Complementarity and demarcation between National Recovery and Resilience Plan and Cohesion policy, Common Agricultural Policy, other instruments

Pillar	National Recovery and Resilience Plan	Cohesion policy, CAP, other instruments
Innovative Bulgaria - Education and Skills	Building an educational STEM environment After finalising the last version of the Programme Education 2021- 2027 and clarifying activities to be supported under the NRRP project "Building an educational STEM environment ", including budget provisions for STEM Centres, it is not feasible to provide a clear demarcation line based on thematic, territorial, timing criteria and/or types of beneficiaries. The activities under the two programmes — NRRP and Programme Education — are complementing each other with clear demarcation and no overlapping. The measure, funded under NRRP is focused on development of a national ecosystem for STEM education by financing construction works and delivery of equipment for: National STEM Centre, the main provider of professional development for teachers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); 3 regional STEM centres; over 2240 school STEM centres throughout the country, incl. equipment for high-tech equipped and connected classrooms. The project will support: - the physical setting up and equipment of the STEM centres; - the elaboration of methodological notes, guidance, training materials and programmes for training teachers how to teach under STEM education. As part of the supply contracts for delivery of equipment for the STEM centres, training on how to use the new equipment will be ensured by the suppliers. In addition, the budget for NRRP STEM project does not envisage funds for delivering training sessions and training course for teachers on methodological aspects of STEM education.	Programme Education The NRRP project will be complemented by the activities under the PE, but with a clear demarcation between the activities. Under the NRRP, as part of the supply contracts for delivery of equipment for the STEM centres, the teachers will receive training on how to operate with the new equipment. All trainings for raising the qualification of the pedagogical staff will be financed under the PE. The PE will provide the training sessions for for teachers under the STEM methodological manuals and guidance, elaborated under the NRRP. PE will support activities of interests and practical work of school students in a laboratory environment for acquiring knowledge and skills related to science, mathematics and informatics, augmented virtual reality, teamwork, analytical and critical thinking, use of research methods and approaches, creation of practical solutions for solving problems. Thus, the PE measures are complementing the NRRP STEM Project and synergy between the two financial instruments is ensured for achieving common objectives for providing comprehensive inclusive education in schools, with STEM focus. Although the two programmes may run in parallel, the results from the STEM project, funded under the NRRP, should precede the PE (i.e.under the NRRP will be elaborated the methodological guidance and notes on training modules and programmes, after which the PE will support trainings of teachers). The investments in PE within the general and VET school education will complement the investments in RRP for

Establishment of centers for personal development of students and young people in support of sustainable recovery of the municipalities

Formation, development and empowerment of students and young people through the creation of multifunctional centers that apply innovative approaches in working with these age groups. Pomotion of the values of respecting human rights, democracy and rule of law, learning and practicing active citizenship participation. Training and hiring of youth workers and educational advisors in the centres. The activities are developed with the participation of the students and young people, and by the pupils and youth. Providing of non-formal trainings, outside the school, with a focus on soft skills for developing empowered young people who understand and respect the values of the modern democratic society.

building of STEM centers: i.e. under Priority 1 for general support for personal development of school students; Investments under Priority 2 for applying competency model of teaching, digital transformation of school education, incl. VET; targeted trainings for updating the knowledge, methodological and practical skills for raising the qualification of teachers; for training of pedagogical specialists for application of educational innovations in pre-school and school education, activities for school students' interests in the field of STEM etc.

Programme Development of Regions

The purchase of equipment for the **relevant educational sites outside the STEM classrooms** or vehicles (school buses) will be supported in case of proven need and in coordination with the Ministry of Education and Science. The demarcation of similar activities will be carried out on a project basis with close coordination and communication between funding bodies.

Programme Education

The main demarcation between NRRP and PE is in line with the regulatory framework of activities and institutions. The activities under the PE are covered by the formal education, which is carried out under the conditions and regulated by the state educational standards for pre-school and school education. The support under the PE will be provided within the educational institutions, while the activities under NRRP will be outside the school.

The investments in PE that will **complement** the investments in NRRP for Establishment of centers for personal development of students and young people, are programmed in Priority 1, as the main complementary groups of activities are aimed at: General and additional support for personal development of the school students;

Prevention of bullying and violence and reducing aggression in schools; Adult literacy, incl. reintegration into the education system of persons over 16 years of age, school dropouts and / or without primary education; Creating conditions for access to education by overcoming demographic, social and cultural barriers; Comprehensive programs at the municipal level for desegregation of schools, prevention of secondary segregation and anti-discrimination. **European Economic Area Financial Mechanism** Local Development, Poverty Reduction, and Emhanced **Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups Programme** The Programme finances the establishment of 8 Youth Centres through the following procedures: "Establishment of Youth Centres" in four municipalities with overall goals of enhanced social and economic development in disadvantaged municipalities; improved access of young people to youth centre services; improved cooperation between the Bulgarian beneficiary and the donor project partner(s). The municipalities creating YC are Burgas, Montana, Pernik and Gabrovo. "Youth Centres – a Powerful Factor in Local Development" with the main goals of Increasing the number of activities, organized **by youth**; Widening the territorial scope of the activities; Ensuring access to youth centre activities of disadvantaged young people living in other villages/cities in the respective area; Increasing the number of youth centre activities aiming to responding to the needs of young people; Increasing the number of young people, participating in youth centre activities; Diversifying the activities and including people of different ages; Improving the quality of the existing services and community outreach.

Modernization of educational institutions for a more attractive and quality environment for learning and innovations

The project envisages the construction of a complete renovated outlook of at least 73 kindergartens and 94 schools; to build not less than 10 new kindergartens and 10 schools, to build green outdoor classrooms, outdoor playgrounds and sports grounds and playgrounds in at least 200 educational institutions. to completely renovate at least 30 student dormitories and to build at least 5 student campuses. It is envisaged a complete renovation of the educational environment and equipment of up to 24 VET high schools, in accordance with the highest technological requirements, which with the support of soft measures under Program Education for Centers of Excellence in VET will become core of regional/local educational ecosystems, enhancing regional competitiveness and working on the basis of partnerships between vocational schools, universities, companies, local authorities and other educational institutions.

The municipalities with these YC are Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Vratsa and Dobrich.

The model of these 8 YC is considered a good practices based on the innovative approaches non-formal educational focus, the promotion of values such as democracy, rule of law and respect of human rights, the goal of empowering the students and young people and supporting their active citizenship participation, and is proposed for multiplication in the Recovery and Resilience Plan.

Programme "Development of regions" and "Rural Development Programme"

The Modernization of educational institutions is not exlusively financed from RRF. It is expected also to receive support from ERDF through Programme "Development of regions" (PDR) and from CAP/Rural Development Programme (RDP). The measures are partly overlapping in the field of development/reconstruction/rehabilitation of facilities (buildings) of pre-school and school education.

The demarcation between the two measures is as follows: a) Thematic:

- a1) PDR shall be the only funding source regarding the provision of support to state-owned universities for investments in their educational infrastructure;
- a2) RRF shall be the only funding source regarding the provision of support for:
- building of totally new establishments (kindergardens and schools);
- rehabilitation of dormitories for high-school and university students;
- creation of university students' campuses.
- b) Time and sequence of implementation:

As far as both programmes envisage measures for renewal and modernization of educational institutions the following approach shall be applied:

b1) The investment support measures under RRF shall precede in time thus defining the individual scope of other programmes. The educational institutions to be supported under RRF shall be selected and listed not later than June 2023. The process shall be made public and the information about the entities receiving support under RRF shall also be provided officially to the institution responsible for PDR.

b2) The investment support measures under PDR shall be accessory and supplementary to the RRF measure. They will build on the already approved lists under RRF and should launch a selection procedure not earlier than July 2023, but in all cases after receiving official information about the institutions selected for support under RRF. The support shall be provided to educational institutions not financed by RRF. The supplementary effect shall be further developed as the selection of educational institutions in both cases shall be based on the Methodology for prioritization of educational infrastructure on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria by the Ministry of Education and Science. MES will also provide to the MRDPW information about the potential scope (in terms of numbers and budget) of the entities that could be supported through the PDR.

Strategic plan for development of agriculture and rural areas

The demarcation with the Strategic Plan follows the same demarcation approach as for the RDP:

a) Thematic:

RRF shall be the only funding source regarding the provision of support for:

- building of totally new establishments (kindergardens and schools);

- rehabilitation of dormitories for high-school and university students;
 - creation of university students' campuses.
 - b) Time and sequence of implementation:

As far as both programmes envisage measures for renewal and modernization of educational institutions the following approach shall be applied:

b1) The investment support measures under RRF shall precede in time thus defining the individual scope of other programmes. The educational institutions to be supported under RRF shall be selected and listed not later than June 2023. The process shall be made public and the information about the entities receiving support under RRF shall also be provided officially to the institution responsible for CAP/RDP.

b2) The investment support measures under RDP shall be accessory and supplementary to the RRF measure. They will build on the already approved lists under RRF and should launch a selection procedure not earlier than July 2023, but in all cases after receiving official information about the institutions selected for support under RRF. The support shall be provided to educational institutions not financed by RRF. The approach in that case shall also be more general (in terms of investment activities) as the specific issues regarding VET high-schools for example should have already been addressed through the RRF measure (for 24 VET schools).

Programme Education

The NRRP will support renovation/construction works/equipment of upto 24 VET high schools to be transformed into Centers of Excellence in VET, which will be complemented in parallel with clear demarcation by the soft measures under PE. In the CofEs in VET the PE will support investments for: development of school curricula;

application of innovative teaching and learning methods; qualification of teachers and lecturers in partnership with business and HEIs; information and communication activities, professions competitions, Professional Skills Week, etc.

The investments in PE that will complement the investments in NRRP are programmed in Priority 3 by improving the attractiveness, accessibility, quality and applicability of VET in relation to the needs of the labor market and its connection with the specific territorial characteristics by modernizing the curriculum of vocational training together with employers, introducing flexible models and forms of training, targeted trainings of VET teachers related to the transition to a digital and green economy, blue growth, industry 5.0, school students practical trainings; increasing the share of the dual form of VET training;. Priority 2 of the PE will support digital educational content in the general education training in VET, application of competency model of teaching etc. Priority 1 of the PE will provide comprehensive inclusive education in preschool and school education, with a focus on support for children and students from vulnerable groups; Activities of interest for the development of personal qualities and presentation of the abilities of children in preschool and school education with a special focus on the transition to a green economy.

Digital skills training and building a national online adult learning platform—RRP funding only, complementarity with ESF+ measures Expanding access and providing more opportunities for quality training, using the capabilities of digital technologies - building a cloud environment, a virtual platform for adult education (over 16) in an electronic environment, building a network of digital clubs to participate in electronic and distance learning, a unified information database for online training courses, , conducting trainings in digital

Programme Human Resources Development

The program will fund trainings in digital skills for basic and intermediate level for inactive people (level 1-4 of DigComp 2.1), as well as trainings in higher-level and specialized digital skills for unemployed and employed persons (according to the requirements of the workplace/employer and level 5-8 of DigComp 2.1)

	skills for basic and intermediate level (level 1-4 of DigComp 2.1) for the unemployed and employees. Demarcation and complementarity between the RRP and the HRDP regarding trainings in digital skills is based on the labour market status of the participant – employed, unemployed or inactive.	ESF+-funded online and distance trainings may be implemented via the platform, which will be created under the RRP project. Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalisation for Smart Transformation Measure for Promoting the skills for intelligent specialization in scientific organizations and enterprises - provides training, exchange of experience and good practices in the smart specialization areas for a wide range of representatives of the scientific community and SMEs, establish an active and effective skill platform and re-
		skilling in SSS thematic areas and deepen the understanding and practical implementation of the process of entrepreneurial discovery process.
	Acceleration of the economic recovery and transformation	Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalisation for
	through science and innovation	Smart Transformation ¹
		Measure "Funding for projects that have received the Seal
	Project 5 "Program for Accelerating Economic Recovery and	of Excellence from the European Innovation Council" -
	Transformation through Science and Innovation", Pillar 1,	provides national funding for the implementation of
Innovative Bulgaria	Operation 1 - Implementation of project proposals of innovative	innovative project proposals of SMEs or enterprises with
- Research and Innovations	small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), awarded with "Seal of	medium market capitalization, awarded with "Seal of
	Excellence" in the competitions of the European Innovation Council.	Excellence" by ESI in the thematic areas of Smart
	The mechanism will fund projects that have received the "Seal of	Specialization Strategy (S3). The support covers projects
	Excellence" under the Horizon 2020 Framework Program (2014-	awarded the Seal of Excellence 2024-2026. The main
	2020) and Horizon Europe (2021-2027).	demarcation line with NRRP is the period of award of
	The programme covered a total of 50 projects (12 universities and	funding – the mesures undr NRRP cover the projects that
	38 Seal of Excellence enterprises to be funded in two sessions the	were attributed Seal of Excellence in the period 2021 –

¹ The presented texts are according to the draft Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalisation for Smart Transformation as of 17 July 2021 and some additional changes reflecting the EC informal comments received in October 2021. The new updated version of the Programme is to be finalized and presented to the Commission after consultations with stakeholders within the Thematic working group envisaged to happen until mid-November. Thus the texts concerning PRIDST interventions in the current table will be fully updated as soon as the next version of the programme is finalized.

first in 2022 and the second in 2023, with the time frame covering the period up to 2024. Which will not overlap with the period 2024-2026 for application of measure "Funding for projects that have received the Seal of Excellence from the European Innovation Council" under the Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalisation for Smart Transformation.

