarded to at least 27 local authorities/ Non-Governmental Organisations for establishing or enhancing Multifunctional Centres or Child Centres	-	Number	10	27	Q2	2026	At least 27 local authorities/ Non-Governmental Organisations have received a grant for establishing or enhancing Multifunctional Centres or Child Centres.
264	C5.2I3 Establishm ent of Home structures for children,	Target	Buildings for the needs of children or persons with disabilities and support for homes for children, adolescents with	-	Number	0	13	Q4	2024	Purchase and completed renovation of at least four buildings for the needs of children or persons with disabilities (through a public procurement procedure) and provision of support for the establishment or renovation of at least nine homes for children, adolescents with conduct disorders and people in need of long-term care (through an aid



Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	adolescent with conduct disorders and persons with disabilities and people in need of long term care (LTC)		conduct disorders and people in need of long-term care							scheme).
265	C5.213 Establishment of Home structures for children, adolescent with conduct disorders and persons with disabilities and people in need of	Target	Buildings for the needs of children or persons with disabilities and support for homes for children, adolescents with conduct disorders and people in need of long-term care	-	Number	13	26	Q2	2026	Purchase and renovation of at least eight state structures for children or persons with disabilities (through a public procurement procedure) and provision of support for the establishment or renovation of at least eighteen home structures for children, adolescents with conduct disorders and people in need of long-term care (through an aid scheme).

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	long term care (LTC)									
266	C5.214 Child Centres in Municipalities	Target	Construction of at least one child centre	-	Number	0	1	Q4	2022	Completion of construction and issue of taking-over certificate of at least one child centre in one of the following municipalities: Ayios Athanasios, Ayia Napa, Paralimni and Yermasoyia.
267	C5.214 Child Centres in Municipalities	Target	Construction of at least four child centres	-	Number	1	4	Q4	2024	Completion of construction and issue of taking-over certificates of four child centres (one child centre in Ayios Athanasios, one in Ayia Napa, one in Paralimni and one in Yermasoyia).
268	C5.215 Construction of Two Model Special Education Schools	Milestone	Signing of contract with the selected tenderer (contractor)	The contract shall be signed with the selected tenderer (contractor)	-	-	-	Q4	2022	Signing of contract with the selected tenderer(s) (contractor (s)) selected under a competitive call for proposals for the construction of two model schools in Limassol - the Special Education School of Apostolos Loucas and the Red Cross Recovery Special Needs School.
269	C5.215 Construction of Two Model Special Education Schools	Milestone	Completion of construction of Apostolos Loucas & Red Cross Special needs school	Issue of taking-over certificates by the project engineer verified administratively and on the spot, by the Head of Technical	-	-	-	Q4	2025	Completion of construction of the Special Education School of Apostolos Loucas and of the Red Cross Recovery Special Needs School.

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
				Services of the Ministry of Education & Culture.						

### **M.3. Description of the reforms and investments for the loan**

#### **Reform 1 (C5.2R1): Reform of the Social Insurance System and Restructuring of the Social Insurance Services**

The objectives of the reform are to widen access to social protection and to improve the operational efficiency and effectiveness of the Social Insurance Services. More specifically, the reform shall extend and improve the cover of benefits such as unemployment benefit, accident at work benefit and occupational disease benefit in particular for the self-employed and people working with contracts or new forms of employment (such as platform workers). In addition, the reform shall improve the timeliness and accuracy of the services provided to citizens and minimise fraud and errors through risk analysis and quality control mechanisms.

The reform consists of: (i) a revision of the legislation for the Social Security System which shall incorporate the extension of the social security coverage to self-employed and non-standard forms of employment, such as platform work, and (ii) the re-engineering of business processes, personnel training, set-up of data analytics capacity and digitalisation of services, as well as (iii) the gradual upgrading of the existing IT Systems to an Integrated Information System.

The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 June 2026.

#### M.4. Milestones, targets, indicators, and timetable for monitoring and implementation for the loan

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
270	C5.2R1 Reform of the Social Insurance System and Restructuring of the Social Insurance Services	Milestone	Entry into force of the revised Social Insurance Law	Provision in the amending law indicating the entry into force of the revisions to the Social Insurance Law	-	-	-	Q2	2023	Entry into force of the revised Social Insurance Law, which shall incorporate the extension of the social security coverage to self-employed and non-standard forms of employment, such as platform work.
271	C5.2R1 Reform of the Social Insurance System and Restructuring of the Social Insurance Services	Milestone	Completion of the new integrated digital Social Security System	Deliverables acceptance team (contracting authority side) signs off on analysis, design and development report	-	-	-	Q2	2026	Completion and go-live of the new integrated digital Social Security System including payment module, benefits administration module, data analytics and interoperability with other systems.

## 2. Estimated total cost of the recovery and resilience plan

The estimated total cost of the recovery and resilience plan of Cyprus is EUR 1 206 400 000.

### SECTION 2: FINANCIAL SUPPORT

#### 1. Financial contribution

The instalments referred to in Article 2(2) shall be organised in the following manner:

##### 1.1. First Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
21	C2.1R2 Independence of Cyprus Transmission System Operator (TSOC) from the incumbent Electricity Authority of Cyprus	Milestone	Law for the Regulation of the Electricity Market of 2021
23	C2.1R4 Energy Storage Regulatory Framework	Milestone	Amendment of the Transmission and Distribution Rules (TDRs) and Trading and Settlement Rules (TSRs)
24	C2.1I1 Promoting energy efficiency investments in SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector	Milestone	Support scheme for Promoting energy efficiency investments in SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector
27	C2.1I2 Promoting renewables and individual energy efficiency measures in dwellings and tackling energy poverty in households with people with disabilities	Milestone	First call for proposals for Promoting renewables and individual energy efficiency measures in dwellings
30	C2.1I3 Encouraging the use of renewables and energy savings by local/wider public authorities as well as NGOs and facilitating the transition of local communities towards climate mitigation & adaptation	Milestone	First call for proposals to support local authorities in energy efficiency measures

