086339/EU XXVIII. GP
Eingelangt am 04/08/26

Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 4 August 2026
(OR. en)

12333/26
ADD 1

Interinstitutional File:
2026/0234 (NLE)

ECOFIN 1077
UEM 387
FIN 1143
ECB
EIB

COVER NOTE

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
date of receipt:	4 August 2026
To:	Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2026) 431 annex
Subject:	ANNEX to the Proposal for a COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION amending the Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Bulgaria

Delegations will find attached document COM(2026) 431 annex.

Encl.: COM(2026) 431 annex

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EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 4.8.2026
COM(2026) 431 final

ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

Proposal for a COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION

amending the Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Bulgaria

{SWD(2026) 263 final}

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ANNEX

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

1. Description of Reforms and Investments

A. COMPONENT 1: EDUCATION AND SKILLS

This component of the Bulgarian recovery and resilience plan aims to improve the quality and effectiveness of the education and training systems. It encompasses two reforms and four investments, covering the following areas:

- access to education: construction and renovation of educational infrastructures and youth centres across the territory, implementation of distance and hybrid forms of learning, and the progressive inclusion of four-year-olds in the educational system;
- development of digital skills and promotion of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields in Bulgarian schools: update of curricula and construction of STEM centres, including school laboratories;
- skills relevance and adult learning: reform of the regulatory frameworks for higher and vocational education and training.

The component contributes to addressing the challenges identified in the country-specific recommendations to improve employability by enhancing skills, including digital skills and to improve equal access and increase the quality, labour market relevance and inclusiveness of education and training (country-specific recommendation 4 from 2019 and 2 from 2020).

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

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

Reform 1 (C1.R1): Reform in preschool and school education and vocational education and training

The objective of this reform is to increase quality and access to education and training.

The reform consists in the entry into force of legal act(s) concerning preschool and school education and vocational education and training.

Reform 2 (C1.R2): Higher education reform

The objective of the reform is to enhance the effectiveness of higher education across the territory of Bulgaria.

The reform includes:

1. the entry into force of the amendments to the Higher Education Act. The amendments shall include the introduction of fees exemption for students who sign a traineeship agreement

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with an employer; new programmes targeting sectors with expected labour market shortages; as well as an updated system of accreditation of higher education institutions;

2. the adoption of the National Map of Higher Education, which shall provide an analysis of the offer of higher education and resources available across the territory;
3. the adoption of an action plan containing the measures addressing the recommendations of the Strategy for the Development of Higher Education in the Republic of Bulgaria 2021-2030. The Strategy shall set key objectives and make recommendations to foster access to quality higher education, increase the labour market relevance of higher education and promote research, including via the development of international research networks.

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

Investment 1 (C1.I1): STEM centres and innovation in education

The objective of this investment is to modernise teaching tools and enhance the learning in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subjects in Bulgarian schools.

The investment consists in the construction and/or renovation of the national STEM centre, training facilities for regional STEM centres, and STEM laboratories in schools.

Investment 2 (C1.I2): Infrastructure works in educational facilities

The objective of this investment is the modernisation of educational infrastructures.

The investment consists in the construction and/or renovation of kindergartens, schools, vocational schools, student dormitories and university campuses.

Investment 3 (C1.I3): Digital skills

The objective of this investment is to up- and re-skill the workforce, with a focus on digital skills.

The investment consists in the provision of digital skills trainings, a platform for e-learning for adults as well as the construction and/or renovation of digital clubs and the delivery of equipment to digital clubs.

Investment 4 (C1.I4): Youth centres

The objective of the investment is to support social inclusion and supply skills trainings to young people, including Roma and young people from other vulnerable groups.

The investment consists in the construction and/or renovation of youth centres.

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

Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
1	C1.R1: Reform in preschool and school education and vocational education and training	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the Pre-school and School Education Act and to secondary legislation.	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the amendments to the Pre-school and School Education Act and to secondary legislation				Q4	2020	The amendments to the Preschool and School Education Act and to secondary legislation shall include: - the update of the STEM core curricula and syllabus as follows: introduction of new IT skills (encoding) in classes five-seven; increase in mathematics hours in classes five-seven; increase in geography and economics hours in class six; - additional distance learning opportunities, including hybrid forms of learning combining in-presence and online learning; - the inclusion of four-year-olds in the mandatory preschool programme. The amendment shall provide for a gradual phase-in of the mandatory inclusion which shall be completed no later than for the school year 2023/2024.
2	C1.R1: Reform in preschool and school education and vocational education and training	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the Employment Promotion Act	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the amendments to the Employment Promotion Act				Q4	2022	The amendments to the Employment Promotion Act shall: - introduce the possibility of combining vocational training with participation in a training course for persons over 16 years of age; - introduce the option of validating professional skills and key competences acquired through non-formal learning or self-learning; - increase the flexibility of training opportunities, including by increasing the offer of online trainings.