Project 5, Second Pillar: Establishment of a network of research high education schools in Bulgaria - the network of research high education schools (HE schools) will include up to 9 (nine) of these. HE schools are an important part of the research ecosystem and the support under the NRRP will stimulate its development.

Project 5, Pillar 1, Operation 1 Support for expanding Bulgaria's participation in the Horizon Europe Framework Program 2021-2027 - providing national funding for project proposals submitted by Bulgarian universities and research organizations, highly rated "above the thresholds" (ie over 10 points) from the European Commission, but did not receive European funding due to budgetary constraints in the Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Framework Program "Enhancing Participation and Dissemination of Excellence", incl. the following 2 schemes: 1. "Twinning"; 2. Departments of the European Scientific Area.

Supporting the process of creating digital innovation hubs on a regional basis

The project provides additional consultancy and training services/online webinars for innovative start-ups. These are trainings, which starts 2023 and continue up to and including the end of the programme until 2024. Which will not overlap with measures foreseen for implementation in the period after 2024 under the Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalisation for Smart Transformation.

2023 whereas the support provided under PRIDST covers projects awarded with the Seal in the period 2024 – 2026. Support for the participation of Bulgarian organizations in the European partnerships on Horizon Europe and in the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (EIT KICs) by providing national co-financing for participation.

Measure "Development of the Centres of Excellent (CoE) and Centres of Competence (CoC) built in the period 2014-2020" - support to the sustainable development of the centres, their full integration into the R&I ecosystem and enhanced contribution to the smart economic transformation. The support will be provided on the basis of Idevelopment programmes and business plans and will indicatively cover activities for optimal operation of the built equipment and mechanisms for effective cooperation with business, establishing an appropriate management model, building management and expert capacity, attracting and retaining talent, building capacity for technology transfer, management and protection of intellectual property rights, development of spin-off companies and similar investments for the early stages of development, risk management plan, risk management plan open access and dissemination of results, etc.

Measure "Support for other key research and innovation projects from the National Road Map for Scientific Infrastructure (NRMSI) outside CoE and CoC" — support for projects in the stage of maturity with a contribution to the economic development of the country, the regions and the thematic areas of Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialization. The support will cover activities related to provision of necessary conditions for conducting research

and innovation (premises, equipment, materials, analyzes, etc.), remuneration of the staff in the research group and improvement of their qualification; dissemination of the results, etc. The support is complementary to the support provided by the national budget and NRRP and in particular the Program for accelerating economic recovery and transformation through science and innovation and the Project for increasing the innovation capacity of BAS in the field of green and digital technologies.

Creation of regional innovation centers. The support will be provided only after mapping of the needs for establishment of such centres and their regional and thematic profile will be determined according to the roadmap for the development of the R&I ecosystem. The existence of CoEs and CoCs, other research infrastructures from NRMSI, digital innovation hubs, plans for the development of the respective industrial parks, the support for research universities and institutes of BAS within the NRRP and the importance of the investment for the development of the region will all be considered before taking the funding decision.

Measure "European Digital Innovation Hubs". The intervention provides additional 50% co-financing to support nationally selected and EU-approved European Digital Innovation Centers, members of a European network. The projects are in the thematic areas of S3 2021-2027. The measure is in coordination and complementarity with the measures in this sphere in the

NRRP and the measures for digitization in enterprises in PCIE.

Support measure for creating a new national knowledge and technology transfer platform based on the "hub and spokes" concept. The intervention is aimed at developing a platform with top level expertise that will serve the current needs of universities, research organizations and businesses in the knowledge and transfer area. The provision of support for technology and knowledge transfer vouchers covering the main transfer activities is envisaged. The platform will consolidate the efforts in this shere and make full use of the results achieved by the support for TTOs under Project 5, Second Pillar: Establishment of a network of research high education schools in Bulgaria and by the support for the Single innovation centre under Project 6 Increasing the innovation capacity of BAS in the field of green and digital technologies of NRRP.

Support for technology transfer cooperation programs between scientific organizations and businesses in the thematic areas of smart specialization. Projects are selected through competitive selection and the support indicatively cover activities related to feasibility testing, process design, prototyping, transfer of new materials and methods, demonstration, pilot production and validation, transfer of expertise, skills and experience, use of standards, etc.

Programme Education

Modernization and correlation of higher education with the needs of the labor market, introduction of a

	competency approach, digital transformation, conducting PhD studies directly related to the current needs of specific economic sectors.
Development of an online portal "One-stop-shop" for start-ups	Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalisation for Smart Transformation Support for development of a unified information platform for research and innovation serving the implementation of the new policy of interaction between research and innovation. The modules of the platform will be divided into phases of the project cycle and thematic areas and will cover activities for exchange of information on funding opportunities under national and European instruments in support of research and innovation and will provide a connection to the UMIS. The platform will have functionalities that help commercialize the research results in business environment and support the technology transfer processes, the intellectual property rights issues. The platform will connect in real time the various existing databases and registers in the field and will have a connection with the Bulgarian open science portal, containing open data and open publications related to the authors and various organizations.
Development of industrial parks and improvement of their infrastructural connectivity Construction of connectivity, specialized and social infrastructure. Shortening supply and reindustrialization chains by attracting and retaining strategic investors in industrial parks	Development of industrial parks through the ITI approach Support for partnerships between municipalities and investors for construction and development of industrial parks, as well as measures to encourage economic activity through investments in basic infrastructure (Programme Development of Regions); measures to support the innovation capacity, growth and competitiveness of enterprises in and in functional vicinity around parks, as well as measures to support the development of

production in the field of clean technologies, circular and low-carbon economy on the territory of the parks (Programme for Competitiveness and Innovation in Enterprises); support for specialized research and innovation infrastructure in industrial parks after mapping the ecosystem of research and innovation in the country (Program for research, innovation and digitalization for smart transformation); complementary measures for separate collection and recycling of waste (in mandatory combination) in industrial parks and areas - for municipalities and enterprises (Program Environment).

Complementarity with RRP: Whilst the RRP focuses on industrial parks and enterprises of strategic importance, the support for the industrial parks (including enterprises in and functional vicinity around them) through the ITI approach is oriented to industrial parks of regional importance. The two approaches complement each other in the efforts to build a well-developed ecosystem, which creates favorable conditions for innovation, competitiveness, growth and development of enterprises.

Programme Development of Regions

Support for partnerships between municipalities and investors for construction and development of industrial parks/zones of regional and local importance, as well as measures to encourage economic activity through investments in basic infrastructure. The support under PDR is not bound to obligation for registration under the Industrial Parks Law as opposed to the industrial parks that will be supported under the RRP. This is the main demarcation line between the two instuments: RRP will support industrial parks from strategic importance registered under the Industrial Parks Law and PDR will support parks from regional and local importance as well

Programme for Competitiveness and Innovation in **Enterprises** Measures to support enterprises in and around parks (Programme for Competitiveness and Innovation in Enterprises); support for specialized research and innovation infrastructure in industrial parks after mapping the ecosystem of research and innovation in the country (Program for research, innovation and digitalization for smart transformation); complementary measures for separate collection and recycling of waste (in mandatory combination) in industrial parks and areas - for municipalities and enterprises (Program Environment). Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalisation For **Smart Transformation** Creation of specialized research and innovation infrastructure as part of the planned industrial parks. The support will be provided only after mapping of the needs for establishment of such infrastructures and in line with the roadmap for the development of the R&I ecosystem. The existence of CoEs and CoCs, other research infrastructures from NRMSI, digital innovation hubs, plans for the development of the respective industrial parks, the support for research universities and institutes of BAS within the NRRP and the importance of the investment for the development of the region will all be considered before taking the funding decision.

as other economic measures depending on the specific

needs of the targeted territory.

Project 6 "Increasing the innovation capacity of BAS in the field of green and digital technologies" Activities for reconstruction and modernization of existing buildings in functional infrastructure for applied research and partial rehabilitation of infrastructure in the units that will be related to applied research and innovation. Activities for raising the qualification of researchers through training courses, specializations and exchange of experience, etc.

Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalisation For Smart Transformation

Development of the Centres of Excellent (CoE) and Centres of Competence (CoC) built in the period 2014-2020 support to the sustainable development of the centres, their full integration into the R&I ecosystem and enhanced contribution to the smart economic transformation. The support will be provided on the basis of Idevelopment programmes and business plans and will indicatively cover activities for optimal operation of the built equipment and mechanisms for effective cooperation with business, establishing an appropriate management model, building management and expert capacity, attracting and retaining talent, building capacity for technology transfer, management and protection of intellectual property rights, development of spin-off companies and similar investments for the early stages of development, risk management plan, risk management plan open access and dissemination of results, etc.

Support for other key research and innovation projects from the National Road Map for Scientific Infrastructure (NRMSI) outside CoE and CoC — support for projects in the stage of maturity with a contribution to the economic development of the country, the regions and the thematic areas of Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialization. The support will cover activities related to provision of necessary conditions for conducting research and innovation (premises, equipment, materials, analyzes, etc.), remuneration of the staff in the research group and improvement of their qualification; dissemination of the results, etc. The support is complementary to the support provided by the national budget and NRRP and in particular the Program for accelerating economic recovery and transformation through science and

Innovative Bulgaria - Smart Industry	Guarantee Instrument for growth Providing a portfolio guarantee to alleviate the challenges that SMEs face in obtaining credit financing for rapid recovery from the pre-	Programme for competitiveness and innovation in enterprises
		Support for technology transfer cooperation program between scientific organizations and businesses in the thematic areas of smart specialization. Projects are selected through competitive selection and the support indicatively cover activities related to feasibility testing process design, prototyping, transfer of new material and methods, demonstration, pilot production and validation, transfer of expertise, skills and experience, use of standards, etc.
		innovation and the Project for increasing the innovation capacity of BAS in the field of green and digital technologies. Support measure for creating a new national knowledge and technology transfer platform based on the "hub and spokes" concept. The intervention is aimed at developing a platform with top level expertise that will serve the current needs of universities, research organizations and businesses in the knowledge and transfer area. The provision of support for technology and knowledge transfer vouchers covering the main transfer activities is envisaged. The platform will consolidate the efforts in this shere and make full use of the results achieved by the support for TTOs under Project 5, Second Pillar Establishment of a network of research high education schools in Bulgaria and by the support for the Single innovation centre under Project 6 Increasing the innovation capacity of BAS in the field of green and digital technologies of NRRP.

expansion in order to achieve growth and sustainable development. The guarantee instrument will target SMEs and small companies with a medium market capitalization and is intended to cover a wide range of financial products (eg working capital, including revolving credit lines, investment loans, leasing). It will be implemented within InvestEU by the EIF as a partner.