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
93	C3.1I2 Enhancement of isotopic database of traditional Cypriot products.	Milestone	Liquid Chromatography-Isotopic Ratio Mass Spectrometer (LC-IRMS) equipment
109	C3.1R4 Enhancement of circular economy in the Industry	Milestone	Approval of the National Action Plan for the Enhancement of Circular Economy in Cyprus
160	C3.4R3 Introduce new framework for evaluation and selection process for filling public service vacancies and new regulations for the evaluation of employees' performance	Milestone	Entry into force of legislation for the evaluation and selection process for public service vacancies and regulations for employees' performance evaluation.
186	C3.4I8 Upgrading the infrastructure of courts	Milestone	Extension of the Famagusta District Court
188	C3.4R10 Improving the legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of the law on Transparency in Decision-Making and Related Matters
189	C3.4R10 Improving the legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of the law to protect whistle-blowers
192	C3.5R2 Framework and Action Plan for addressing NPLs	Milestone	Entry into force of the package of amending laws regarding credit acquiring companies (CAC) and credit servicers to improve the working environment for non-performing loans management

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
232	C4.2I1 Digitalisation in various Central Government Ministries - Services	Milestone	Repository system for audit and control: information for monitoring implementation of RRF
249	C5.1R5 E-skills Action Plan – Implementation of specific actions	Milestone	National e-Skills Action Plan is adopted by the Council of Ministers
		Instalment Amount	EUR 97 701 149

1.2. Second Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
7	C1.1I2 Cyprus Innovative Public Health information and communications technology (ICT) System	Milestone	Influenza Sentinel Surveillance (ISS)System
35	C2.1I5 Energy Efficiency Upgrading of public buildings	Target	Thermal insulation and photovoltaic systems installed in schools
40	C2.1I7 Mass installation and operation by the Distribution System Operator (DSO) of Smart Metering Infrastructure (Advanced Metering Infrastructure)	Milestone	Contract Signature for smart electricity metering infrastructure
45	C2.1I9 Forests fire protection	Milestone	Signing of the Agreements/ Contracts Signatures for the purchase of firefighting aircraft, vehicles, equipment and provision of services
71	C2.3I3 Integrated Monitoring and Control Management System for the Water Development Department's infrastructure	Milestone	Completion of the detailed requirements analysis and system design document



Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
87	C3.1R2 On-line, cloud-based platform for improving the trade and information symmetry in the fresh produce supply chain	Milestone	Law on unfair practices in transactions in the local fresh produce market
97	C3.1I5 Creation of a National Commercial Identity and promotion of the traditional product “halloumi”	Milestone	Action Plans for (a) the “made in Cyprus” branding, and (b) for the promotion of the halloumi cheese
100	C3.1I7 Scheme for the enhancement of large enterprises competitiveness in the manufacturing sector	Milestone	Start of the grant scheme on large enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector
105	C3.1I9 Promotion of circular economy in hotel establishments	Target	Coaching scheme for circular economy
122	C3.2R2 Incentives for investments and human capital in R&I	Milestone	Tax exemption of legal entities for investing in innovative companies
125	C3.2I1 Set up and operate a central Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO)	Milestone	Launch of KTO
134	C3.3R1 Facilitation of Strategic investments	Milestone	Law for strategic investments
155	C3.4R1 Enhance the administrative capacity and improve the functioning of public administration for better policy making and implementation	Milestone	Action Plan on the efficient management of human resource issues in the national public administration
187	C3.4R10 Improving the legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of the law establishing the Independent Authority against Corruption
207	C3.5R9 Improving tax collection and effectiveness of the Tax Department	Milestone	Operation of VAT Services within an Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS)

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
214	C4.1R1 Empower the National Regulatory Authority (OCECPR)	Milestone	Launch of the geographical survey and entry into force of secondary legislation
233	C4.2I1 Digitalisation in various Central Government Ministries - Services	Target	Start of the digital upgrade of a number of central government ministries and departments
257	C5.2I1 Improving the effectiveness of the Department of Labour and Public Employment Services and reinforcing support for young people	Target	Set-up and putting into operation of four mobile units for outreach to NEETs
		Instalment Amount	EUR 97 701 149

1.3. Third Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
5	C1.1I1 New facilities for the Cyprus Blood Establishment and procurement of the latest technology attendant equipment	Milestone	Contract signature for the construction of the Cyprus Blood Establishment
22	C2.1R3 Digital One-Stop Shops to streamline RES projects permitting and to facilitate Energy Renovation in Buildings	Milestone	Fully operational IT platform
38	C2.1I6 Upgrading renewable energy and smart grids testing infrastructure at the University of Cyprus	Milestone	Signature of contract for the installation of equipment to upgrade the electricity grid into a smart grid
77	C2.3I5 Anti-flood and water collection measures	Milestone	Completion of construction works of drainage network and reconstruction of streets and pavements in areas of Nicosia

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
82	C2.3I7 Eastern Nicosia infrastructure for the re-use of treated wastewater	Milestone	Signing of the contracts for the construction of a winter storage reservoir
85	C3.1R1 Move agricultural practices from the 20th century to the 21st century by investing in a national centre for excellence in agri-tech	Milestone	Cooperation between the Agricultural Research Institute and public universities, for joint MSc and PhD programmes
95	C3.1I3 Upskill existing and future farmers	Target	Scholarships granted
120	C3.2R1 National R&I Policy and policy tools	Milestone	Adoption of the national R&I Strategy and of the Action Plan to implement it
123	C3.2R3 Policies to foster access to publicly funded research infrastructure and laboratories	Milestone	Digital registry to record and publish research infrastructure
127	C3.2I2 Innovation funding programmes for start-ups, innovative companies and SMEs	Milestone	Signature of grant agreements for 50% of budget
130	C3.2I3 R&I funding program on green transition	Milestone	Signature of grant agreements for the whole budget
136	C3.3R2 Enhancing Fast-Track Business Activation Mechanism	Milestone	Establishment of a platform where investors can track their online application and interact with the competent authorities
143	C3.3R6 Incentives to promote mergers and acquisitions.	Milestone	Action Plan for incentives for mergers and acquisitions
145	C3.3I3 Consulting services for SMEs	Milestone	Support scheme on consulting services for SMEs