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
3	C1.R1: Reform in preschool and school education and vocational education and training	Milestone	Action Plan(s) for the implementation period 2023-2027 of the Strategic Framework for the Development of Education, Training and Learning in the Republic of Bulgaria (2021-2030)	Adoption by the Council of Ministers				Q4	2022	At least one action plan to cover for the implementation period from 2023-2027 of the Strategic Framework for the Development of Education, Training and Learning in the Republic of Bulgaria (2021-2030) shall formulate measures and actions, including their timeline, to address the objectives of the Strategic Framework. The objectives of the Strategic Framework shall include: - better access to quality education for children from vulnerable groups, including Roma; - larger coverage of children in the education system; - the introduction of a revised system of teacher qualifications and effective management practices of educational institutions; - innovation in schools, with a focus on the digital transformation and sustainable development.
4	C1.R1: Reform in preschool and school education and vocational education and training	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) in the field of vocational education and training	Provision in the legal act(s) indicating entry into force				Q4	2025	The legal act(s) shall provide for: - approval of the list of professions for vocational education and training (VET); - approval of at least a total of 250 of the following: state educational standards, plans, programmes for acquiring professional qualification; - expansion of the role of employers in the amendment of the list of professions for VET; - online training offers.

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
5	C1.R2: Higher education reform	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the Higher Education Act	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the amendments to the Higher Education Act				Q1	2020	The amendments to the Higher Education Act shall: - introduce a revised system of accreditation of higher education institutions, as well as the status of 'Research University'; - allow for the exemption from fees at state higher education institutions for students or recent graduates who sign a traineeship agreement with an employer; - update the list of 'protected specializations' based on expected labour market shortages; - introduce the possibility to conclude up to two agreements between state higher schools and state or municipal schools in the system of preschool and school education. The agreements are expected to promote the acquisition of specialized training in secondary education.
6	C1.R2: Higher education reform	Milestone	National Map of Higher Education	Adoption by the Council of Ministers				Q3	2021	The National Map of Higher Education shall support the formulation of recommendations to promote a more balanced distribution of the higher education offer across the territory. The map shall provide analysis covering: - the territorial distribution of higher education offer in the Republic of Bulgaria, including information on the national and regional socio-economic and labour market developments; - the resources available in higher education institutions, including academic staff and students.
7	C1.R2: Higher education reform	Milestone	Action plan for the implementation of the Strategy for the	Adoption by the Council of Ministers				Q4	2022	The action plan for the implementation of the Strategy for the Development of Higher Education in the Republic of Bulgaria (2021-

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
			Development of Higher Education in the Republic of Bulgaria (2021-2030)							2030) shall formulate measures and actions, including their timeline, to address the objectives of the strategy. The objectives of the strategy shall cover: - the development of a mechanism for updating existing and developing new curricula; - a revision of existing provisions regarding state-controlled subsidised admission to public higher education institutions. Changes shall be made in accordance with national and regional developments of the labour market; - research enhancement and promotion of higher educations by developing scientific networks; - the introduction of additional specialisations and programmes in higher educations with double diplomas; - the establishment of training centres for life-long learning in higher education institutions
8	C1.I1: STEM centres and innovation in education	Milestone	Establishment of the national STEM centr	Provision in the national legislation indicating the establishment of the national STEM centre				Q4	2022	The main responsibilities of the national STEM centre shall include: - the organization of trainings for teachers and other pedagogical professionals; - the development of teaching material and the set-up and maintenance of an electronic portal and library with publicly available educational resources; - the coordination and support of student activities in STEM fields, including participation in scientific olympic competitions.

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
10	C1.I1: STEM centres and innovation in education	Target	Construction and/or renovation		Number	0	2 008	Q2	2026	The national STEM centre and training facilities for three regional STEM centres shall be constructed and/or renovated. In addition, proof(s) of delivery and/or installation of equipment in each centre shall be provided. 2 004 STEM laboratories in schools shall be constructed and/or renovated. In addition, proof(s) of delivery and/or installation of equipment for each of the STEM laboratories shall be provided.
13	C1.I2: Infrastructure works in educational facilities	Target	Renovation and/or construction		Number	0	174	Q2	2026	174 of the following shall be renovated and/or constructed: kindergartens, schools, vocational schools, student dormitories, and university campuses. In addition, proof(s) of delivery of equipment and/or furniture shall be delivered for a total of 40 schools/kindergartens/vocational schools. A certificate of energy performance shall be issued for a total of nine kindergarten and/or schools, showing that: - the primary energy demand of the building does not exceed: • 28 kWh/m² per year for a school building; or • 48 kWh/m² per year for a kindergarten building; or • 140 kWh/m² per year for a school sports building; and - at least 55% of the energy consumed for heating, cooling, ventilation, domestic hot water and lighting is from renewable energy sources.