Equity instruments for growth

To alleviate the long-term economic negative effect of the COVID-19 crisis on Bulgarian enterprises, which has put enormous pressure on companies' revenues, investment plans, employment retention and overall liquidity. The measure is intended to be implemented through investments in venture capital funds, growth funds, mezzanine funds, pay-back funds and private debt funds. The equity instruments for growth will be targeted at SMEs and Small Mid-Caps. It will be implemented by the EIF as a partner.

Support for technological modernization in enterprises through competitive grant scheme

Providing grants to for the purchase of new technological equipment with an emphasis on digitalization of production processes in order to achieve market advantage, product personalization, flexibility, efficiency and originality to expand or diversify their production. Scope of the support: SMEs and small mid-caps from the national and regional priority economic activities of the National Strategy for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises 2021-2027

Priority 1, specific objective (iii)

Support through financial instruments for the creation of new and development of existing enterprises; support for the development of the entrepreneurial ecosystem, the promotion of internationalization and the attraction of foreign investment.

Equity and quasi-equity investments will be provided to enterprises at all stages of their development depending on their growth potential and according to the needs of the market and the lack of financing. The implementation of equity and quasi-equity instruments is planned - funds for the early stages of development (acceleration and startup) and a fund/funds for venture capital and growth with a focus including on fast-growing enterprises.

Under InvestEU a follow-up support for enterprises in midterm in the form of a financial instrument is envisaged to maintain and build on the results achieved under OPIC and to complement the support through financial instruments planned under this specific objective and those set up under the RRP.

Programme for competitiveness and innovation in enterprises

Competitive grant scheme for productive investments in SMEs to achieve growth and competitiveness is envisaged. The support will be oriented according to the regional potential for development: family enterprises, creative industries and crafts.

Voucher scheme to support the digitalization process in enterprises

Support for the first and second level of digitalization (Computerization and Connectivity) in enterprises from all sectors. Support for measures to ensure the cybersecurity of enterprises. The measure is aimed at enterprises from all sectors² and aims to facilitate their access to information and communication technologies and services in a fast and efficient way.

The computerization and the connectivity are key requirements for the implementation of Industry 4.0 and the transition to higher levels of digital transformation.

The initial two stages of digitalization, supported under this measure, are followed by four additional stages in which the necessary technologies for Industry 4.0 are being developed, for which funding would be provided under the Programme Competitiveness and Innovation in Enterprises "2021- 2027.

Equity for innovations

Investing in venture capital funds, technology transfer funds, startup funds and social impact in order to increase the innovation capacity of enterprises, improve their productivity and the transition to a knowledge economy. The initiative will be implemented by the EIF as a partner.

Programme for competitiveness and innovation in enterprises

Priority 1, specif objective (ii)

- ✓ Encouraging the introduction of Industry 4.0 technologies in enterprises;
- ✓ Introduction of standards from Industry 4.0;
- ✓ Support for investments aimed at the development of digital technologies, software, digital applications in the area of Industry 4.0.;
- ✓ Implementation of appropriate processes for cybersecurity and data confidentiality in SMEs.
- ✓ Improving the digital skills of the staff in connection with the introduced Industry 4.0 technologies.

The support under this specific objective will focus on the last four levels of digitalization in which the necessary technologies for Industry 4.0 are being developed: Stage 3 "Visibility", Stage 4 "Transparency", Stage 5 "Forecast Capacity" and Stage 6 "Adaptability".

Programme for competitiveness and innovation in enterprises

Priority 1, specific objective (i)

The support for enterprises in all stages of their development, start-up and growth to overcome the problems with the lack of funding for the transformation of scientific developments into marketable products, processes and technologies, for innovations and intellectual property rights will be realized through share and/or quasi-equity investments as a form of financing. It is planned the implementation of two instruments – fund

² Except sector A "Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries", Sector B "Mining", Sector F "Construction", Sectors "Education" and "Social Activities"

"Innovation in enterprises" and debt instrument for risk financing.

The envisaged support through financial instruments is complemented with competitive grant scheme measures for:

Support for the implementation of internal R&D and innovation in enterprises.

Support for the implementation of innovation in enterprises.

Support for the increase of the innovation capacity in enterprises by attracting foreign researchers in the process of developing R&D and innovation in enterprises with a focus on enterprises in the growth stage.

Support for claiming and protection of industrial property in enterprises, incl. support for patent protection, utility models, design and others.

As there is substantial room for improvement in the area of innovation capacity in SMEs the effect of the interventions under this specific objective will be further enhanced by the measures under the Recovery and Resilience Plan related to the construction and development of a national research and innovation ecosystem, as well as those aimed at developing R&D results and innovation into market products and services which will further help enterprises to improve their innovation capacity.

Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalisation For Smart Transformation

Voucher scheme for encouraging SMEs to use the capacity of research organizations for introducing innovations and innovative solutions. The support is in the thematic areas of smart specialization and is aimed at enterprises that need professional know-how and specialists to develop

their innovation and R&D potential. The focus is on levels of technological readiness from TRL 2 to TRL 4. Support for technology and knowledge-intensive spinoff companies - the support will be provided to CoEs, CoCs and other research organizations through a financial technology instrument for transfer and commercialization, which will include products for both the early stages of development of spin-off companies as well as support for their plans for commercialization and developed technologies. Support for the creation and development of industrial start-up systems aimed at deploying high levels of research and innovation. The support will be provided through a financial instrument and the aim is to stimulate the process of deployment and acceleration of start-ups around developed industries and clusters, to share the benefits in the field of research and innovation in favor of the economic development of the sector and regions in the country. Programme for competitiveness and innovation in Transition to a circular economy (competitive grant scheme) enterprises Supporting the process of transition to a circular economy in the Priority 2, specific objective (vi) enterprises from sector C "Manufacturing" (SMEs and large Measures for sustainable management and use of natural enterprises), incl. partnership between them for the purpose of resources in enterprises, as well as reducing the use of achieving industrial symbiosis. Green Bulgaria primary raw materials or increasing the use of by-The main objective of this measure is to support enterprises for the - Low-carbon Economy products and secondary raw materials. transition to a circular economy by encouraging circular models of Increasing the durability, reparability, upgradability or production and consumption, introduction of environmental reusability of products; standards, promotion of technologies related to recycling and reuse Support for improving waste management in enterprises, of waste, repair and use of products from biological origin etc. incl. prevention and reduction of waste generation, preparation for reuse, recycling of waste generated by own activities.

It is planned to use debt financial instruments (guarantee and loan) for resource efficiency in enterprises in combination with grants in one operation. Grants will be provided for the preparation of the investment project, as well as for the investment itself

Development and implementation of innovation in SMEs in the field of circular, low-carbon economy and clean technologies according to thematic area "Clean Technologies, Circular and Low Carbon Economy" of S3 2021-2027 (competitive grant schems for SMEs from all sectors of the economy).

Support for the establishment of partnerships between SMEs to achieve industrial symbiosis

With regard to resource efficiency measures, enterprises (sector C) that have received grant under the NRRP will be eligible for support under the Programme through a financial instrument or for other types of activities other than those supported by the NRRP. Support for technological renewal, innovation and resource efficiency for pre-treatment companies (part of the recycling sector) is also provided.

Programme Environment

Measures to increase the capacity for recycling of waste – financial instruments for enterprises performing activities under code 38.32 *Recycling of sorted waste* from the Classification of Economic Activities.

Grant scheme for the installation of renewable energy systems for own consumption in combination with local energy storage facilities

Support for new capacity for production and storage of electricity for own consumption from renewable sources: enterprises (SMEs, small mid-caps and mid-caps) from all sectors except sector D Programme for competitiveness and innovation in enterprises

Priority 2, specific objective (i)

Energy efficiency measures in enterprises; support for introduction and certification of energy management

"Production and distribution of electricity and heat and gaseous fuels "and sector A" Agriculture, forestry and fisheries "

systems and systems for monitoring and control of energy consumption in enterprises.

Target group: SMEs and large enterprises with potential to implement energy efficiency measures.

Support will be provided by combined financing between debt financial instruments (guarantee and loan) and grants. A combination of grants is envisaged in one operation (eg. energy audit, energy management systems, energy monitoring and control systems, other investments).

The activities under this objective will provide support for the enterprises according to their needs (for energy efficiency measures in industrials systems, for energy efficiency measures in industrial buildings or both of them) whilst the Programme for energy efficiency in building stock under the RRF provides support to the enterpirses only for industrial buildings.

Energy efficient municipal systems for outdoor artificial lighting

The main activities are related to: delivery and installation of new luminaires, wires and cables; supply and installation of equipment for production and storage of electricity from renewable sources for own consumption in the OAL system; performing construction and installation works directly related to the reconstruction of the system/s for external artificial lighting; delivery and installation of new tools for measurement and control, with the possibility of upgrading and expansion, incl. introduction or connection to an existing system for automation and control of the system for external artificial lighting. The NRRP project provides funding for 82 project proposals submitted and evaluated, but not funded under EEA FM - procedure EEA BGENERGY-2.001.

Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Energy Security Program, funded by the EEA FM 2014-2021, Procedure BGENERGY-2.001 "Rehabilitation and modernization of municipal infrastructure - systems for outdoor artificial lighting of municipalities"

The main activities are related to: delivery and installation of new luminaires, wires and cables; supply and installation of equipment for production and storage of electricity from renewable sources for own consumption in the OAL system; performing construction and installation works directly related to the reconstruction of the system/s for external artificial lighting; delivery and installation of new tools for measurement and control, with the possibility of upgrading and expansion, incl. introduction or connection to an existing system for automation and control of the system for external artificial lighting.

Programme for energy efficiency in building stock

Measures to increase energy efficiency in the housing stock of the country, aimed at achieving a minimum class B of energy consumption. Measures for energy renovation of state and municipal buildings, incl. administrative (70%), cultural (15%) and sports (15%) infrastructure, as well as buildings owned by the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Measures for energy renovation of buildings in the field of production, trade and services

Programme Development of Regions

Energy efficiency in residential and public buildings on the territory of urban municipalities in the country. Demarcation between NRRP and PDR will be carried out at a project basis - the institution responsible for the programme under NRRP and under PDR is the same. Promoting electromobility and the use of environmentally friendly vehicles for public transport, as well as the construction of charging stations for electric vehicles.

Programme Development of Regions and the CAP Strategic Plan

Mirror infrastructure measures will be financed, and the demarcation will be on a territorial basis: the EAFRD will support 215 rural municipalities, while PDR will support the remaining 50 municipalities. Thus, the entire territory of the country will have access to funding for integrated territorial investments in accordance with the integrated territorial strategies of NUTS 2 regions. Measures for green infrastructure in cities will be funded accordingly.

Programme Environment

Replacement of individual solid fuel heating devices with environmentally friendly alternatives in municipalities with poor air quality to reduce the PM levels in pursuance of the Judgment of the Court of Justice of the European Union in case C-488/15 of 5 April 2017 on non-compliance with the norms for PM10 and the non-compliance with the obligations under Directive 2008/50/EC. Priority will be given to interventions in in energy efficient dwellings.