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
151	C3.3I6 State funded equity fund	Milestone	Setup of the Registered Alternative Investment Fund in the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission register
171	C3.4R7 Urban land consolidation	Milestone	Entry into force of the law on urban land consolidation
173	C3.4I4 Enhancing e-system for issuing building permits	Milestone	Enhancement of the e-application environment of the Hippodamos System
183	C3.4R9 Digital transformation of courts	Milestone	e-justice system
194	C3.5R3 Strategy for addressing inadequacies of the property transaction system (title deeds)	Milestone	Extension of the New Planning and Building Permit Policy
195	C3.5R3 Strategy for addressing inadequacies of the property transaction system (title deeds)	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendment of the Sale of Property (Specific Performance) Law
199	C3.5R5 Action plan for the development of a liability monitoring register	Milestone	Action Plan for the development of a liability monitoring register
201	C3.5R6 Reinforcing and strengthening the insolvency framework	Milestone	Full implementation and full operation of the legal and institutional framework for insolvency

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
204	C3.5R8 Enhancing supervision of Insurance and Pension Funds	Target	Strengthening the human resources of the Registrar of Occupational Retirement Benefits Fund (RORBF) and the Insurance Companies Control Service (ICCS)
209	C3.5R10 Addressing Aggressive Tax Planning	Milestone	Entry into force of the law to tackle aggressive tax planning
224	C4.2R1 Digital Services Factory	Milestone	Definition of the Service Delivery Model for the Digital Services Factory
227	C4.2R2 Definition and implementation of a new cloud policy with regard to government IT systems and services	Milestone	The government cloud (G-cloud) is operational
243	C5.1R3 Extension of free compulsory pre-primary education from the age of four	Milestone	Entry into force of the new Law regarding extension of free compulsory pre-primary education from the age of four years and adoption of grant scheme by the Council of Ministers
251	C5.1I1 Construction of two Model Technical Schools	Milestone	Contracts for the construction of two Technical Schools
266	C5.2I4 Child Centres in Municipalities	Target	Construction of at least one child centre
268	C5.2I5 Construction of Two Model Special Education Schools	Milestone	Signing of contract with the selected tenderer (contractor)
		Instalment Amount	EUR 132 183 908

1.4. Fourth Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
3	C1.1R2 Design of an Electronic platform for the surveillance of Nosocomial Antibiotic Consumption and Healthcare – Associated Infections	Milestone	Adoption of the list of health care facilities
19	C2.1R1 Green Taxation	Milestone	Entry into force of a law introducing a carbon tax for fuels, a levy on water and a charge on household/ landfill waste
43	C2.1I8 Monitoring and reduction of GHG emissions in agriculture	Milestone	Purchase and installation of monitoring units for measuring GHG emissions from agriculture
48	C2.1I10 Market Management System to facilitate the opening of the electricity market to competition	Milestone	Completion, installation and roll-out of the Market Management System and training of personnel
74	C2.3I4 Smart Water and Sewerage Networks Management	Target	Delivery and installation of photovoltaics at the Larnaca Wastewater Treatment Plant
80	C2.3I6 Enhance water security for Nicosia and Larnaca regions	Target	Completion of construction of two glass lined steel reservoirs
84	C2.3I8 Protection of the marine ecosystem from hazards through oil spills	Milestone	Delivery, quality inspection to verify their operational effectiveness and acceptance of three vessels and two aerial spraying systems

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
86	C3.1R1 Move agricultural practices from the 20th century to the 21st century by investing in a national centre for excellence in agri-tech	Milestone	New joint Masters and/or PhDs in the wider domain of Agriculture
91	C3.1I1 Marine aquaculture construction	Milestone	Construction of the collaborative marine aquaculture
103	C3.1I8 Enhancing the added value of the tourism sector with emphasis on the country side, mountainous and remote areas	Target	Grant to SMEs to promote the tourism sector
132	C3.2I4 Funding to organisations performing R&D activities on dual technologies	Milestone	Signing of grant agreements which commit 80% of total budget for funding to organisations performing R&D activities on dual technologies
135	C3.3R1 Facilitation of Strategic investments	Milestone	Organisational capacity's enhancement for the facilitation of strategic investments
140	C3.3R4 Design and establish a National Promotional Agency	Milestone	Approval by the Council of Ministers of the roadmap for the creation and establishment of a National Promotional Agency
144	C3.3I2 Creation of a Regulatory Sandbox to enable FinTech	Milestone	Regulatory Sandbox with a view on FinTech and innovative technologies
147	C3.3I4 Scheme for the digital upgrade of enterprises	Milestone	Publication of call for proposals following approval of the scheme by the Council of Ministers

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
158	C3.4R2 Regulate flexible working arrangements in the public sector	Milestone	Decision on flexible working arrangements in the public sector
193	C3.5R3 Strategy for addressing inadequacies of the property transaction system (title deeds)	Target	Reduction of backlog of cases for issuance of title deed
197	C3.5R4 New legal framework and system of exchange of data and credit bureaus	Milestone	Entry into force of the framework and system of exchange of data and credit bureaus Law
220	C4.1I2 Enhance building cabling to be “Gigabit-ready” and promote connectivity take-up	Target	Expansion of intra-building Gigabit-ready cabling
229	C4.2R3 Police Procedures digitalisation on Digipol	Milestone	Digipol operational on a pilot basis
236	C4.2I2 Digitalisation of the Cyprus Ports Authority	Target	Start of the digital upgrade of the Cyprus Ports Authority
246	C5.1R4 Digital transformation of school units with the aim of enhancing digital skills and skills related to STEM education	Target	Classrooms digitally equipped
255	C5.2R2 Flexible Work Arrangements in the Form of Telework	Milestone	Entry into force of the law for flexible work arrangements in the form of telework
		Instalment Amount	EUR 114 942 529