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
18	C1.I3: Digital skills	Target	Digital clubs		Number	0	760	Q2	2026	760 digital clubs shall be constructed and/or renovated. Proof(s) of delivery of equipment shall be provided. The call for proposals for the selection of digital clubs shall require that they provide free access to training courses for adult learning. A platform for e-learning for adults shall be accessible online.
21	C1.I3: Digital skills	Target	Certificates for acquired level of digital skills		Number	0	260 000	Q2	2026	Certificates for acquired level of digital skills, for basic or medium level, shall be provided.
22	C1.I4: Youth centres	Milestone	Construction and/or renovation	Youth centres constructed and/or renovated				Q2	2026	18 youth centres shall be constructed and/or renovated. The call for proposals for the selection of youth centres shall include the following activities: - Active outreach to and with young people to activate and empower them; - Active fieldwork with representatives of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups and communities, especially in the Roma community.

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B. COMPONENT 2: RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

The Research and Innovation component of the Bulgarian RRP contains measures aimed at improving the innovation output of Bulgaria, thus spurring its economic growth in the medium and long term. The component contains a reform that aims to highlight research and innovation as a clear priority of the country's future development and pooling national and EU resources in order to overcome the current fragmentation of the ecosystem. The key elements of the reform are: the adoption of a Research and Innovation Act and the establishment of the Council for Innovation and Research. The component further includes investments to foster the research and innovation performance of public research institutions and innovative business. The investments introduce new financing channels to support research and innovation activities and enhance the innovation capacity of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

The measures included in the component contribute to addressing country-specific recommendation 3 of 2019 ('Focus investment-related economic policy on research and innovation') and country-specific recommendation 3 of 2020 ('Streamline and accelerate the procedures to provide effective support to small and medium-sized enterprises and self-employed').

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

Reform 1 (C2.R1): Common policy for research and innovation

The objective of this reform is to support policy coordination in research and innovation.
This measure consists in the entry into force of legal act(s) on research and innovation.

Investment 1 (C2.I1): Programme to support research and innovation

The objective of the investment is to support Bulgaria's research and innovation performance, technology transfer and information-sharing.

The investment consists in letters accepting final reports for projects awarded a "Seal of Excellence" certificate and final reports by higher education/research institutions, as well as innovation programmes by higher education institutions.

Investment 2 (C2.I2): Investment in the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

The objective of the investment is to support the innovation capacity of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS).

This investment consists in refurbishing the BAS, measures for the Joint Innovation Centre and a quantum key distribution optical route.

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

Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
24	C2.R1: Common policy for research and innovation	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on research and innovation	Provisions in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q2	2025	The legal act(s) shall: • define the purpose, principles and scope of the state policy for research and innovation, as well as its sources of funding; • regulate the responsibilities of the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Innovation and Growth, the Council of Ministers, the Innovation and Research Council, the Scientific Research Fund, and the National Innovation Fund in the field of research and innovation; • define the instruments or mechanisms for policy in the field of research and innovation. With regard to technology transfer policy, the legal act(s) shall define the principles for activities and funding supporting technology transfer.
25	C2.R1: Common policy for research and innovation	Milestone	Legal act(s) related to research and innovation	Entry into force of legal act(s)				Q2	2025	Legal act(s) shall enter into force on: • the organisation and procedure of the Innovation and Research Council; • the Scientific Research Fund; • the National Innovation Fund; • the procedure for publishing and storing data and publications on the Bulgarian open science portal; • the terms and conditions for keeping the register of research activities in the Republic of Bulgaria; • the monitoring and evaluation of the research activities carried out by higher education institutions and scientific organizations, as well as of the activities of the Scientific Research Fund; • the monitoring and evaluation of the activities of the National Innovation Fund.
28	C2.I1: Programme to	Target	Letters accepting final reports		Number	0	15	Q2	2026	12 letters from the authorities accepting the final reports for projects awarded a "Seal of Excellence" certificate from the European Commission.

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	support research and innovation									3 letters from the authorities accepting the final reports by Bulgarian higher education institutions or research organisations on projects related to research and innovation.
29	C2.I1: Programme to support research and innovation	Target	Signature of contracts with research higher education institutions		Number	0	9	Q4	2022	Signature of contracts with 9 research higher education institutions based on a decision of the Council of Ministers. The procedure for the selection of the innovation programmes shall be carried out by an evaluation committee, and the subsequent monitoring of the innovation programmes shall be carried out by a monitoring committee. Both committees shall be established within the Ministry of Education and Science and shall operate based on peer-review process. Each contract shall lay down the conditions for the activities to be carried out with the funds, based on the innovation programmes submitted by the higher education institutions. These shall determine a concrete plan for research development and technology transfer and shall specify the participation in a network among the nine research higher education institutions, taking into account gender equality and the importance of green innovations.
29a	C2.I1: Programme to support research and innovation	Milestone	Signature of contract	Signed contract				Q2	2025	Signature of contract with one university.
30	C2.I1: Programme to support research and innovation	Target	Reports approved		Number	0	10	Q2	2026	The Monitoring and Evaluation Committee shall approve 10 final reports by 10 research higher education institutions on their respective programmes.
31	C2.I2: Investment in the Bulgarian	Milestone	Measures for the Joint Innovation Centre	Employment contracts signed; Order signed by the				Q2	2025	The measures for the Joint Innovation Centre shall cover: a) Five employment contracts signed, one for each of the following areas of expertise: - commercialisation;