Establishment of a national decarbonisation fund Supporting investments in low-carbon development through sustainable and targeted financing of a wide group of beneficiaries - energy end-users.	Existing funds will be used for the establishment of the Fund, and its structuring will be supported by an ongoing project for technical assistance from DG "Reforms" in the EC with expected completion in early 2022.
Digital transformation and development of information systems and real-time systems of the Electricity System Operator Complete modernization of the activities for planning, management and maintenance of the electricity transmission network of the country through the introduction of modern digital means and methods to ensure the necessary maneuverability, security, reliability and speed in the management of the electricity system in an environment of low carbon production.	Modernization Fund For the period 2021 - 2030 ESO EAD plans to implement a program for energy efficiency and modernization, supported by the Modernization Fund, which will be institutionalized in Bulgaria in implementation of Directive 2003/87/EC. The program for energy efficiency and modernization includes implementation of cost-effective energy efficiency measures in substations, implementation of technical measures to reduce technological losses on power lines, construction of new 400 kV power lines and substations and creation of an innovative "School of Power Engineers". The energy efficiency program does not include measures for digitalization of planning and management activities that will be implemented under NRRP project. At the same time, the implementation of the NRRP project, in combination with the projects for energy efficiency and modernization, will lead to a complete transformation of the country's electricity system - the basis for achieving the national goals in the package "Energy - Climate" by 2030 and in the long run 2040/2050.
Design, construction and commissioning of infrastructure for transmission of hydrogen and low-carbon gaseous fuels for power plants and other consumers in coal regions in the Republic of Bulgaria The project includes a set of activities to provide a new supply gas pipeline infrastructure suitable for the transmission of hydrogen and low-carbon gaseous fuels.	The measure is exclusively financed from RRF.

Scheme to support pilot projects for green hydrogen and biogas production

The main objective of the measure is to provide support for the development of pilot projects allowing the introduction of green hydrogen and biogas for use in industrial production, as well as for their future use in transport and for the production of electricity and heat.

Scheme to support the construction of a minimum of 1.7 GW RES and batteries

The funding mechanism is planned with six tender procedures initiated by the beneficiary every six months, each for the provision of at least 285 MW of RES capacity for each period. The implementation of the project will be supported by CAPEX support (grant) for the investor with the highest capacity with fixed CAPEX support for produced MWh.

Just Transition Fund

The preparatory work for the Territorial Just Transition Plans envisages a measure: "Support for pilot projects in the field of energy storage (including green hydrogen)", which will currently be available only for the regions of Stara Zagora, Kyustendil and Pernik.

Programme Competitiveness and Innovations in Enterprises

While the new Operational Programme "Competitiveness and Innovations in Enterprises" will provide for targeted measures to improve energy efficiency in industrial systems, incl. measures for introduction of energy management systems and systems for monitoring and control of energy consumption, the Programme for economic transformation within RRP, direction "Decarbonization", will provide additional support to promote the use of electricity from renewable energy sources for own consumption.

Insofar as in the field of energy efficiency improvement and the use of renewable energy sources there are significant investment needs in different economic sectors, the implementation of each of these types of interventions in their entirety will allow to use the full range of available measures, while according to their needs each enterprise will be able to decide which measures to apply and in what combination.

Just Transition Fund

The preparatory work for the Territorial Just Transition Plans envisages a measure: "Support for the production of energy from renewable sources", which will currently be available only for the regions of Stara Zagora, Kyustendil and Pernik.

Scheme to support the decarbonisation process through the construction of high-efficiency low-carbon power plants, replacing coal capacity in the coal regions. The aim of the project is the construction of facilities using natural gas, which will create conditions for significant reform in the energy sector, essential for the gradual decarbonisation of the economy. The project envisages the deployment of a gas-based system through a public tender, replacing coal capacity in the coal regions, by building a reliable gas power unit (or units) with a net installed capacity of at least 1.0GW with a high degree of continuity, excellent network balancing capabilities and fuel efficiency of over 60%.

Modernization Fund

30% of the capital investment will be financed from the RRF, 30% - through a financial instrument under the Modernization Fund and 40% will be own financing.

Research activities for development of a pilot project for cogeneration of heat and electricity from geothermal sources

The project consists in updating the information on the geothermal potential in the country and preparing a design solution for a pilot system for the use of geothermal energy for cogeneration up to 5MW of electricity and 30MW of heat. In order to train specialists and disseminate knowledge about modern cost-effective and environmental technologies for production and use of clean energy. The project provides for the construction of a specialized laboratory at the Technical University - Sofia for research and training on combined geothermal energy systems.

The measure is exclusively financed from RRF.

Green Bulgaria - Biodiversity

Integration of ecosystem approach and application of naturebased solutions in the protection of Natura 2000 protected sites

Provide up-to-date information on the ecological status of ecosystems, ecosystem services and green infrastructure on the territory of the Natura 2000 network;

Determine the site-specific conservation objectives and measures for protected sites of the Natura 2000 network;

Involve stakeholders in the decision-making process.

Programme Environment

Conservation measures aimed at improving the conservation status of natural habitats and species subject to protection in the Natura 2000 network. Development of management plans for all Natura 2000 protected sites; provide support to the management bodies of Natura 2000 network – exchange of experience, capacity building, project management and implementation costs, etc.

Improving the knowledge of species and natural habitats (will not duplicate available data at the national level, but provide information to address specific problems, threats and impacts, e.g. mapping of natural habitats and species which are included in the checklists for reporting under Art. 17 of the Habitats Directive in 2019 and for which there are not scientific data to determine their conservation status. This includes targeted sites for which scientific knowledge is insufficient. The scientific research also addresses needs, which arise from developed SSCOs for respective protected sites (e.g. BG0002003 Kresna) to achieve the mid-term objectives by individual parameters. The data collected may contribute also to the elaboration of the SSCOs (under the RRP); development/actualization of action plans for species; capacity building of stakeholders for subsequent implementation of Natura 2000 management plans to gain knowledge regarding the site-specifics conservation objectives and related measures for the respective protected sites and the applicable management actions for protection and or improvements of conservation status of natural habitats and species distributed in them.

Restoring key ecosystems in implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy and the objectives of the European Green Deal

Ensure connectivity of the Natura 2000 network, restore traditional landscapes and create ecological corridors outside of Natura 2000;

Restore ecosystems key for the climate, such as wetlands, freshwater and river ecosystems, marshes and peatlands - Implementation of measures from the "National plan for conservation of the most significant wetlands in Bulgaria 2013 - 2020" - horizontal conservation measures for restoration of agricultural areas with high potential for wetlands in 6 protected sites - Hadzhi Dimitrovo fishponds; Dragoman Natura 2000 protected site (PS), Vardim Island Natura 2000 PS, Choklyovo Blato Natura 2000 PS, Kamimok Brushlen PS, peatlands in Vitosha National Park.

Purchase of private land for restoration purpose of wetlands identified as pastures and meadows without 62CO natural habitat type;

The **constructed wetland** under this project is envisaged for a settlement in the low lands.

Improving river connectivity – through removal of barriers and construction of fish passes - actions outside Natura 2000 sites.

Restoration of riverine forests

Integrate conservation and education measures for preserving local protected species and sustainable development of zoos.

Programme Environment

Conservation measures aimed at improving the ecological conditions of species and types of natural habitats through restoration of the hydrological regimes, elimination of invasive alien species and etc. Those do not include horizontal conservation measures for restoration of agricultural areas with high potential for wetlands as per the PAF 2021-2027.

Demarcation with OPE 2014-2020 also has been done (OP Environment 2014–2020 finances implementation of measures from the "National plan for conservation of the most significant wetlands in Bulgaria 2013 - 2020" in 7 sites (Srebarna, Shablensko Lake, Durankulak Lake, Mandra-Poda, Vaya, Belenski Islands Complex).

Purchase of private land for restoration purpose - 62C0 natural habitat type only.

Pilot construction of small waste water treatment facilities for mountain huts in the National Parks.

Improving river connectivity – removal of barriers and construction of fish passes in Natura 2000 sites.

Mesures under the ITI approach for upgrade and modernisation of facilities and provision of equipment for the development and effective functioning of structures, providing ex situ conservation of species (vivariums, botanical gardens, arboretums, zoos, living collections and centers for reproduction and breeding of protected species). No educational or conservation measures will be supported.

Digital agriculture

Development of a complete electronic information system in agriculture: electronicization of the information flows from and for the implementation of the administrative activity; electronicization of services provided to farmers; integration of the information systems of the administration and the software for management of the agricultural holdings in a Unified platform for automated data exchange between the administration and the farmers.

Green Bulgaria

- Sustainable Agriculture

Promotion fund for the technological and ecological transition of agriculture

Investments in agricultural holdings for tangible and intangible assets for the implementation of activities contributing to: protection of the components of the environment and mitigation of the consequences of climate change; introduction of innovative production technologies and automation of work processes; shortening supply chains; improved use of water resources, conservation of genetic resources.

Rural Development Programme 2014-2020

Investments aimed at increasing the productivity and competitiveness of agricultural holdings through restructuring and modernization of the available material capacities, introduction of innovations, observance of the EU standards, protection of the components of the environment.

Strategic plan for development of agriculture and rural areas

Investments in agricultural holdings related to: modernization and restructuring of production; improving resource use; implementation of technical and technological solutions contributing to reducing the use of plant protection products, fertilizers and veterinary medicinal products; digitalization and automation of production and administrative processes.

Rural Development Programme 2014-2020

Investments aimed at increasing the productivity and competitiveness of agricultural holdings through restructuring and modernization of the available material capacities, introduction of innovations, observance of the EU standards, protection of the components of the environment.

Strategic plan for development of agriculture and rural areas

Investments in agricultural holdings related to: modernization and restructuring of production; improving resource use; implementation of technical and technological solutions contributing to reducing the use of plant protection products, fertilizers and veterinary medicinal products; digitalization and automation of production and administrative processes.

Connected Bulgaria - Digital Connectivity

Digitalisation of the processes from the farm to the fork

A complete electronic information system in agriculture which to achieve: electronicization of the information flows from and for the implementation of the administrative activity; electronic services, provided to the farmers, their centralization and their use by the business in the course of fulfillment of the obligations and requirements depending on the type of agricultural activity; integration of the information systems of the administration and creation of an opportunity for automated data exchange between the administration and the farmers. The platform will ensure a single flow of data to and from the administration and farmers and avoid the manual transfer of information and support for redundant document formats. The system will contain module "farm to the fork" which will allow tracking - from primary production to final consumption.

Strategic plan for development of agriculture and rural areas

Investments in agricultural holdings related to: modernization and restructuring of production; improving resource use; implementation of technical and technological solutions contributing to reducing the use of plant protection products, fertilizers and veterinary medicinal products; digitalization and automation of production and administrative processes.

Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Programme

Support of actions lead by Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies through eligible operations under EMFAF. Fostering the effective control of fisheries and the reliable data for knowledge-based decision making.

Large-scale deployment of digital infrastructure

Development of symmetric gigabit access networks throughout the country. Secure broadband mobile connectivity, which will ensure high-speed coverage along key transport corridors; improving coverage in settlements, with a focus on peripheral, sparsely populated and rural areas; upgrade of the state-owned electronic communiactions network by increasing its transmission capacity; "green" solutions for reliable low-energy consumption connectivity.

Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalization Program for Smart Transformation

Complementarity will be ensured with the digital connectivity measure, which will provide conditions for increasing the pace of digitalisation of the public sector and ensuring a high level of cybersecurity, which will be realized thanks to the improved environment for data transmission and digital connectivity.

The focus is on the formation of the ecosystem of the digital society, based on the created and implemented ICT solutions, at the center of which is the consumer of public services and products, the implementation of proactive digital services and products in the public sector that will meet the need or a demand generated by the individual citizen, a group of citizens, the business, the scientific community or the administration.