1.5. Fifth Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
9	C1.1I3 Purchase/replacement of medical equipment in hospitals	Target	Health institutions having benefitted from the financial support scheme
13	C1.1I6 Deployment of generic cross border e-health services in Cyprus	Milestone	Completion of the analysis, design and development phase of the IT System for cross-border e-health services
28	C2.1I2 Promoting renewables and individual energy efficiency measures in dwellings and tackling energy poverty in households with people with disabilities	Target	Dwellings and households with people with disabilities having improved their energy performance
31	C2.1I3 Encouraging the use of renewables and energy savings by local/wider public authorities as well as NGOs and facilitating the transition of local communities towards climate mitigation & adaptation	Target	Investments undertaken by local authorities or NGOs that have improved their energy performance, and resilience to climate change
36	C2.1I5 Energy Efficiency Upgrading of public buildings	Target	Completion of set up and installation of photovoltaics system at the Nicosia General Hospital
46	C2.1I9 Forests fire protection	Milestone	Delivery of firefighting aircraft, vehicles and equipment
55	C2.2R3 Progressively phase out the most polluting vehicles, especially in polluted urban areas	Milestone	Entry into force of the legislative/administrative acts related to the phasing out of the most polluting vehicles
60	C2.2I2 Creation of electro-mobility infrastructure	Target	Installation of at least 330 charging points, due to the support granted
62	C2.2I3 Promote widespread use of Electric Vehicles (EVs)	Target	Purchase of electric vehicles, electric bicycles (at least 2 050), due to the support granted
64	C2.2I3 Promote widespread use of Electric Vehicles (EVs)	Target	Scrapping of high emission vehicles, due to the support granted
67	C2.3I1 Choirokitia- Famagusta Conveyor Replacement	Milestone	Preparation of tender documents and issue call for tenders

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
89	C3.1R3 Genetic improvement of the Cyprus sheep and goat population	Target	Upgrade of record keeping in farms and participation of farmers in AGRICYGEN project
96	C3.1I4 Initiate the setup of an Eco-Industrial Science Park	Milestone	Action Plan for the Science Park
112	C3.1I12 Waste management towards circular economy	Milestone	Signature of the contracts for the installation of Green kiosks, construction of reuse & repair centres and installation of composting systems
128	C3.2I2 Innovation funding programmes for start-ups, innovative companies and SMEs	Target	Organisations supported to carry out R&I related activities
149	C3.3I5 Support extroversion and openness of Cyprus firms to international trade	Target	Enterprises supported for trade extroversion activities
156	C3.4R1 Enhance the administrative capacity and improve the functioning of public administration for better policy making and implementation	Milestone	New human resources management framework for Cyprus Police
163	C3.4R5 Enhancement of the capacity of the Law Office	Milestone	New IT system for the Law Office
167	C3.4I3 Economic Policy Modelling Hub	Milestone	Setting up a Modelling Hub for Economic Policy Analysis
180	C3.4R8 Efficiency of Justice	Milestone	Entry into force of new Rules of Civil Procedure
191	C3.5R1 Completing the legal framework for Crisis Management for Credit Institutions	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendment of the national insolvency framework for credit institutions, and introduction of government tools for preservation of financial stability
196	C3.5R3 Strategy for addressing inadequacies of the property transaction system (title deeds)	Milestone	Review of the Streets and Building Regulation
203	C3.5R7 Strategy for Combating Financial Illiteracy	Milestone	Strategy for Combating Financial Illiteracy
205	C3.5R8 Enhancing supervision of Insurance and Pension Funds	Milestone	Supervisory tools including data collection and analysis tool

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
206	C3.5I1 Enhancement of the Supervisory Function of the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission	Milestone	Digital system for supervision of transactions for the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission
212	C3.5I2 Modernisation of Customs and Electronic Payment System	Target	Putting into operation the information systems– envisaged under the Union Customs Code (UCC)
217	C4.1I1 Expansion of Very High Capacity Networks in underserved areas	Milestone	Start of very high capacity networks’ deployment in underserved areas
225	C4.2R1 Digital Services Factory	Target	Expansion of delivery of government services online through the Digital Services Factory
231	C4.2R4 Setting up the beneficial ownership registry	Milestone	Beneficial ownership registry available for use
234	C4.2I1 Digitalisation in various Central Government Ministries - Services	Target	Advancement of the digital upgrade of a number of central government ministries and departments
241	C5.1R2 A new teacher and school evaluation system	Milestone	Entry into force of the law for establishing a new Teacher and School Evaluation mechanism
		Instalment Amount	EUR 149 425 287

1.6. Sixth Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
11	C1.1I4 Accreditation of public and private hospitals	Target	Health institutions having benefitted from the scheme covering accreditation related costs
39	C2.1I6 Upgrading renewable energy and smart grids testing infrastructure at the University of Cyprus	Milestone	Delivery, successful installation and acceptance of the equipment for smart grids
52	C2.2R1 Establishment of an Intelligent Transport System using Digital Twin technologies	Target	Delivery and installation of at least 150 sensors
57	C2.2I1 Implementation of Sustainable Urban Mobility Projects (SUMP) and accessibility enhancing measures	Milestone	Contracts signature for the construction work of sustainable transport infrastructure and ancillary installations
69	C2.3I2 Water Treatment Plants: upgrade for water quality improvement	Milestone	Completion of the works for the installation of activated carbon polishing units in Tersefanou, Asprokremmos and Limassol Water Treatment Plants
72	C2.3I3 Integrated Monitoring and Control Management System for the Water Development Department's infrastructure	Target	Delivery and installation of at least 50% of the equipment
78	C2.3I5 Anti-flood and water collection measures	Milestone	Completion of construction works for the rainwater collection and recycling system in Kladeri area

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
88	C3.1R2 On-line, cloud-based platform for improving the trade and information symmetry in the fresh produce supply chain	Milestone	Platform for recording transactions in the local fresh produce market
169	C3.4R6 New legal framework for Local Authorities and relevant support measures	Milestone	New legal framework on local authorities
181	C3.4R8 Efficiency of Justice	Target	Reducing the backlog of cases and appeals
208	C3.5R9 Improving tax collection and effectiveness of the Tax Department	Milestone	Integration of operations of the direct tax administration department within the ITAS
216	C4.1R2 Empower the National Broadband Competence Office (DEC of the DMRIDP)	Milestone	Entry into force of the administrative acts for very high capacity networks' deployment
		Instalment Amount	EUR 74 712 644

1.7. Seventh Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
1	C1.1R1 National Centre for Clinical Evidence and Quality Improvement	Target	Clinical protocols prepared, audited and peer reviewed
25	C2.1I1 Promoting energy efficiency investments in SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector	Target	Entities (SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector) having implemented energy efficiency interventions
33	C2.1I4 Reduction of CO2 emissions in industries, businesses and organisations	Target	Emissions reduced
41	C2.1I7 Mass installation and operation by the Distribution System Operator (DSO) of Smart Metering Infrastructure (Advanced Metering Infrastructure)	Target	Delivery and installation of smart meters