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Academy of Sciences			president of the BAS; link to electronic portal						- intellectual property; - technology transfer with a focus on green and digital technologies; - information technology; - coordinator of relations with business and representatives of the innovation ecosystem; b) An order shall be signed by the president of the BAS on the members of three Science and Innovation Councils; c) An electronic portal for the BAS is accessible and online.
32	C2.I2: Investment in the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences	Milestone	Quantum key distribution optical route	Work on the quantum key distribution optical route carried out				Q2	2025	Work on the quantum key distribution optical route between the A1 Data Centre Lift and the Institute of Robotics at the Bulgarian Academy of Science (IR-BAS) has been carried out.
33	C2.I2: Investment in the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences	Milestone	Refurbishing the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and research project(s) in the field of green and digital transition	Statement(s) of findings; protocol(s) of delivery and on-site-inspection protocol(s) issued and decision(s) of the Science and Innovation Council(s) issued				Q2	2026	Statement(s) of findings shall be issued for the refurbishment of a research building (block 12) and a demonstration centre building (block 29a). Protocol(s) of delivery shall be issued for research equipment and on-site-inspection protocol(s) shall be issued for the refurbishment of an area of 4 000 m². Decision(s) of the Science and Innovation Council(s) issued for 38 research projects in the field of green and digital transition at a Technology Readiness Level between 5 and 7.

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C. COMPONENT 3: SMART INDUSTRY

The Smart Industry component of the recovery and resilience plan of Bulgaria aims to create favourable conditions and providing incentives for private investment in Bulgaria. In particular, the component aims to attract industrial investments and developing industrial ecosystems and supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and mid-capitalisation companies (mid-caps) in modernising their technology and in transitioning to green, circular and digital-oriented business practices.

The measures included in the component contribute towards addressing country-specific recommendation 3 of 2019 ('Focus investment-related economic policy on research and innovation, […] and improving the business environment') and country-specific recommendation 3 of 2020 ('Streamline and accelerate the procedures to provide effective support to small and medium-sized enterprises and self-employed, also ensuring their continued access to finance and flexible payment arrangements' […] Focus investment on the green and digital transition, in particular on clean and efficient production and use of energy and resource).

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

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

Reform 1 (C3.R1): Legal framework to attract industrial investment and develop industrial ecosystems

The objective of the reform is to create favourable conditions for entrepreneurs, investors and research institutions in industrial parks by establishing a framework for the development of industrial ecosystems.

This shall be achieved by the entry into force of the Industrial Parks Act, which shall regulate possible state support and incentives to attract investment in industrial parks; provide for a reduction of the procedures required for industrial investment; and set the minimum standards for industrial park investments to benefit from state support.

The implementation of this reform shall be completed by 31 March 2021.

Investment 1 (C3.I1): Programme for industrial parks/zones ("AttractInvestBG")

The objective of this investment is to create favourable conditions for investors in the industrial parks or zones.

The investment consists of a grant scheme for industrial parks or zones.

Investment 2 (C3.I2): Economic Transformation Programme

The objective of the Economic Transformation Programme is to support the innovation and growth of Bulgarian businesses, in particular by fostering their green and digital transition.

The programme shall support Bulgarian small and medium-sized enterprises and mid-caps through financial instruments and grants. The programme shall consist of three funds:

Fund 1 - Growth and Innovation;

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Fund 2 - Green Transition and Circular Economy;

Fund 3 - Climate Neutrality and Digital Transformation.

Fund 1 is composed of the following instruments:

- Investment 2.1.a - Guarantee instrument for growth

The guarantee instrument shall be implemented as a contribution to InvestEU with the European Investment Fund (EIF) as an implementing partner. By providing a portfolio guarantee, the instrument aims to alleviate the challenges faced by businesses in obtaining credit finance to quickly recover from the COVID-19 crisis and create opportunities for business expansion to achieve growth and sustainable development. The guarantee instrument shall target SMEs and small mid-caps and shall cover various financial products, including working capital funds, revolving credit lines, investment loans, and leasing.

To ensure that the investment complies with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the contribution agreement between the European Commission and the Bulgarian Government shall:

- require the application of the Commission's technical guidance on sustainability proofing for the InvestEU Fund; and
- exclude the following list of activities and assets from eligibility: (i) activities and assets related to fossil fuels, including downstream use[1]; (ii) activities and assets under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks[2].

The implementation of this investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026 when the InvestEU Investment Committee approves finance or investment operations amounting to 100% of the total amount of finance or investment targeted.

- Investment 2.1.b - Equity instruments for growth

The objective of this measure is to alleviate the long-lasting economic negative impact of the COVID-19 crisis on Bulgarian undertakings. Equity growth instruments, including venture capital funds, growth funds, mezzanine funds, redemption funds and private debt funds, will be provided to SMEs and mid-caps.

The equity instruments shall be implemented by the EIF as a financial partner (implementing partner) through a direct award to the EIF by a dedicated RRF funding agreement to be signed between the Republic of Bulgaria and the EIF for the management of the RRF supported equity operations.