Supporting the creation of new and upgrading the existing conditions for creation / collection, storage, processing

and dissemination of accessible and interoperable and quality data. Measure "Establishment of a data management framework and construction of interoperable data spaces" - Establishment of a data management framework and construction of interoperable data spaces by upgrading the Reference Architecture for interoperability and increasing interoperability and data quality in the private and public sector, incl. research organizations, academic centers and universities, developing interoperable data models and related data models, a data lifecycle management mechanism, creating new or expanding the functionality of existing data warehouses. Measure "Capacity development of competent authorities and organizations providing access to shared data (including state-of-the-art techniques and methods, training, equipment, legal regulations), promotion of data sharing and altruism" - the measure will include the creation of a Single Information Point or Office with an integrating role and importance for the development and proper functioning of data spaces by strategic sectors and areas of public interest, training and development. This measure will also emphasize training activities for building data sharing partnerships, and the creation of data arrays provided on the basis of altruism with respect to data large enough to allow data analysis and machine learning, including within the EU. **Connecting Europe Facility, Telecom Sector** Possibility of corresponding connectivity with neighboring countries through CEF2 thus stimulating the development and supply of cross-border digital connectivity and services. It is therefore foreseen to promote the Bulgarian participation in CEF2 cross border projects, to ensure the

seamless connection of the 5 Corridors to the neighboring countries. Succfessful participation in **5G communities** initiative, in which local communities will once again benefit, but fiber backhaul capacity will be necessary in order to participate. This will create opportunities for participation of communities, which would otherwise remain excluded due to lack of technical infrastructure. **Programme Transport Connectivity** Completion of the modernization of the railway section Elin Pelin - Kostenets and the modernization of the section Digitization in railway transport through modernization of safety Sofia - Pernik - Radomir; modernization of Volyak and energy efficiency systems by rail from the core and Dragoman railway section, phase II. comprehensive TEN-T network Construction of a railway connection between Bulgaria and the Republic of Northern Macedonia. Construction of dispatching signalization in the directions Sofia Construction of railway connections to Plovdiv Airport and Mezdra – Gorna Oryahovitsa – Kaspichan, Ruse – Gorna Bourgas Airport to improve the connectivity between Oryahovitsa, Karnobat – Sindel, Kaspichan – Sindel railway and air transport and increase their efficiency. Completion of the facilities and systems on the railway Modernization of the telecommunication network and systems in line Karnobat - Sindel of the comprehensive Trans-Connected Bulgaria the section Mezdra - Medkovets European transport network. - Transport Connectivity Development of Gorna Oryahovitsa railway junction, Ruse Implementation of a System for monitoring and control of railway junction and Varna railway junction. parameters of the rolling stock in motion. Construction of Continuing the construction and modernization of railway solar/photovoltaic power plants in the area of railway stations for stations and the implementation of ERTMS. the needs of NRIC and installation of energy saving LED lighting in the area of 120 railway stations and stops. **Connecting Europe Facility, Transport Sector** Construction of optical cable network digital Investments are planned for the modernization of the telecommunication equipment in the section Sofia - Karlovo railway lines Radomir - Gueshevo, Vidin - Medkovets, as Filipovo. Construction of an automated unified hub for information well as for the modernization of the railway connection management in NRIC. between Bulgaria and Serbia in the section Dragoman border with the Republic of Serbia; doubling of sections on the railway line Plovdiv-Svilengrad-border with the

Republic of Turkey and modernization of the section

Mezdra-Medkovets, as well as modernization of Kostenets-Septemvri Railway section – Tunnel 11. In the field of water transport, and specifically in the inland waterways are foreseen investments to improve navigation conditions in the common Bulgarian-Romanian section of the Danube River. For maritime and inland waterway ports, investments are foreseen investments to improve the basic infrastructure and to upgrade information systems for improving security and reliability of navigation. For air transport, investments are foreseen to upgrade and optimise air traffic management systems (SESAR). The envisaged projects under PTC and CEF, Transport 2021 – 2027 do not overlap with the proposed initiatives under the NRRP. **Programme Transport Connectivity** Completion of the modernization of the railway section Elin Pelin - Kostenets and the modernization of the section Sofia - Pernik - Radomir; modernization of Volyak -Dragoman railway section, phase II. Construction of a railway connection between Bulgaria and the Republic of Northern Macedonia. Reconstruction and rehabilitation of key station complexes and Construction of railway connections to Plovdiv Airport and Bourgas Airport to improve the connectivity between construction of an intermodal terminal - Gorna Oryahovitsa railway and air transport and increase their efficiency. Construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of key station complexes (Mezdra and Cherven Bryag). Completion of the facilities and systems on the railway line Karnobat - Sindel of the "comprehensive Trans-European transport network. Development of Gorna Oryahovitsa railway junction, Ruse railway junction and Varna railway junction. Continuing the construction and modernization of railway stations and the implementation of ERTMS.

Connecting Europe Facility, Transport Sector

Investments are planned for the modernization of the railway lines Radomir - Gueshevo, Vidin - Medkovets, as well as for the modernization of the railway connection between Bulgaria and Serbia in the section Dragoman - border with the Republic of Serbia; doubling of sections on the railway line Plovdiv-Svilengrad-border with the Republic of Turkey and modernization of the section Mezdra-Medkovets, as well as modernization of Kostenets-Septemvri Railway section – Tunnel 11.

In the field of water transport, and specifically in the inland waterways are foreseen investments to improve navigation conditions in the common Bulgarian-Romanian section of the Danube River. For maritime and inland waterway ports, investments are foreseen investments to improve the basic infrastructure and to upgrade information systems for improving security and reliability of navigation.

For air transport, investments are foreseen to upgrade and optimise air traffic management systems (SESAR).

The envisaged projects under PTC and CEF, Transport 2021 – 2027 do not overlap with the proposed initiatives under the NRRP.

Modernization of traction substations and sectional stations along the core and comprehensive TEN-T network, with construction of SCADA remote control and telesignaling system

Complete modernization of 20 traction substations, modernization of 18 sectional posts, construction of a system uniting the SCADA remote control and telesignaling systems.

Programme Transport Connectivity

Completion of the modernization of the railway section Elin Pelin - Kostenets and the modernization of the section Sofia - Pernik - Radomir; modernization of Volyak - Dragoman railway section, phase II.

Construction of a railway connection between Bulgaria and the Republic of Northern Macedonia.

Construction of railway connections to Plovdiv Airport and Bourgas Airport to improve the connectivity between railway and air transport and increase their efficiency.

line Karnobat - Sindel of the comprehensive Trans-European transport network. Development of Gorna Oryahovitsa railway junction, Ruse railway junction and Varna railway junction. Continuing the construction and modernization of railway stations and the implementation of ERTMS. **Connecting Europe Facility, Transport Sector** Investments are planned for the modernization of the railway lines Radomir - Gueshevo, Vidin - Medkovets, as well as for the modernization of the railway connection between Bulgaria and Serbia in the section Dragoman border with the Republic of Serbia; doubling of sections on the railway line Plovdiv-Svilengrad-border with the Republic of Turkey and modernization of the section Mezdra-Medkovets, as well as modernization of Kostenets-Septemvri Railway section – Tunnel 11. In the field of water transport, and specifically in the inland waterways are foreseen investments to improve navigation conditions in the common Bulgarian-Romanian section of the Danube River. For maritime and inland waterway ports, investments are foreseen investments to improve the basic infrastructure and to upgrade information systems for improving security and reliability

Completion of the facilities and systems on the railway

For air transport, investments are foreseen to upgrade and optimise air traffic management systems (SESAR). The envisaged projects under PTC and CEF, Transport 2021 – 2027 do not overlap with the proposed initiatives

of navigation.

under the NRRP.

Ensuring sustainable transport connectivity and service by purchasing energy efficient and comfortable rolling stock
Purchase of 20 electric trains for medium and long distances

The measure is exclusively financed from RRF.

Improving road safety in the Republic of Bulgaria by creating conditions for sustainable road safety management

Reducing the risk of road accidents. Reducing injuries through targeted impact on key road safety management processes Reducing the risk of road accidents and reducing injuries by targeted impact on key processes of road safety management. Measures will be taken to optimize the activities for safety management of the national and municipal roads, incl. development and integration of software applications for management and prioritization of road activities to ensure road safety, as well as for the establishment of a national electronic system for submitting and processing signals related to road infrastructure safety, as well as for the procurement of equipment providing the needs for current repairs and maintenance of the republican roads. Specialized equipment will be provided to assess the state of road safety when inspecting roads, including sites close to the road in order to establish specific design characteristics, performance of the road surface and their functional condition.

Programme Transport Connectivity

Horizontal area of investment for all types of transport is transport safety and security, with particular attention to road safety. In compliance with the National strategy for Road Safety in the Republic of Bulgaria for the period 2021 - 2030and the respective Action Plan for the period 2021 - 2030, efforts under this policy objective will be directed to: integrity-based management; socially responsible behavior; effective and preventive control; sparing road infrastructure; vehicles in protection of human; life-saving and protecting chain.

It is envisaged to build ERTMS and ETCS (first level) beyond the scope of PTC Priority 1 railway infrastructure development projects, as well as to deploy automatic crossing devices at key junctions with concentration of incidents to enhance safety.

Road safety measures are planned along the TEN-T. For the safety of road traffic it is necessary to take measures to improve the effectiveness of monitoring and control of road users, to establish automatic devices for controlling the speed monitoring mode, to modernize the information systems guaranteeing safety and security, to reconstruct and to improve the organization of traffic. The development and upgrading of information systems for traffic management on the national road network should Evaluation and monitoring of road continue. infrastructure safety indicators along the "core" and "comprehensive" TEN-T will be carried out. It is envisaged to finance construction and installation works related to the physical separation of transport flows; improvement of road markings and road signs, etc.

Conceptually new management of road safety in a single integrated strategic framework for the period 2021-2030

Complete overall safety assessment of the road network, with a view to prioritizing infrastructure measures to ensure road safety. Extending the scope of application of road network safety management procedures, in accordance with Directive (EU) 2019/1936; arranging a new type of procedures - a comprehensive assessment of the safety of the road network, through which a periodic assessment of the condition of the road infrastructure and its safety is carried out and targeted road safety inspections; introduction of a normatively established obligation to take follow-up actions as a result of conducted procedures for overall assessment of the safety of the road network, expressed in the planning and implementation of targeted road safety inspections or in the undertaking of direct corrective actions.

Supply of additional multifunctional vessels and facilities is envisaged, which will contribute to the improvement of the conditions for navigation on the Danube River and will provide the necessary data and information for adequate intervention in low water periods to provide the necessary depths for navigation, as well as to improve the navigation conditions, respectively increasing safety in the river. Supplay of equipment and upgrade of systems imroving quality of data provided to the users is also envisaged.

Programme Transport Connectivity

Horizontal area of investment for all types of transport is transport safety and security, with particular attention to road safety. In compliance with the National strategy for Road Safety in the Republic of Bulgaria for the period 2021 - 2030and the respective Action Plan for the period 2021 - 2030, efforts under this policy objective will be directed to: integrity-based management; socially responsible behavior; effective and preventive control; sparing road infrastructure; vehicles in protection of human; life-saving and protecting chain.

It is envisaged to build ERTMS and ETCS (first level) beyond the scope of PTC Priority 1 railway infrastructure development projects, as well as to deploy automatic crossing devices at key junctions with concentration of incidents to enhance safety.

Road safety measures are planned along the TEN-T. For the safety of road traffic it is necessary to take measures to improve the effectiveness of monitoring and control of road users, to establish automatic devices for controlling the speed monitoring mode, to modernize the information systems guaranteeing safety and security, to reconstruct and to improve the organization of traffic. The development and upgrading of information systems for traffic management on the national road network should

continue. Evaluation and monitoring of road infrastructure safety indicators along the "core" and "comprehensive" TEN-T will be carried out. It is envisaged to finance construction and installation works related to the physical separation of transport flows; improvement of road markings and road signs, etc.

Supply of additional multifunctional vessels and facilities is envisaged, which will contribute to the improvement of the conditions for navigation on the Danube River and will provide the necessary data and information for adequate intervention in low water periods to provide the necessary depths for navigation, as well as to improve the navigation conditions, respectively increasing safety in the river. Supplay of equipment and upgrade of systems imroving quality of data provided to the users is also envisaged.

"Green mobility" – pilot scheme to support sustainable urban mobility through measures to develop environment-friendly, safe, functional and energy-efficient transport systems

Supporting the implementation of the urban mobility reform and the deployment of framework policies to facilitate the growth of cities and ensure their sustainability, through the implementation of sustainable urban mobility measures in the framework of a framework support scheme for different beneficiaries. Eligible activities include the integration of zero-emission public transport vehicles into the urban transport system, the construction of charging stations for public transport vehicles, the development of ITS and integrated digital solutions to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of public transport, implementation of infrastructural measures for safe urban mobility, aimed at vulnerable road users, as well as development/updating of general plans for traffic organization.