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
54	C2.2R2 Provide the regulatory framework for an interoperable and effective electric vehicle (EV) recharging infrastructure and an efficient EV recharging market	Milestone	Entry into force of legislation related to electric vehicle charging points
75	C2.3I4 Smart Water and Sewerage Networks Management	Target	Delivery and installation of at least 200 quality and pressure sensors
98	C3.1I6 Scheme for modernisation and digitalisation of enterprises engaged in manufacturing and trading of agricultural products	Target	Grants to SMEs engaged with trade and production of agricultural products
101	C3.1I7 Scheme for the enhancement of large enterprises competitiveness in the manufacturing sector	Target	Grants to large enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector
107	C3.1I10 Enrichment of the tourism product in rural, mountainous and remote areas	Milestone	Aphrodite Route
121	C3.2R1 National R&I Policy and policy tools	Milestone	Completion of the Action Plan for the R&I Strategy
124	C3.2R3 Policies to foster access to publicly funded research infrastructure and laboratories	Milestone	Collaboration of Research Performing Organisations with business and spin-offs
138	C3.3R3 Modernisation of the Companies Law	Milestone	Submission of the draft law to the Parliament for approval, restructuring the Companies Law
142	C3.3R5 Strategic Investor of the Cyprus Stock Exchange	Milestone	Selection of a strategic investor to buy a controlling stake in Cyprus Stock Exchange
159	C3.4R2 Regulate flexible working arrangements in the public sector	Milestone	Implementation of flexible working arrangements
170	C3.4R6 New legal framework for Local Authorities and relevant support measures	Target	Number of local authority staff participating in capacity building

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
174	C3.4I4 Enhancing e-system for issuing building permits	Milestone	Enhancement of planning and control and project management functionalities of Hippodamos
175	C3.4I5 Smart cities	Target	Installation of smart sensors in service as part of the smart cities initiative
177	C3.4I6 Regeneration and Revitalisation of Nicosia Inner City	Target	Rooms renovated and converted to student dorms
198	C3.5R4 New legal framework and system of exchange of data and credit bureaus	Milestone	Upgraded digital system of exchange of data and credit bureaus
200	C3.5R5 Action plan for the development of a liability monitoring register	Milestone	Action plan for the development of a liability monitoring register
210	C3.5R10 Addressing Aggressive Tax Planning	Milestone	Entry into force of the law to tackle aggressive tax planning via payments to low tax jurisdictions
215	C4.1R1 Empower the National Regulatory Authority (OCECPR)	Milestone	The web portal on broadband and infrastructure mapping is operational and accessible to the target audience
218	C4.1I1 Expansion of Very High Capacity Networks in underserved areas	Target	Expansion of very high capacity networks' deployment in underserved areas
222	C4.1I3 Submarine link to Greece	Milestone	Signature of the contract for the design, construction and operation of the submarine cables

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
237	C4.2I2 Digitalisation of the Cyprus Ports Authority	Target	Advancement of the digital upgrade of the Cyprus Ports Authority
239	C5.1R1 Addressing skills mismatch between education and labour market (Secondary and Higher Education)	Milestone	Implementation of key measures from the National Action Plan
244	C5.1R3 Extension of free compulsory pre-primary education from the age of four	Target	Children benefitting from tuition fees support
247	C5.1R4 Digital transformation of school units with the aim of enhancing digital skills and skills related to STEM education	Target	Curriculum transformation and production of educational material for digital skills and STEM methodology
253	C5.1I2 Skilling, Reskilling and Upskilling	Target	Completion of trainings for at least 11 500 participants
258	C5.2I1 Improving the effectiveness of the Department of Labour and Public Employment Services and reinforcing support for young people	Target	Implementation of completed, fully operational platforms
261	C5.2I2 Establishment of multifunctional centres and childcare centres	Milestone	Adoption of a national strategy on early childhood education and care (ECEC) and an accompanying action plan by the Council of Ministers
262	C5.2I2 Establishment of multifunctional centres and childcare centres	Target	Grant awarded to at least ten local authorities/ Non-Governmental Organisations for establishing or enhancing Multifunctional Centres or Child Centres



Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
264	C5.2I3 Establishment of Home structures for children, adolescent with conduct disorders and persons with disabilities and people in need of long term care (LTC)	Target	Buildings for the needs of children or persons with disabilities and support for homes for children, adolescents with conduct disorders and people in need of long-term care
267	C5.2I4 Child Centres in Municipalities	Target	Construction of at least four child centres
		Instalment Amount	EUR 149 425 287

1.8. Eighth Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
6	C1.1I1 New facilities for the Cyprus Blood Establishment and procurement of the latest technology attendant equipment	Milestone	New blood establishment facilities including all equipment are fully operational
14	C1.1I6 Deployment of generic cross border e-health services in Cyprus	Milestone	Full operation of cross-border healthcare data exchange
66	C2.3R1 Water Resource Management Reform	Milestone	Adoption of an action plan on water resource management
81	C2.3I6 Enhance water security for Nicosia and Larnaca regions	Target	Completion of construction of three glass lined steel reservoirs and 1 concrete water reservoir
94	C3.1I2 Enhancement of isotopic database of traditional Cypriot products	Target	Local traditional foods/ drinks connected to the system

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
111	C3.1R5 Establishment of a Coordinating Body between central and local government	Milestone	Legislation on coordination between Central and Local Government
161	C3.4R3 Introduce new framework for evaluation and selection process for filling public service vacancies and new regulations for the evaluation of employees' performance	Milestone	New framework for performance evaluation and filling of vacancies in the public service.
165	C3.4I2 Digitalisation of the law-making process	Milestone	Implementation of the Cyprus Legislation Preparation Platform
184	C3.4R9 Digital transformation of courts	Milestone	Digital audio recording in court proceedings
202	C3.5R6 Reinforcing and strengthening the insolvency framework	Milestone	Operation of all digital systems developed for the Department of Insolvency
221	C4.1I2 Enhance building cabling to be "Gigabit-ready" and promote connectivity take-up	Target	Completion of intra-building Gigabit-ready cabling
		Instalment Amount	EUR 68 965 517

1.9. Ninth Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
2	C1.1R1 National Centre for Clinical Evidence and Quality Improvement	Target	Clinical protocols prepared, audited and peer reviewed
4	C1.1R2 Design of an Electronic platform for the surveillance of Nosocomial Antibiotic Consumption and Healthcare – Associated Infections	Milestone	Electronic platform including monitoring system is fully operational