For general purpose corporate finance instruments, the investment policy shall:

- be adopted by the governing bodies of the financial instrument;
- be in line with the Commission's Guidance Note of 22 January 2021 (SWD(2021) 12 final) related to financial instruments;

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

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

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- include selection criteria to ensure compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) of supported transactions under this measure
  - through the use of sustainability proofing;
  - by requiring that beneficiaries that derived more than 50% of their direct revenues during the preceding financial year from activities or assets on the following list of activities to adopt and publish green transition plans: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use[3]; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks[4]; and (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators[5] and mechanical biological treatment plants[6]. This requirement could be implemented, for example, by relying on the EIF's new restricted sectors (non-infra equity Funds – Paris alignment framework), adjusted by certain additional restrictions on ETS sectors and certain transport activities; and
  - by requiring the verification of legal compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation of the beneficiary by the EIF for all transactions, including those exempted from sustainability proofing.

The implementation of this investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026 (approval of operations by the responsible Investment Committee amounting to 100% of the overall amount of financing allocated to equity instruments for Growth).

- <u>Investment 2.1.c - Grant scheme for technological modernisation</u>

The objective of the investment is to provide grants to SMEs for technological modernisation.

The investment consists of a grant scheme for the implementation of projects by SMEs.

- <u>Investment 2.1.d - Grant scheme for information and communication technology and cybersecurity in small and medium enterprises</u>

The objective of the investment is to provide grants to SMEs for digitalisation.

The investment consists of a grant scheme for the implementation of projects by SMEs.

- <u>Investment 2.1.e - Innovation pool (Equity instruments for innovation)</u>

The investment consists of setting up a Fund to implement equity instruments for innovation with the objective to increase the innovation capacity of companies, accelerate their productivity

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

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

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

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

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improvements and the transition to a knowledge economy. The equity instruments shall include venture capital funds, technology transfer funds, seed and social impact funds.

The equity instruments shall be implemented by the EIF as a financial partner (implementing partner) through a direct award to the EIF by a dedicated RRF funding agreement to be signed between the Republic of Bulgaria and the EIF for the management of the RRF supported equity operations.

For general purpose corporate finance instruments, the investment policy shall:

- be adopted by the governing bodies of the financial instrument;
- be in line with the Commission's Guidance Note of 22 January 2021 (SWD(2021) 12 final) related to financial instruments;
- include selection criteria to ensure compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) of supported transactions under this measure
  - through the use of sustainability proofing;
  - by requiring that beneficiaries that derived more than 50% of their direct revenues during the preceding financial year from activities or assets on the following list of activities to adopt and publish green transition plans: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use[7]; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks[8]; and (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators [9] and mechanical biological treatment plants [10]. This requirement could be implemented, for example, by relying on the EIF's new restricted sectors (non-infra equity Funds – Paris alignment framework), adjusted by certain additional restrictions on ETS sectors and certain transport activities; and
  - by requiring the verification of legal compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation of the beneficiary by the EIF for all transactions, including those exempted from sustainability proofing.

The implementation of this investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026 (approval of operations by the responsible Investment Committee amounting to 100% of the overall amount of financing allocated to equity instruments for Innovation).

Fund 2 is composed of the following instruments:

- <u>Investment 2.2.a - Grant scheme for investments in renewable electricity sources for own use with local storage facilities</u>

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

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

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

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

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The objective of this investment is to provide grants to SMEs, small mid-caps and mid-caps for investments in renewable electricity sources and local storage facilities.

The investment consists of a grant scheme for the implementation of projects related to energy storage facilities.

- Investment 2.2.b - Guarantee instrument for energy efficiency and renewable energy

The guarantee instrument shall be implemented as a contribution to InvestEU with the EIF as an implementing partner. The instrument aims to address Bulgaria's challenges in providing support for investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy. The guarantee instrument shall target SMEs, small mid-cap companies and individuals. It is intended to cover a wide range of financial products (e.g. working funds, including revolving credit lines, investment loans, leasing). The sectors to be supported shall be in line with the Regulation (EU) 2021/241 and the eligibility criteria of InvestEU and will be defined following a detailed market assessment.

To ensure that the sub-investment complies with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the contribution agreement between the European Commission and the Bulgarian Government shall:

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

The implementation of this investment shall be completed by 30 June 2025, when the InvestEU Investment Committee approves finance or investment operations amounting to 100% of the total amount of finance or investment targeted.

- Investment 2.2.c - Grant scheme for the support of businesses in the transition to a circular economy

The objective of this investment is to provide grants for SMEs and large companies in the NACE sector C for the introduction of circular economy production methods.

The investment consists of a grant scheme for projects in the area of circular economy.

Fund 3 is composed of the following instrument:

- Investment 2.3.a - Equity instruments for climate neutrality and digital transformation investments

The instruments aim at investing in assets that contribute to climate neutrality and accelerate the green and digital transition in priority sectors in Bulgaria. This shall be carried out by supporting the creation of infrastructure assets (renewables, biomass, storage, recharging infrastructure for electric vehicles, hydrogen), digital infrastructure (ICT, optical infrastructure, data centres, 5G),

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

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

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urban regeneration, energy efficiency and social infrastructure.