Programme Development of Regions

The program will complement the measures for sustainable urban mobility funded under NRRP - the pilot scheme "Green Mobility" will be used as a model that will be upgraded and further developed with funding under PDR through integrated projects for clean public transport vehicles, transport, construction of charging stations for electric vehicles, integrated transport systems and digital transport applications, as well as road safety measures. Demarcation will be carried out at project basis — the MA of PDR is responsible also for the implementation of the pilot scheme under RRP.

Programme Development of Regions Measures to promote sustainable urban mobility will only be funded by the PDR if there is a clearly identified strategy and measures for the development of sustainable urban mobility in the respective Integrated Municipal Development Plans containing all elements of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans. These should be in line with the EC Sustainable Urban Mobility Package, inline with the Concept on Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (the Annex to the Commission Communication COM(2013) 913). The measures may include all types of investment in infrastructure and equipment, including but not limited to: development of traffic management plans, introduction of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) etc. measures for digitalisation of transport, replacement of public transport rolling stock with clean transport, Integration of sustainable urban mobility in the strategic planning charging infrastructure for clean vehicles, cycling and of regional and spatial development pedestrian network, transport infrastructure, including streets and facilities in connection with the development of an integrated public transport system, cycling and pedestrian networks, measures to improve accessibility and safety of transport, improvement of connections between bus, coach, rail, air, inland waterway and maritime transport as part of intermodal transport, etc. The PDR will finance measures for the construction of charging stations as an element of sustainable urban mobility in the territories of urban municipalities in the country in accordance with IMDP. All other measures related to the construction of charging stations will be financed by the Transport Connectivity Programme (TCP). Funding for sustainable mobility measures will be financed with clear demarcation with the measures foreseen in the NRRPs, where it is planned to support urban municipalities with the exception of the 10 largest

ones. In addition, the NRRP scheme will be piloted and will be launched before the implementation of the PDR measures, and it is envisaged to serve as a pilot initiative to help build experience and practice in setting up partnerships for the implementation of integrated sustainable urban mobility projects to be upgraded and continued with sustainable urban mobility projects under the PDR. Water supply and sewerage systems and wastewater treatment plants for agglomerations between 2 000 and 10 000 p.e. Construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, modernization of **Programme Environment** sewerage and water supply networks, treatment plants for drinking Investments in water supply and sewerage infrastructure and wastewater for agglomerations between 2 000 and 10 000 p.e., based on developed regional pre-feasibility studies for with a focus on agglomerations between 5 000 and 10 000 designated territories, served by a consolidated water inhabitants, and with a residual resource in those between 2 000 supply and sewerage operator, with a focus on and 5 000 inhabitants, based on developed regional pre-investment agglomerations with more than 10 000 inhabitants. studies for designated areas served by a consolidated water supply and sewerage operator, and an identified list of settlements according to additional selection criteria. Connected Bulgaria Digitization for integrated water management, control and **Programme Environment** - Local Development efficiency Upgrading/expanding existing disaster risk management Building a unified information system to improve the efficiency of systems for forecasting, monitoring, modeling and early water use in different economic sectors (water supply, irrigation, warning in order to improve the prevention of risks energy, industry, etc.) by installing devices for remote measurement related to extreme events - completion of the National and transmission of data on water quantities used, ecological Real Time Water Management System (collection of runoff, hydrological and meteorological parameters, information information from water quantity monitoring points for activities to promote the use of water saving and water reuse high wave detection and prevention). This system is an technologies in all sectors. integrated internal tool for operational management and, The investment "Digitalization for integrated water management, unlike the unified information system, does not aim to control and efficient use" will upgrade completed and ongoing control the quantities of water used by entities with a projects in the field of water management and water infrastructure permit for water abstraction. by ensuring the exchange of information from the established and implemented information systems in this area, funded by OP

	Environment 2014-2020, the Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area 2009-2014 and the National Trust Ecofund and national funds. The Rural Development Program 2014-2020 finances measures for rehabilitation of the hydro-ameliorative infrastructure, the results of which will also be taken into account	
	A new regional approach with direct involvement of local communities in the management of European funds and instruments The reform envisages changes in the normative and strategic framework of the regional policy and the direct involvement of the local communities in the regions of the country in the management of the European funds and instruments, which increases their sense of ownership of the implemented projects, higher efficiency of the policy, addressing of specific needs, identified at the local level with a higher level of awareness. The approach focuses on the deployment of integrated territorial investments (ITIs) in search of synergies from the implementation of their individual sectoral components.	Programme Development of Regions Implementation of instruments for integrated territorial approach, as the respective measures will be financed on the territory of all urban municipalities in the country, related to the implementation of the national sectoral priorities, based on the mapping of needs. Funding of measures identified on the basis of a bottom-up approach, i.e. project ideas and initiatives of local stakeholders in implementation of priorities and goals of the regional and municipal territorial development strategies Implementation of infrastructural measures for improvement and development of health and social services, education, vocational training, culture, sports, tourism, sustainable urban mobility, digital and safe transport connectivity, circular economy, energy efficiency, access to adequate housing, access to quality public services, measures to improve the quality of the environment (including green infrastructure), measures to promote economic activity (including investments in technical infrastructure for the development of industrial zones or other infrastructure for the development of economic activities and support for innovation and SME development).
Fair Bulgaria - Business Environment	Digitization of key court proceedings in the system of administrative justice Information system for digitization of the files on the administrative cases and exchange of information between the separate	The measure is exclusively financed from RRF.

administrative courts, as well as between them and the SAC, electronic summoning of the parties on the administrative cases, holding of remote closed and open court hearings. Further development of the information systems of the courts for access of citizens and legal entities to e-services and e-justice	The measure is exclusively financed from RRF.
Strengthening, further development and upgrading of the Unified Courts Information System Creation of a module in the UCIS for centralized distribution and electronic processing of order cases; upgrading the existing functionalities and creating new ones in view of the development of the normative base.	The measure is exclusively financed from RRF.
Improving the quality and sustainability of security and anti- corruption policies and supporting the green transition Development of a National Intelligent Security System for the purpose of prevention and analysis of information in the field of public safety and upgrading the system for prevention and counteraction of corruption among the employees of the Ministry of Interior and increasing the transparency in serving the citizens.	The measure is exclusively financed from the RRF. Home Affairs Programmes 2021-2027 Investments are envisaged for prevention and counteraction to terrorism and radicalisation, crossborder, serious and organised crime and cybercrime, effictive management of security related risks and crisis (under the Internal Security Fund), ensuring effective border control at the external borders and support for the common visa policy (under the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy) and effective management of migration flows (under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund). Measures related to the fight against corruption that will be supported under the RRP will be not envisaged for funding under the Internal Security Fund 2021-2027. Measures related to the management of risks and reactions to natural disasters and crises, prevention and

counteraction of conventional crime, maintenance of public order at national level, as well as to the facilitation of citizens' access to public services and other elements of e-governance fall beyond the scope of support of the Home Affairs Instruments.

Digitization of information files in the administration, containing register data

Digitization of paper files and improvement of the business processes of priority administrations - Registry Agency (Property Register), Agency for Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre, as well as digitalization of civil status documents kept by the municipal administrations. As a result, digitalized data will be further stored and processed in the relevant common data spaces.

Integrated national cybersecurity system in the Republic of Bulgaria

Establishment of an integrated National Cyber Security System by building upon and integrating existing elements of at national level in a integrated national platform with open architecture, for operational monitoring of events related to information security in the state administration and participating critical entitites as per NIS and NIS2 in 24/7 mode (National SOC); building of a monitoring system for the Bulgarian cyberspace by expansion and development

Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalisation for Smart Transformation

Support for the transition to data-driven management and its potential - the focus is on measures related to development of elements of data-base management ecosystem – data management framework; interoperable common data spaces in strategic sectors and domains of public interest - industrial data space, Green Deal data space, mobility data space, health data space, financial data space, energy data space, agriculture data space, data spaces for public administration, skills data space; platform for smart data management; as well as measures for increasing FAIR and qualitative data, data structuring, storage and processing, facilitating data sharing and provision of wider access to large databases of quality data for use and reuse by all stakeholders (business, R&I organizations, NGOs, citizens, administrative organizations, etc.).

Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalisation for Smart Transformation

Ensuring a higher level of cyber protection of the centralized government IT infrastructure through establishment anddevelopment of key critical elements of cyber protection ecosystem on sectoral, organizational and information resources level - building a collaborative environment to increase partnership trust and cooperation in the field of cybersecurity, establishing an

of a network of active intelligent sensors for detection and blocking of malicious actions in the cyber environment that feeds the established national Cyber Situational Center and national cybersecurity Datalake. The collected data will be used for building proactive protection measures. Also training programme will be established, supported by CyberRange for development of cybersecurity skill capacity to fill the gap in the human potential.

community network, operating on different levels, a building cybersecurity platform for proactive scanning and identification of vulnerabilities in public and business organizations and a platform for next level cybersecurity of the shared government information resources. Measures are also envisaged for capacity improvement and expansion of network on different levels of the competent authorities in the field of cybersecurity.

The measures are aimed at complementing and completing the national cybersecurity ecosystem by focusing on the role and functions of national competent authorities, sectoral computer security incident response teams, developing a cybersecurity collaborative environment for partnership and cooperation, protecting critical information resources and infrastructure.

Measure # CS1: Building a collaborative environment to promote and enhance trust and cooperation between cybersecurity partners at national level - creation of a partnership network for collective response to cyber attacks, construction of the necessary infrastructure, implementation of a platform for cooperation and tools for partnership between voluntary participants in the partnership network in order to exchange information in the field of cybersecurity in a secure and manageable manner; building an automated environment for information sharing for early warning and effective response to cyber incidents between the partners involved in the voluntary network; developing a system for collecting, disseminating and promoting cybersecurity information recommendations. and standard cybersecurity procedures with a view to accelerating the achievement of cybersecurity maturity; introduction and enforcement of control under the European Mechanism for the Implementation of European Certification Schemes in the Field of Cyber Security under the EU Cyber

Security Act (Regulation (EU) 2019/881) by building the entire necessary infrastructure and the necessary functionalities to control the certification processes in the field cybersecurity, including the development of regulatory measures, independent platforms, server systems and employee workstations, as well as synchronization with the national accreditation body; specialized training in partner networks for cybersecurity and information exchange.

Measure # CS2: Strengthening the capacity of National Competent Authorities and Sectoral Computer Security *Incident Response Teams* - building and strengthening the capacity of National Competent Authorities and Sectoral Computer Security Incident Response Teams and achieving a high level of cybersecurity in critical sectors (energy, transport, digital services, water supply, healthcare, banking and the financial market) and o the management of risks to the security of networks and information systems (all relevant and important economic actors). The measure is aimed at integrating cybersecurity operational centers for public service providers and critical infrastructure operators in order to integrate information flows and exchange alarms for potential cyber incident events, traffic flow metadata and early warning information; increasing the level of network and information security of administrative bodies, essential service operators and digital service providers; building a national competent body for cyber security and conducting national and sectoral cyber exercises through simulations of complex cyber attack and defense activities;

Measure # CS3: Building a cybersecurity environment for vulnerable public and business organizations through centralized monitoring and protection - implementation of a centralized system and solution for monitoring end

stations with the ability to detect "unknown attacks", the so-called "zero-day" ("Zero day") and analysis of the behavior of user and system processes for early detection of malware and intrusions; creation of an information system for risk assessment; organizing and conducting information campaigns, events and initiatives aimed at improving cyber hygiene in the digital economy and digital society.

Measure # CS4: Building a system for cyber protection of shared information resources-building a secure shared information space of e-government for centralized automated policies for access and security and to unify and standardize the processes and procedures for monitoring the shared information resources of egovernment; scanning systems for cybersecurity vulnerabilities and vulnerabilities and backup solutions for system components; automated cybersecurity of webbased applications through specialized firewalls and management of privileged access to systems and servers protecting accounts with administrator access; functional upgrading of shared resources, including development of a platform for analysis and storage of source code and implementation of automated analysis capabilities; analysis and control of DNS queries from servers based on belonging to a certain category, risk or reputation; system for orchestration and management of information and events for cybersecurity of shared information resources.