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
8	C1.1I2 Cyprus Innovative Public Health information and communications technology (ICT) System	Target	Sentinels entering data in the Influenza Sentinel Surveillance System module
10	C1.1I3 Purchase/replacement of medical equipment in hospitals	Target	Health institutions having benefitted from the financial support scheme
12	C1.1I4 Accreditation of public and private hospitals	Target	Health institutions having benefitted from the scheme covering accreditation related costs
15	C1.1I7 Public warning system for supporting emergency operations through SMS	Milestone	Newly established public warning system and its monitoring system are fully operational
26	C2.1I1 Promoting energy efficiency investments in SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector	Target	Entities (SMEs, municipalities, communities and the wider public sector) having implemented energy efficiency interventions
37	C2.1I5 Energy Efficiency Upgrading of public buildings	Target	Completion of installation of photovoltaic systems in water pump stations and fire stations
44	C2.1I8 Monitoring and reduction of GHG emissions in agriculture	Target	Reduction of GHG emissions from agriculture
47	C2.1I9 Forests fire protection	Milestone	Completion of services
53	C2.2R1 Establishment of an Intelligent Transport System using Digital Twin technologies	Target	Delivery and installation of a total of 300 sensors
56	C2.2R3 Progressively phase out the most polluting vehicles, especially in polluted urban areas	Milestone	Implementation of at least two measures aiming at the exclusion of polluting vehicles

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
61	C2.2I2 Creation of electro-mobility infrastructure	Target	Installation of at least 1 200 charging points, due to the support granted
63	C2.2I3 Promote widespread use of Electric Vehicles (EVs)	Target	Purchase of electric vehicles, electric bicycles (at least 5 750), due to the support granted
65	C2.2I3 Promote widespread use of Electric Vehicles (EVs)	Target	Scrapping of high emission vehicles, due to the support granted
70	C2.3I2 Water Treatment Plants: upgrade for water quality improvement	Target	Completion of extension works and automation system at Asprokremmos Water Treatment Plant
79	C2.3I5 Anti-flood and water collection measures	Milestone	Completion of construction works for the flood channel in Livadia
108	C3.1I10 Enrichment of the tourism product in rural, mountainous and remote areas	Target	Grants to enterprises and local community boards to promote micro and small businesses in the creative and manufacturing sectors, such as artists, handcrafts and traditional products
113	C3.1I12 Waste management towards circular economy	Target	Start of operation of reuse and repair centres
114	C3.1I12 Waste management towards circular economy	Target	Completion of set up, installation and start of operation of composting systems

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
115	C3.1I12 Waste management towards circular economy	Target	Completion of installation and start of operation of the green kiosks
126	C3.2I1 Set up and operate a central Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO)	Target	Case files closed attesting provision of relevant knowledge transfer services
137	C3.3R2 Enhancing Fast-Track Business Activation Mechanism	Target	Assessments of applications for investment through the platform
139	C3.3R3 Modernisation of the Companies Law	Milestone	Entry into force of the Companies Law
141	C3.3R4 Design and establish a National Promotional Agency	Milestone	Start of operations of Cyprus National Promotional Agency
146	C3.3I3 Consulting services for SMEs	Target	SMEs receiving support by accredited consultants
157	C3.4R1 Enhance the administrative capacity and improve the functioning of public administration for better policy making and implementation	Milestone	Implementation of the Action Plan on the efficient management of human resource issues in the national public administration
162	C3.4R4 Strengthen administrative capacity and transparency through the professionalisation of public procurement and further digitalisation of its process	Milestone	New integrated e-procurement system
166	C3.4I2 Digitalisation of the law-making process	Milestone	Digitalisation of laws & regulations in the new platform
168	C3.4I3 Economic Policy Modelling Hub	Target	Number of developed impact assessment models and data analysis tools

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
172	C3.4R7 Urban land consolidation	Target	Number of master plans for urban planning in residential zones
185	C3.4I7 Training of judges	Target	Training of judges
213	C3.5I2 Modernisation of Customs and Electronic Payment System	Target	Putting into operation of the information systems envisaged under the UCC
219	C4.1I1 Expansion of Very High Capacity Networks in underserved areas	Target	Completion of very high capacity networks' deployment in underserved areas
228	C4.2R2 Definition and implementation of a new cloud policy with regard to government IT systems and services	Target	Data centres operational and offering cloud services
230	C4.2R3 Police Procedures digitalisation on Digipol	Target	Citizens use Digipol
235	C4.2I1 Digitalisation in various Central Government Ministries - Services	Target	Finalisation of the digital upgrade of a number of central government ministries and departments
238	C4.2I2 Digitalisation of the Cyprus Ports Authority	Target	Finalisation of the digital upgrade of the Cyprus Ports Authority
240	C5.1R1 Addressing skills mismatch between education and labour market (Secondary and Higher Education)	Target	Secondary education teaching staff trained
242	C5.1R2 A new teacher and school evaluation system	Target	Training of teaching staff
250	C5.1R5 E-skills Action Plan – Implementation of specific actions	Milestone	Implementation of key measures from the e-Skills Action Plan
254	C5.1I2 Skilling, Reskilling and Upskilling	Target	Completion of trainings for at least 25 600 participants
256	C5.2R2 Flexible Work Arrangements in the Form of Telework	Target	Grant awarded for at least 400 persons in telework

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
259	C5.2I1 Improving the effectiveness of the Department of Labour and Public Employment Services and reinforcing support for young people	Target	Grant awarded to employers for hiring at least 600 young people not in employment or in education or training (NEETs)
269	C5.2I5 Construction of Two Model Special Education Schools	Milestone	Completion of construction of Apostolos Loukas & Red Cross Special needs school
		Instalment Amount	EUR 68 965 517