The equity instruments shall be implemented by the European Investment Fund (EIF) as a financial partner (implementing partner) through a direct award to the EIF by a dedicated RRF funding agreement to be signed between the Republic of Bulgaria and the EIF for the RRF supported equity operation.

For general purpose corporate finance instruments, the investment policy shall:

- be adopted by the governing bodies of the financial instrument;
- be in line with the Commission's Guidance Note of 22 January 2021 (SWD(2021) 12 final) related to financial instruments;
- include selection criteria to ensure compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) of supported transactions under this measure through the use of sustainability proofing;
- require that beneficiaries that derived more than 50% of their direct revenues during the preceding financial year from activities or assets on the following list of activities to adopt and publish green transition plans: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use[13]; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks [14]; and (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators [15] and mechanical biological treatment plants[16]. This requirement could be implemented, for example, by relying on the EIF's new restricted sectors (non-infra equity Funds – Paris alignment framework), adjusted by certain additional restrictions on ETS sectors and certain transport activities; and
- Require the verification of legal compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation of the beneficiary by the EIF for all transactions, including those exempted from sustainability proofing.

The implementation of this investment shall be completed by 30 June 2026 (approval of operations by the responsible Investment Committee amounting to 100% of the overall amount of financing allocated to equity instruments for climate neutrality and digital transformation investments).

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

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

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

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

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

Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
35	C3.R1: Legal framework to attract industrial investment and develop industrial ecosystems	Milestone	Entry into force of the new Industrial Parks Act	Entry into force of the Industrial Parks Act				Q1	2021	The new Industrial Parks Act shall: - regulate state support and incentives to attract investment in industrial parks; - provide for a shortening of the procedures required for industrial investment; and - set the minimum standards for industrial park investments to benefit from state support.
36	C3.I1: Programme for industrial parks/zones (“AttractInvestBG”)	Target	Selection of industrial parks or zones		Number	0	10	Q2	2025	The Ministry of Innovation and Growth shall select ten industrial parks or zones for grant support. The selection criteria shall include a criterion on location in Northern Bulgaria. In order to ensure that the measure complies with the ‘Do no significant harm’ Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the eligibility criteria shall exclude the following list of activities: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks; (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators and mechanical biological treatment plants. The total funding for the ten approved projects shall be at least EUR 98 million. The grant support to each industrial park or zone shall cover a maximum of 80% of the proposed investment. The remaining share of the investment shall be provided by the industrial park/zone operators.
38	C3.I1: Programme for industrial	Target	Confirmation letter(s) for the disbursement of		Million	0	98	Q2	2026	Confirmation letter(s) issued by the Ministry of Innovation and Growth, as required under the General Terms and Conditions of the Financing

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					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	parks/zones (“AttractInvestBG”)		grant amount corresponding to works in the industrial parks/zones							Agreement(s) signed between the Ministry and the contractor(s), for the disbursement of EUR 98 million of the grant amount corresponding to works in the industrial parks/zones located throughout the territory of Bulgaria.
40	C3.I2: Investment 2.1.a Guarantee instrument for growth	Milestone	Signature of contribution agreement between the European Commission and the Government of Bulgaria	Agreement signed				Q3	2022	The contribution agreement between the European Commission and the Government of Bulgaria shall: a) require the application of the Commission’s technical guidance on sustainability proofing for the InvestEU Fund; b) exclude activities and assets on the exclusion list specified in the description of the measure from eligibility; c) include criteria to ensure that the financial instrument is in line with Commission’s Guidance Note of 22 January 2021 (SWD(2021) 12 final) related to financial instruments. Considering that the proposed instrument shall be implemented following a contribution to InvestEU, the points (a) and (b) above shall be ensured through the application of the InvestEU provisions and the selected Implementing Partner’s lending policy and exclusion criteria. Additional exclusions necessary in order to ensure compliance with the ‘Do no significant harm’ Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) - including on waste - shall be specified in the guarantee agreement between the European Commission and the European Investment Fund (EIF). The financial instrument shall take the form of a portfolio guarantee, implemented by the EIF, and shall support SMEs and small mid-caps by covering different financial products, including