Measure # CS5: Increasing network and information security in the internal and external infrastructure of law enforcement agencies in order to protect public services, providing citizens, administrative bodies and business organizations - establishment of a Center for Information Security Management communication systems with a view to counteracting the compromise of the national

of Bulgarian citizens; upgrading firewalls, providing secure and secure access to electronic services in the public segment. Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalization for **Smart Transformation** Support for the transition to data-driven management and its potential - the focus is on measures related to development of elements of data-base management ecosystem – data management framework; interoperable common data spaces in strategic sectors and domains of public interest - industrial data space, Green Deal data space, mobility data space, health data space, financial data space, energy data space, agriculture data space, Construction of a National Complex Center and a network for data spaces for public administration, skills data space; monitoring, control and management platform for smart data management; as well as measures Establishment of a National Complex Center and Network for for increasing FAIR and qualitative data, data structuring, Monitoring, Control and Management (NCCNMCM) for collection, storage and processing, facilitating data sharing and processing and subsequent provision of primary information provision of wider access to large databases of quality received from sensors located in space, airspace and the earth's data for use and reuse by all stakeholders (business, R&I surface. The Centre will be one of many data sources and data administrative organizations, NGOs. citizens. providers from which data will be further stored and processed in organizations, etc.). the relevant common data spaces. The Centre will be one of many Measure "Building a platform for intelligent data-based data sources and data providers from which data will be further management" - integration of the systems and data stored and processed in the relevant common data spaces. sources developed so far, which would allow work in a unified environment and access to the data available in the national and cross-border areas. The platform will provide mechanisms and flexible algorithms for data access, creation of dynamic data structures by connecting and sections of the available ones, for the purposes of subsequent analyzes, forecasts and creation of digital models of real objects, processes and events from different subject areas. making optimal decisions

security of the state, as well as the data of a large number

(Internet of Things (IoT)).

		Measure "Capacity development of competent authorities and organizations providing access to shared data (including state-of-the-art techniques and methods, training, equipment, legal regulations), promotion of data sharing and altruism" - the measure will include the creation of a Single Information Point or Bureau with an integrative role and importance for the development and proper functioning of data spaces by strategic sectors and areas of public interest, training and development. This measure will also focus on training activities to build datasharing partnerships, as well as to create data sets provided on the basis of altruism with respect to data that are large enough to allow analysis of data. data and machine learning, including within the EU.
Support for information construction in Bulgari	orm of the Bulgarian construction sector or a pilot phase for the introduction of construction in modeling (SIM/BIM) in investment design and on as a basis for digital reform of the construction sector a. Unified information system for spatial planning, t design and construction permitting.	The measure is exclusively financed from RRF.
Building a s	lectronic identification scheme system for electronic identification and its personalization garian personal documents	The envisaged activities fall beyond the scope of the programmes supported by the AMIF, the ISF and the BMVI. This investment is financed from the RRF and national funds.
register da Creating p internal el administra type servic	n of information files in the administration, containing at a and e-certification from registers preconditions for the wide provision of electronic and ectronic administrative services, as well as of complex ative services, proactive services and "episodes of life" ces. This will be achieved through standardization and ation of the authentication processes. Authentication will be in the presence of digitized information arrays. The	Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalization for Smart Transformation Support for the transition to data-driven management and its potential - the focus is on measures related to increasing the interoperability and quality of data, their smart management, structuring, storage and processing, facilitating their sharing and providing wider access to

project envisages digitalization of information files containing register data of key administrations - the Registry Agency and the Agency for Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre, as well as digitalization of civil status documents stored by municipal administrations.

large databases of quality data for use and reuse by all stakeholders.

Measure "Development of tools for data processing and technological tools for depersonalization of sensitive data" - the measure will cover the creation of new technological tools and development of analytical and intuitive tools for secure storage, processing, transformation of data (including depersonalization of sensitive data) and large data sets, and optimization of processes through which to access and / or extract and transform available data to be provided for subsequent use by all stakeholders across the relevant spaces. The data collected / created by all available and newly constructed data generators will be covered, including by using the capabilities of the centers of excellence, centers of competence and Sofia Tech Park AD, created within the programming period 2014-2020, in incl. the built supercomputer of the order "Discoverer", co-financed by the Joint Undertaking for European High Performance Computing (EuroHPC Joint Undertaking), as well as the einfrastructures in the National Roadmap for Scientific Infrastructure, incl. the National Center for High-Performance and Distributed Calculations, etc.

Register reform to unlock the potential of e-government to improve the business environment

Optimization of the organization of the registers in the state administration; their maintenance at the lowest possible cost; the official exchange of information and data for the provision of quality services; the possibility to provide services based on registers kept by other administrative bodies; the quality, completeness and comprehensiveness of the data; providing opportunities for use and re-use of already available data in the public sector by all stakeholders; and ensuring the security and reliability of e-government data, information and resources. The digitization of

Programme Research, Innovation and Digitalization for Smart Transformation

Support for the transition to data-driven management and its potential - the focus is on measures related to increasing the interoperability and quality of data, their smart management, structuring, storage and processing, facilitating their sharing and providing wider access to large databases of quality data for use and reuse by all stakeholders.

Measure "Establishment of a data management framework and construction of interoperable data spaces"

paper files will allow the transition to data-based governance and management framework and construction of the provision of secure, convenient, integrated end-to-end einteroperable data spaces by upgrading the Reference services to citizens and business. Architecture for interoperability and increasing interoperability and data quality in the private and public sector, incl. research organizations, academic centers and universities, developing interoperable data models and related data models, a data lifecycle management mechanism, creating new or expanding the functionality of existing data warehouses. Measure "Development of services for cross-border use and data sharing" - the measure aims to develop services to facilitate cross-border use and data sharing, in accordance with the requirements of European legislation and initiatives at European level in line with the established framework for data management and interoperable data spaces. "Conducting large-scale Measure campaigns, implementation of various events and initiatives to develop the necessary digital skills for the use of electronic services, data sharing and promotion of opportunities and potential for use and reuse of public data to create innovations and added value for economy and society "envisages activities to promote the culture of data sharing and increase the use of electronic public services in all data spaces by all stakeholders in the private, academic, non-governmental and public sectors. **Programme Human Resources Development** Ongoing support for the deinstitutionalisation of care for the elderly and people with disabilities - RRP funding only, -Development of integrated health and social services in Fair Bulgaria complementarity with other EU funded instruments (PHRD, PDR) the country for children and adults, in accordance with - Social Inclusion Construction and equipment of new social and integrated health the new Law on Social Services; support for equal access and social services for residential care and accompanying to specialized health and long-term care for vulnerable specialized and consultative social services for people with groups;

disabilities, in order to meet the needs of consumers of homes for people with disabilities, which are planned to be closed (closure of approximately 60% of the other specialized institutions for people with disabilities), as well as construction activities and supply of equipment and furniture with a view to reforming the existing homes for the elderly. Activities for energy efficiency, renovation and renovation of equipment and furniture in existing social services in the community, delegated by the state activities, as well as implementation of anti-epidemic measures.

- improving the quality and expanding the scope of social services provided; introduction of digitalization of services, including teleassistance, various forms of electronic tools and resources;
- -assessing the needs/gaps of the staff working in social services;
- -measures to address the shortage and attract labor force in social services,
- -training for qualifications, skills, competencies; counseling of employed in long-term care services,
- -strengthening the capacity of municipalities through training to manage and provide social services addressing local needs.

The infrastructure and equipment of the new social and integrated health and social services for residential care and accompanying specialized and consultative social services for people with disabilities will be financed throught the RRP, while the ESF+ will support "soft measures" in those services: piloting of the new services, trainings, remuneration of staff, etc.

Programme Development of Regions

The activities for social inclusion under the PHRD will be complemented by and will follow the investments in social infrastructure under the Regional Development Program, including construction activities, equipment and furniture for the construction of new residential care services for the elderly; infrastructure for the creation of other types of services (for emergency accommodation, counseling services, etc.) and improvement of the environment in existing services, including integrated services. To ensure social inclusion for children and their families, PDR will provide investment in infrastructure for the network of services for early childhood development and development of services for prevention and early

intervention of disabilities for children and the creation of other types of services for them, including integrated ones, as well as to improve the environment in existing services for children.

Clear demarcation between the RRP and PRD investments will be ensured through the map of social services which will indicate the social services needed for each municipality and the respective source of financing.

Personal mobility and accessibility for people with permanent disabilities – RRP funding only

Ensuring personal mobility and accessibility for people with permanent disabilities for their social inclusion - providing technical aids, specialized software programs, electronic technical means to compensate for sensory deficits, adapted technical and medical devices and others to disabled people, according to their specific needs, training of users of technical aids to use the new equipment. Technical aids will be provided to individuals.

rmanent

HRD 2021-2027 will support activities for the active inclusion of people with disabilities, but will not fund the purchase of high-tech aids, given the rules for eligibility of ESF+ costs during the programming period.

Support for people with disabilities under the PHRD:

Programme Human Resources Development

- -Development of integrated health and social services; support for equal access to specialized health and longterm care for adults;
- improving the quality and expanding the scope of social services provided for people with disabilities; digitalization of services, including teleassistance and use of various forms of electronic tools and resources for service delivery;
- -trainings for qualifications, skills, re-skilling, competencies; counseling of employed.

Supporting the social economy – RRP funding only

Creation of regional focus points with national territorial coverage for promotion of social entrepreneurship and social enterprises . Analysis and integration of solutions for digitalization of production processes of the subjects of social and solidarity economy. Consultations, trainings, initiatives for partnership, marketing advices for social entreprises and social entrepreneurs. Creating a digital platform (ecosystem) to promote the social and solidarity economy.

Programme Human Resources Development (PHRD)

RRP will provide support for the social enterprises through establishment and creation the structure of 6 regional focus points. PHRD will provide support for social enterprises based on call for proposals. HRDP will not finance the operational activity of the focus points, created under the RRP.

Sample activities to support social entrepreneurs under the PHRD:

-Support for start-ups and expanding entities in the social economy - measures to stimulate entrepreneurship; development of skills in social entrepreneurship, etc.

-Trainings for employees and workers in social enterprises; digital skills development; validation of the

disabilities)

The Employment Agency - employment for an innovative, connected and fair Bulgaria – RRP funding only

Increasing the efficiency and quality of the services provided by the Employment Agency to the clients, as well as development of new and/or improvement of existing electronic services.

Modernization and adaptation of the information system "National Database".

Implementation of a digital platform "Matching Laboratory" and a web-based application "Digital Compass".

Building a system for evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the services offered by the Agency.

Update, expansion and upgrade of the electronic module "Personal profile of a job seeker".

Programme Human Resources Development

The RRP will support the development and implementation of digital tools to improve the quality of services provided by the Employment Agency. These investments will be supplemented under the HRDP with measures to increase the administrative capacity of the Agency's staff to work with the newly introduced tools under RRP – the digital platform "Matching Laboratory", web-based application "Digital Compass", system for evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the EA's services, module "Personal profile of a job seeker", etc.

acquired skills at the workplace (especially for people with

Under the RRP the main information system of EA "National Database" / IS "NBD" / will be modernized and adapted in order to "open" the system for development, integration and interaction with other electronic systems, platforms and software applications. The HRD will support the establishment of information connectivity between the systems of the various institutions on the labour market, as well as will support training to work with the new system.

As RRP and HRD have different implementation horizons in both instruments are listed activities for introduction of new or improvement of existing electronic services on the labour market. In this regard, the HRD will not fund services that are subject to support under the RRP, and

the monitoring will be carried out at the level of implementation of project proposals.

Modernization of the material base and introduction of information technologies for improvement of the social support for the population by the Social Assistance Agency – RRP funding only

Activities for energy efficiency, providing an accessible environment and replacement of heating appliances in the territorial divisions of the Agency.