1.10. Tenth Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
20	C2.1R1 Green Taxation	Milestone	Impact assessment report measuring the reform's effect on the environment and the economy
29	C2.1I2 Promoting renewables and individual energy efficiency measures in dwellings and tackling energy poverty in households with people with disabilities	Target	Dwellings and households with people with disabilities having improved their energy performance
32	C2.1I3 Encouraging the use of renewables and energy savings by local/wider public authorities as well as NGOs and facilitating the transition of local communities towards climate mitigation & adaptation	Target	Investments undertaken by local authorities or NGOs that have improved their energy performance, and resilience to climate change
34	C2.1I4 Reduction of CO2 emissions in industries, businesses and organisations	Target	Emissions reduced further
42	C2.1I7 Mass installation and operation by the Distribution System Operator (DSO) of Smart Metering Infrastructure (Advanced Metering Infrastructure)	Target	Delivery and installation of smart meters
58	C2.2I1 Implementation of Sustainable Urban Mobility Projects (SUMP) and accessibility enhancing measures	Target	Completion of construction work for at least 62km of sustainable transport routes
59	C2.2I1 Implementation of Sustainable Urban Mobility Projects (SUMP) and accessibility enhancing measures	Target	Completion of construction work for at least 645 ancillary installations related to sustainable transport
68	C2.3I1 Choirokitia- Famagusta Conveyor Replacement	Target	Installation of new pipeline with total length of 20km



Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
73	C2.3I3 Integrated Monitoring and Control Management System for the Water Development Department's infrastructure	Milestone	Completion of a fully functional Integrated Monitoring and Control Water Management System
76	C2.3I4 Smart Water and Sewerage Networks Management	Target	Installation and operation of at least 100 000 smart meters
83	C2.3I7 Eastern Nicosia infrastructure for the re-use of treated wastewater	Milestone	Completion and delivery of a fully operational wastewater treatment infrastructure
90	C3.1R3 Genetic improvement of the Cyprus sheep and goat population	Target	Adoption of advanced recording and genomic evaluation processes, and selection of the best performing animals
92	C3.1I1 Marine aquaculture construction	Milestone	Operational collaborative marine aquaculture Infrastructure
99	C3.1I6 Scheme for modernisation and digitalisation of enterprises engaged in manufacturing and trading of agricultural products	Target	Grants to SMEs engaged with trade and production of agricultural products
102	C3.1I7 Scheme for the enhancement of large enterprises competitiveness in the manufacturing sector	Target	Grants to large enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector
104	C3.1I8 Enhancing the added value of the tourism sector with emphasis on the country side, mountainous and remote areas	Target	Grant to hotels to promote the tourism sector
106	C3.1I9 Promotion of circular economy in hotel establishments	Target	Coaching scheme for circular economy
110	C3.1R4 Enhancement of circular economy in the Industry	Target	Aid for SMEs which are moving into a circular operating model

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
129	C3.2I2 Innovation funding programmes for start-ups, innovative companies and SMEs	Target	Organisations supported to carry out R&I related activities
131	C3.2I3 R&I funding program on green transition	Target	Organisations supported by grants on green transition R&I activities
133	C3.2I4 Funding organisations performing R&D activities on dual technologies	Target	Funding for the development of classified Laboratories
148	C3.3I4 Scheme for the digital upgrade of enterprises	Target	SMEs supported following submission of payment applications.
150	C3.3I5 Support extroversion and openness of Cyprus firms to international trade	Target	Enterprises supported for trade extroversion activities
152	C3.3I6 State funded equity fund	Target	Investees supported through the Fund
164	C3.4I1 Rationalisation of the shift system through the implementation of a Roster Planning System	Milestone	Implementation of a new Roster Planning System in public sector organisations
176	C3.4I5 Smart cities	Target	Development of mobile applications developed as part of the smart cities initiative
178	C3.4I6 Regeneration and Revitalisation of Nicosia Inner City	Target	Rooms renovated and converted to student dorms
179	C3.4I6 Regeneration and Revitalisation of Nicosia Inner City	Milestone	Renovation of Faneromeni School
182	C3.4R8 Efficiency of Justice	Target	Further reducing the backlog of cases and appeals

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
211	C3.5R10 Addressing Aggressive Tax Planning	Milestone	Entry into force of legislative changes addressing the findings of an independent evaluation on the effectiveness of measures related to aggressive tax planning
223	C4.1I3 Submarine link to Greece	Target	Completion of the construction of the submarine internet cables
226	C4.2R1 Digital Services Factory	Target	Delivery online of at least 150 previously non-digital services to the public through the Digital Services Factory
245	C5.1R3 Extension of free compulsory pre-primary education from the age of four	Target	Children benefitting from tuition fee support
248	C5.1R4 Digital transformation of school units with the aim of enhancing digital skills and skills related to STEM education	Target	Teachers benefitting from In-Service Training & Professional Development
252	C5.1I1 Construction of two Model Technical Schools	Milestone	Completion of construction of two Technical Schools
260	C5.2I1 Improving the effectiveness of the Department of Labour and Public Employment Services and reinforcing support for young people	Target	Coaching and career guidance for young people not in employment or in education or training (NEETs)
263	C5.2I2 Establishment of multifunctional centres and childcare centres	Target	Grant awarded to at least 27 local authorities/ Non-Governmental Organisations for establishing or enhancing Multifunctional Centres or Child Centres

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
265	C5.2I3 Establishment of Home structures for children, adolescent with conduct disorders and persons with disabilities and people in need of long term care (LTC)	Target	Buildings for the needs of children or persons with disabilities and support for homes for children, adolescents with conduct disorders and people in need of long-term care
		Instalment Amount	EUR 51 923 060

## 2. Loan

The instalments referred to in Article 3(2) shall be organised in the following manner:

### 2.1. First Instalment (loan support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
16	C1.1R3 Gradually shifting the healthcare provision and reimbursement framework towards value-based models.	Milestone	Value-based reimbursement to be reflected for primary and in-patient care
49	C2.1I11 Ending energy isolation - Project of Common Interest "EuroAsia Interconnector"	Milestone	Start of the construction works of the HVDC Converter Station in Kofinou and the onshore infrastructure in Cyprus
153	C3.3I1 Integrated Information system for the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver	Milestone	System hardware and software installation and networking completed
270	C5.2R1 Reform of the Social Insurance System and Restructuring of the Social Insurance Services	Milestone	Entry into force of the revised Social Insurance Law
		Instalment Amount	EUR 57 471 264

### 2.2. Second Instalment (loan support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
17	C1.1I5 Enhancement, modernisation and upgrade of Cyprus State Hospitals	Target	Enhanced, constructed and/or upgraded State hospitals
116	C3.1I11 Improvement and extension of the Cyprus Green Points Network and creation of a network of Collection Points and Recycling Corners	Target	Completion of construction, expansion and start of operation of four Green Points