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										working capital, credit lines, investment loans, and leasing. The financial instrument shall address the current market failures faced by enterprises in accessing finance, in particular challenges following the COVID-19 pandemic, with a view to improve access to credit lines. It is expected that the instrument supports at least 615 beneficiaries. The total amount of RRF funding for the instrument shall be at least EUR 75 million. The structure of the instrument shall enable to leverage private funds. Any returns to the financial instrument, including from repayments, as well as profits obtained through the use of RRF funds, less the remuneration of the fund manager and the financial intermediaries, shall be used for the same policy goals, including after 2026.
42	C3.I2: Investment 2.1.a Guarantee instrument for growth	Target	Operations approved by the InvestEU Investment Committee		% (Percentage)	0	100	Q2	2025	Operations amounting to 100% of the EU Guarantee under the Bulgaria Member State Compartment, excluding related costs and fees, approved by the InvestEU Investment Committee based on the contribution agreement signed between the European Commission and the Government of Bulgaria referred to in milestone 40.
42a	C3.I2: Investment 2.1.a Guarantee instrument for growth	Target	Operations approved by the InvestEU Investment Committee		% (Percentage)	0	100	Q2	2026	Operations amounting to 100% of the EU Guarantee under the Bulgaria Member State Compartment, excluding related costs and fees, approved by the InvestEU Investment Committee based on the supplementary contribution agreement.
43	C3.I2:	Milestone	Signature of financing	Agreement signed and				Q3	2022	The financing agreement between the European Investment Fund and the Government of

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Investment 2.1.b Equity instruments for growth		agreement between the European Investment Fund and the Government of Bulgaria	investment policy adopted						Bulgaria, and adoption of the investment policy of the Fund. The investment policy shall: a) be adopted by the governing bodies of the financial instrument; b) be in line with the Commission's Guidance Note of 22 January 2021 (SWD(2021) 12 final) related to financial instruments; c) include selection criteria to ensure compliance with the "Do no significant harm" Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) of supported transactions under this measure - through the use of sustainability proofing; - by requiring beneficiaries that derived more than 50% of their direct revenues during the preceding financial year from activities or assets on the following list of activities to adopt and publish green transition plans: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks; and (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators and mechanical biological treatment plants. This requirement could be implemented, for example, by relying on the EIF's new restricted sectors (non-infra equity Funds – Paris alignment framework), adjusted by certain additional restrictions on ETS sectors and certain transport activities;

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										and by requiring the verification of legal compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation of the beneficiary by the EIF for all transactions, including those exempted from sustainability proofing. The Fund shall provide financial instruments (equity) support for SMEs and mid-caps, including start-ups and early growth companies. The support shall be delivered through venture capital funds and private equity. The management of the Fund shall be entrusted to the EIF. A dedicated RRF funding agreement shall be signed between the EIF and the Government of Bulgaria for the management of the RRF equity supported operations. An investment committee shall be responsible for approving operations with intermediaries as proposed by the fund manager (EIF) based on market needs and in an open and market-conform way. It is expected that the instrument supports at least 24 beneficiaries. The total amount of RRF funding shall be EUR 75 million. The structure of the Fund shall leverage private funds. Any returns to the Fund or financial instruments, including from repayments, as well as profits obtained through the use of RRF funds, less the remuneration of the fund manager and the financial intermediaries, shall be used for the same policy goals, including after 2026.
45	C3.I2:	Target	Operations approved by the		% (Percentage)	0	100	Q2	2026	Finance or investment operations amounting to 100% of the total amount of finance or

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Investment 2.1.b Equity instruments for growth		Investment Committee							investment approved by the Investment Committee designated by the government of Bulgaria.
46	C3.I2: Investment 2.1.c Grant scheme for technological modernisation	Milestone	Selection procedures completed	Published list of projects approved for funding and list of reserves				Q4	2022	The selection procedures shall be run in an open and competitive manner. The beneficiaries shall be SMEs. The projects shall support the acquisition of new technology with a focus on the digitalisation of production processes (purchase of new technological equipment focusing on the digitalisation of production processes in order to achieve a market advantage, product customisation, flexibility, efficiency and originality to expand or diversify their production). At least 50% of the cost of the project shall be co-financed by the beneficiary. The total funding to approved projects shall be at least EUR 120 million. In order to ensure that the measure complies with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the eligibility criteria contained in the terms of reference for upcoming calls for projects shall exclude activities and assets on the exclusion list specified in the description of the measure and require that only activities that comply with relevant EU and national environmental legislation may be selected.
47	C3.I2: Investment 2.1.c Grant scheme for technological modernisation	Target	Budget execution – transfer of at least EUR 120 million for technological modernisation		EUR million	0	120	Q2	2025	Transfer of at least EUR 120 million to recipients for technological modernisation.

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
48	C3.I2: Investment 2.1.d Grant scheme for information and communication technology and cybersecurity in small and medium enterprises	Milestone	Selection procedures completed	Published list of projects approved for funding and list of reserves				Q4	2022	The selection procedures shall be run in an open and competitive manner. The selected beneficiaries shall be SMEs. The projects shall support the acquisition and integration of digital technologies in companies at the first two levels of basic digitalisation (computerisation and connectivity). The grants shall support activities such as the provision of ICT digital marketing services, web-based ICT services for platforms, websites, mobile applications, the acquisition of software to optimise management, manufacturing and logistics processes, the introduction of measures to ensure information and cybersecurity as an important element of the business digitalisation process, the purchase of hardware needed for the operation of new applications and software. The total funding to approved projects shall be at least EUR 14 million. In order to ensure that the measure complies with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01), the eligibility criteria contained in the terms of reference for upcoming calls for projects shall exclude activities and assets on the exclusion list specified in the description of the measure and require that only activities that comply with relevant EU and national environmental legislation may be selected.
49	C3.I2: Investment 2.1.d Grant scheme for information and communication technology and cybersecurity in small	Target	Budget execution - transfer of at least EUR 12.59 million for digitalisation		EUR million	0	12.59	Q4	2025	Transfer of at least EUR 12.59 million to recipients for digitalisation.