Establishment of a backup data center in the infrastructure of the Agency and implementation of a System for centralized management of information provided by the Agency and its territorial divisions.

Program for Human Resources Development

RRP will support activities for energy efficiency in the offices of the Social Assistance Agency while the PHRD will support capacity-building activities for the staff of the Agency.

Sample activities to support social entrepreneurs under the PHRD:

- Improving the qualification, retraining and skills development of employees; attracting staff and mentoring for newly appointed specialists in the social protection system; specific trainings for employees;
- Support of the specialists performing social activities in the context of digitization of work processes, digitalization of services, etc.;
- Development of tools for measuring the efficiency of the social system, the quality and satisfaction of needs;

RRP activities are generally not eligible for funding under the ESF+.

Culture and creative industries in Bulgaria: creating an inclusive, internationally competitive and sustainable ecosystem

Providing an access to European cultural exchange.

Creation of Bulgarian and European co-productions with cross-border and multicultural participation.

Development and ensuring equal access of the audience to the contemporary cultural products from Bulgaria and the EU.

Through a decentralised approachs to create conditions for the development of a new generation of local / municipal cultural policies.

Programme PA14 "Cultural Entrepreneurship, Heritage and Cooperation" under Outcome 2 "Improved access to arts and culture", financed by the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021, aims to improve and increase the access to arts and culture, as well as the involvement of cultural operators. The focus is on access to culture in local and regional areas, through the development of audiences and entrepreneurship in the field of culture and improvement of access to culture for ethnic and cultural minorities.

Programme PA14 "Cultural Entrepreneurship, Heritage and Cooperation", under Outcome 1 "Cultural heritage management enhanced", Output 1.2 "Cultural heritage objects made digitally accessible", financed by the EEA Digitisation of museum, library, audiovisual and archive fonds 2014-2021. Financial Mechanism The main objective of the project proposal is to carry out a implementation of activities related to the creation of comprehensive reform of the country's policies on digitisation, digital centers and the acquisition of a complete material protection, preservation, and promotion of cultural heritage and to and technical base, which allows the process of ensure that all stakeholders have free access to the country's digitalization of cultural heritage for the first time. The cultural wealth, on an equal and unrestricted basis. focus is on capacity building in institutions regarding the implementation of activities for digitization of cultural heritage. Programme Human Resources Development in support of the access to healthcare: -measures to support the acquisition of new skills, Modernization of the material base of supporting state and knowledge and competencies of the health system staff: municipal medical institutions and introduction of innovative short-term training for a wide range of specialists and technologies for treatment of the population non-specialists in the emergency care, psychiatric care, Investments are envisaged to increase the accessibility and capacity primary health care, healthcare at schools, kindergartens of the health system and to improve the health indicators of the and nurseries, staff providing medical care for children population of the country, aimed at medical institutions for hospital and long-term care for adults. care and the purchase of modern medical equipment. - measures to promote the labor mobility of health The project is structured in the following components based on the professionals in order to position them closer to people Fair Bulgaria planned interventions: COMPONENT 1 "Modernization of the from remote areas who have difficulty accessing medical - Healthcare pediatric care system in the country"; COMPONENT 2 "Capacity care. building for application of the most modern methods for treatment - support to stimulate the professional mobility of doctors of oncological diseases in Bulgaria by establishing in Sofia a National to provide specialized medical care in remote areas and to Center for radiotherapy with proton therapy, with a focus on the join the staff of hospitals in the country with deficits in treatment of children."; COMPONENT 3 "Modernization of the specialists in internal medicine, paediatrics, obstetrics and system for diagnosis and treatment of oncological diseases in the gynaecology, surgery and nervous diseases country". - Campaigns will be organized to promote 1) mother-and-

aims

child care and health services; 2) preventive activities and prophylactics; 3) vaccination and immunizations; 4) prevention and control of socially-important diseases and

risk-prevention. Special focus will be places on remote areas and vulnerable groups, incl. Roma.

Programme Development of Regions

Support for continuation of the reform in the health sector through investments in out-patient and post-hospital care related to ensuring equal access of the population in the different regions to prophylactics, prevention and long term care. Priority will be given to prevention of diseases as well as to support for diagnostics of cardio-vascular, oncological and neurological diseases, which according to the analysis have the greatest concentration of needs and demands for improvement of services. The RRP will fund hospital treatment interventions, while the RDP will support prevention, diagnosis, post-hospital and long-term care measures.

Modernization and development of psychiatric care

The implementation of the project will strengthen the sustainability of the psychiatric care system, as well as increase its accessibility and capacity to meet the needs of the population of the Republic of Bulgaria. The building stock will be renewed and modernized and modern medical equipment will be provided to the medical establishments by the psychiatric care system.

Programme Human Resources Development

- -measures to support the acquisition of new skills, knowledge and competencies of the health system staff: short-term training for a wide range of specialists and non-specialists in the psychiatric care will be financed
- Support for the acquisition of medical specialties in healthcare to provide the necessary specialists for the country.
- Campaigns will be organized to promote preventive activities and prophylactics, prevention and control of socially important diseases and risk-prevention. Special focus will be places on remote areas and vulnerable groups, incl. Roma.

Programme Development of Regions

Support for continuation of the reform in the health sector through investments in out-patient and post-

population in the different regions to prophylactics, prevention and long term care. Priority will be given to prevention of diseases as well as to support for diagnostics of cardio-vascular, oncological and neurological diseases, which according to the analysis have the greatest concentration of needs and demands for improvement of services. The RRP will fund hospital treatment interventions, while the RDP will support prevention, diagnosis, post-hospital and long-term care measures. PDR will not support psychiatric care.

hospital care related to ensuring equal access of the

Improving the conditions for interventional diagnosis and endovascular treatment of cerebrovascular diseases and creating conditions for postgraduate training of specialists in the field of endovascular treatment of cerebrovascular diseases in Bulgaria

The investment will improve the conditions for interventional diagnosis and endovascular treatment of cerebrovascular diseases and will create conditions for postgraduate training of specialists in the field of endovascular treatment of cerebrovascular diseases in Bulgaria by creating a national network of high-tech cerebrovascular centers for diagnostics and treatment ("stroke" centers) on the territory of the country.

Programme Human Resources Development

- -measures to support the acquisition of new skills, knowledge and competencies of the health system staff: short-term training for a wide range of specialists and non-specialists in the emergency care, long-term care for adults, etc.
- -support for the acquisition of medical specialties in healthcare to provide the necessary specialists for the country
- measures to promote the labor mobility of health professionals in order to position them closer to people from remote areas who have difficulty accessing medical care.
- campaigns will be organized to promote preventive activities and prophylactics, prevention and control of socially-important diseases and risk-prevention.

Programme Development of Regions

Support for continuation of the reform in the health sector through investments in out-patient and posthospital care related to ensuring equal access of the population in the different regions to prophylactics, prevention and long term care. Priority will be given to

prevention of diseases as well as to support for diagnostics of cardio-vascular, oncological and neurological diseases, which according to the analysis have the greatest concentration of needs and demands for improvement of services. The RRP will fund hospital treatment interventions, while the RDP will support prevention, diagnosis, post-hospital and long-term care measures. PDR will not support diagnostics of cerebrovascular diseases.

Building a system for providing air emergency medical care

Provision of modern and qualified emergency medical care within the so-called golden hour with subsequent transportation of patients and victims if necessary, from and to any geographical point in the territory on the side. Transportation of patients from one medical institution to another, as well as delivery of equipment, blood, organs, medicines.

Construction of a National Digital Platform for Medical Diagnostics

Establishment of a National Digital Platform for Medical Diagnostics in Bulgaria in addition to the National Health Information System (NHIS), which will initially focus on image diagnostics, but as a final goal should centralize comprehensive medical diagnostic information for the needs of the health system.

Programme Development of Regions

Support for continuation of the reform in the health sector through investments in out-patient and post-hospital care related to ensuring equal access of the population in the different regions to prophylactics, prevention and long term care. Priority will be given to prevention of diseases as well as to support for diagnostics of cardio-vascular, oncological and neurological diseases, which according to the analysis have the greatest concentration of needs and demands for improvement of services. The RRP will fund hospital treatment interventions, while the RDP will support prevention, diagnosis, post-hospital and long-term care measures. PDR will not support emergency care.

Programme Human Resources Development

-measures to support the acquisition of new skills, knowledge and competencies of the health system staff: short-term training for a wide range of specialists and non-specialists in the emergency care, psychiatric care, primary health care, healthcare at schools, kindergartens and nurseries, staff providing medical care for children and long-term care for adults.

- support for the acquisition of medical specialties in healthcare to provide the necessary specialists for the country

- measures to promote the labor mobility of health professionals in order to position them closer to people from remote areas who have difficulty accessing medical care. Doctors and medical professionals will be stimulated to open outpatient clinics/cabinets, hire medical specialists or create clinics/cabinets for health care in remote areas

- support to stimulate the professional mobility of doctors to provide specialized medical care in remote areas and to join the staff of hospitals in the country with deficits in specialists in internal medicine, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, surgery and nervous diseases

- campaigns will be organized to promote 1) mother-andchild care and health services; 2) preventive activities and prophylactics; 3) vaccination and immunizations; 4) prevention and control of socially-important diseases and risk-prevention. Special focus will be places on remote areas and vulnerable groups, incl. Roma.

Creating conditions for improved access to healthcare through the development of health, social and consultative healthcare and the development of promotional activities and screening programs for early diagnosis of socially significant diseases for improvement of public health

Includes investments to improve the conditions and access to outpatient medical care in small, remote and inaccessible settlements throughout the country, through the establishment of outpatient clinics and consultative medical and social units for preventive and promotional activities that will offer health and social services (integrated counseling, promotion, prevention and patronage activities) for all groups in need in the respective service area in two hundred and seven (207) small settlements in regions

Programme Human Resources Development

- -support for the acquisition of medical specialties in healthcare to provide the necessary specialists for the country
- measures to promote the labor mobility of health professionals in order to position them closer to people from remote areas who have difficulty accessing medical care.
- support to stimulate the professional mobility of doctors to provide specialized medical care in remote areas and to join the staff of hospitals in the country with deficits in specialists in internal medicine, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, surgery and nervous diseases

with limited access to healthcare and the establishment of a single National Interdisciplinary Screening Center in Sofia.

- campaigns will be organized to promote 1) mother-and-child care and health services; 2) preventive activities and prophylactics; 3) vaccination and immunizations; 4) prevention and control of socially-important diseases and risk-prevention. Special focus will be places on remote areas and vulnerable groups, incl. Roma.

Programme Development of Regions

Support for continuation of the reform in the health sector through investments in out-patient and post-hospital care related to ensuring equal access of the population in the different regions to prophylactics, prevention and long term care. Priority will be given to prevention of diseases as well as to support for diagnostics of cardio-vascular, oncological and neurological diseases, which according to the analysis have the greatest concentration of needs and demands for improvement of services. The RRP will fund hospital treatment interventions, while the RDP will support prevention, diagnostics, post-hospital and long-term care measures.

Development of the national system for emergency communications with the Single European Number 112

Establishment of next generation communication centers (Next Generation 112), connected in an electronic communications network with packet switching (Packet Switching PS), providing broadband exchange of information in the network of the National System 112 (video, data, voice and text in real time) and upgrading the systems with new and modern services.

The measure is exclusively financed from RRF.

Programme Human Resources Development

- -measures to support the acquisition of new skills, knowledge and competencies of the health system staff: short-term training for a wide range of specialists and non-specialists, incl. in the emergency care.
- -support for the acquisition of medical specialties in healthcare to provide the necessary specialists for the country.

Home Affairs Funds

	The envisaged activities fall beyond the scope of the programmes supported by the AMIF, the ISF and the BMVI. Measures related to the management of risks and reactions to natural disasters and crises, prevention and counteraction of conventional crime, maintenance of public order at national level, as well as to the facilitation of citizens' access to public services and other elements of e-governance fall beyond the scope of support of the Home Affairs Instruments.
--	---