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
118	C3.II13 Establishment of the Orounda Livestock Waste and Animal-By-Product Management Facilities	Milestone	Construction of facilities for wastewater treatment and co-composting
		Instalment Amount	EUR 57 471 264

2.3. Third Instalment (loan support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
50	C2.II11 Ending energy isolation - Project of Common Interest "EuroAsia Interconnector"	Milestone	Completion of construction of converter station
		Instalment Amount	EUR 40 229 885

2.4. Fourth Instalment (loan support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
18	C1.II5 Enhancement, modernisation and upgrade of Cyprus State Hospitals	Target	Enhanced, constructed and/or upgraded State hospitals
51	C2.II11 Ending energy isolation - Project of Common Interest "EuroAsia Interconnector"	Milestone	Completed and fully operational facility of the electricity interconnection between Cyprus-Crete (Greece)
117	C3.II11 Improvement and extension of the Cyprus Green Points Network and creation of a network of Collection Points and Recycling Corners	Target	Completion of construction, expansion and operation of 14 Green Points
119	C3.II13 Establishment of the Orounda Livestock Waste and Animal-By-Product Management Facilities	Milestone	Completion and start of operation of the Anaerobic Digestion facilities
154	C3.II1 Integrated Information system for the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver	Target	Training of personnel

<b>Sequential Number</b>	<b>Related Measure (Reform or Investment)</b>	<b>Milestone / Target</b>	<b>Name</b>
190	C3.4I9 Aid Scheme for the private and public sector for certification with ISO 37001 (Anti Bribery)	Target	ISO 37001 anti-bribery management systems
271	C5.2R1 Reform of the Social Insurance System and Restructuring of the Social Insurance Services	Milestone	Completion of the new integrated digital Social Security System
		Instalment Amount	EUR 45 147 587

## SECTION 3: ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

### 1. Arrangements for monitoring and implementation of the recovery and resilience plan

The monitoring and implementation of the recovery and resilience plan of Cyprus has been set out in the Council of Ministers decision of 14 May 2021, which approved the plan. They shall take place in accordance with the following arrangements:

- The Monitoring Committee, chaired by the Director General of the Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development and attended by the Directors-General of Ministries and Deputy Ministries involved in the plan, shall be responsible for centrally monitoring progress in implementation, resolving issues and responding to risks at the highest technical level. It shall convene at least before each submission to the Commission of requests for payment and progress reports provided for under Regulation (EU) 2021/241. It may rely on reporting and other support from the Coordinating Authority.
- The Coordinating Authority, which is the Directorate for Recovery and Resilience of the Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development, shall be responsible for the monitoring and implementation of the recovery and resilience plan at operational level. Specifically, the Coordinating Authority is responsible for monitoring, verifying and certifying the achievement of the milestones and targets of measures of the plan and ensuring the timely submission of all information described in Article 22(2), point (d) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241. In performing its monitoring functions, the Coordinating Authority is assisted by two specialised Monitoring Bodies designated for specific measures of the plan.
- The National Control and Audit Coordinator for the implementation of the plan, which is the Verifications and Certification Directorate of the Treasury of the Republic of Cyprus, shall be responsible for supporting the Coordinating Authority in overseeing controls by all stakeholders, including Implementing Bodies, in accordance with the management and control system of the plan and the national and EU legislation. In that respect, it shall also monitor the status of the findings of ex post audits, acting as the intermediate body between the Coordinating Authority and the Internal Audit Service of the Republic of Cyprus and the Audit Office of the Republic of Cyprus (together, “the audit bodies”). The National Control and Audit Coordinator shall not be involved in the planning and execution of the audits, which is within the sole responsibility of the audit bodies. It shall manage and process all information described in Article 22(2), point (d) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, collected by the Implementing Bodies. In this respect, it has the responsibility to oversee the treatment of serious irregularities, meaning fraud, corruption and conflicts of interests, and ensure that double funding is avoided through controls of the information submitted by the Implementing Bodies.
- The Implementing Bodies shall have the first line responsibility to prevent, detect, report and correct conflicts of interest, corruption and fraud, and avoid double funding. To that end, they shall undertake first level controls and verifications of the physical and financial aspect of the measures under their responsibility and regularly update the Coordinating Authority and the specialised Monitoring Bodies, where relevant, regarding progress in achieving the milestones and targets of the measures under their responsibility and by providing all the necessary supporting documentation.
- The Internal Audit Service of the Republic of Cyprus is responsible for conducting ex post internal audits in any central government body including the audit of the



achievement of milestones and targets of the plan, through an appropriate sampling method. The Audit Office of the Republic of Cyprus is responsible for conducting financial, performance and compliance ex post (and in some cases real time) external audits for projects implemented under the national budget through an appropriate sampling method which complies with the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) standards. It shall be ensured that the selected sample necessarily includes a sufficient number of measures implemented through the the recovery and resilience plan.

- The Coordinating Authority shall be the body drawing up the requests for payment to the European Commission. The Coordinating Authority shall be supported by the National Control and Audit Coordinator in retrieving the results of audit procedures undertaken by the audit bodies (including the Internal Audit Service and the Audit Office), as well as all cases of serious irregularities, including cases of fraud or suspicion of fraud, corruption and conflicts of interest, that shall feed into the summary of audits, which will accompany payment applications.

## **2. Arrangements for providing full access by the Commission to the underlying data**

A dedicated Monitoring Information System (MIS) shall be used by the Directorate for Recovery and Resilience of the Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development for the implementation of the plan. Its core functionalities, or a contingent repository system with the required functionalities, shall be in place as attested by an audit report by 31 March 2022. In terms of required functionalities, a repository system shall record and store the relevant data related to the implementation of the recovery and resilience plan, in particular on the achievement of milestones and targets, data on final recipients, contractors, subcontractors and beneficial owners in line with Article 22(2), point (d), sections (i) to (iii) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, by the first payment request.

In accordance with Article 24(2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, upon completion of the relevant agreed milestones and targets in Section 1 of this Annex, Cyprus shall submit to the Commission a duly justified request for payment of the financial contribution and of the loan. Cyprus shall ensure that, upon request, the Commission has full access to the underlying relevant data that supports the due justification of the request for payment, both for the assessment of the request for payment in accordance with Article 24(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 and for audit and control purposes.