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	and medium enterprises									
50	C3.I2: Investment 2.1.e Innovation Pool (Equity Instruments for Innovation)	Milestone	Signature of financing agreement between the European Investment Fund and the Government of Bulgaria	Agreement signed and investment policy adopted				Q3	2022	Signature of the financing agreement between the EIF and the Government of Bulgaria, and adoption of the investment policy of the Fund. The investment policy shall: a) be adopted by the managing bodies of the financial instrument; b) be in line with Commission's Guidance Note of 22 January 2021 (SWD(2021) 12 final) related to financial instruments; c) include selection criteria to ensure compliance with the "Do no significant harm" Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) of supported transactions under this measure: - through the use of sustainability proofing, - by requiring beneficiaries that derived more than 50% of their direct revenues during the preceding financial year from activities or assets on the following list of activities to adopt and publish green transition plans: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks; and (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators and mechanical biological treatment plants. This requirement could be implemented, for example, by relying on the EIF's new restricted sectors (non-infra equity Funds – Paris alignment framework), adjusted by certain additional restrictions on ETS sectors and certain transport activities;

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										and by requiring the verification of legal compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation of the beneficiary by the EIF for all transactions, including those exempted from sustainability proofing. The Fund shall provide financial instruments (equity) support for SMEs and small mid-caps (companies with up to 499 employees), including start-ups and early growth companies. The main sectors to be targeted include information and communication technology, industrial automatisation, artificial intelligence, robotics, blockchain, fintech, life sciences, cybersecurity, quantum technologies, Internet of Things, cloud computing, clean and sustainable technologies, social entrepreneurship, and biotechnology and shall aim at supporting investments in human capital, digital and green technology, and in research, development, and technology transfer. The instrument can include a tech transfer/venture build component. The support shall be delivered through venture capital funds and private equity funds. It is expected that the instrument supports at least 30 beneficiaries are. The management of the Fund shall be entrusted to the European Investment Fund (EIF). A dedicated RRF funding agreement shall be signed between the EIF and the Government of Bulgaria for the management of the RRF equity supported operations. An investment committee shall be responsible for approving operations with intermediaries as proposed by the fund

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										manager (EIF) based on market needs and in an open and market-conform way. The total amount of funding shall be EUR 75 million. The structure of the Fund shall leverage private funds. Any returns to the Fund or financial instruments, including from repayments, as well as profits obtained through the use of RRF funds, less the remuneration of the fund manager and the financial intermediaries, shall be used for the same policy goals, including after 2026.
52	C3.I2: Investment 2.1.e Innovation Pool (Equity Instruments for Innovation)	Target	Operations approved by the Investment Committee		% (Percentage)	0	100	Q2	2026	Finance or investment operations amounting to 100% of the total amount of finance or investment approved by the Investment Committee.
53	C3.I2: Investment 2.2.a - Grant scheme for investments in renewable electricity sources for own use with local storage facilities	Milestone	Approved projects	Published list of projects approved for funding				Q2	2025	The total funding to approved projects shall be at least EUR 52 million. The call shall require that: - the beneficiaries shall be SMEs, small mid-caps and mid-caps; - the selected projects shall support the construction of new photovoltaic installations with a capacity of up to 1MW for the production of energy from renewable sources for self-consumption and shall include local storage facilities; - the beneficiaries shall be companies in all NACE sectors except for D — Electricity, steam and gaseous fuels generation and distribution and A — Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries;

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										- the grant financing does not exceed 50% of the total eligible investment costs; - the proposals comply with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).
55	C3.I2: Investment 2.2.a - Grant scheme for investments in renewable electricity sources for own use with local storage facilities	Target	Capacity of installed storage facilities		Number (kW)	0	54 096	Q2	2026	54 096 kW of capacity installed for storage facilities.
56	C3.I2: Investment 2.2.b - Guarantee instrument for energy efficiency and renewable energy	Milestone	Signature of the contribution agreement between the European Commission and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria	Signed agreement				Q3	2022	The contribution agreement between the European Commission and the Government of Bulgaria shall: a) require the application of the Commission's technical guidance on sustainability proofing for the InvestEU Fund; b) exclude activities and assets on the exclusion list specified in the description of the measure from eligibility; c) include criteria to ensure that the financial instrument is in line with Commission's Guidance Note of 22 January 2021 (SWD(2021) 12 final) related to financial instruments. Considering that the proposed instrument shall be implemented following a contribution to InvestEU, the points (a) and (b) above shall be ensured through the application of the InvestEU provisions and the selected Implementing Partner's lending policy and exclusion criteria. Additional exclusions necessary in order to ensure compliance with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) -

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										including on waste - shall be specified in the guarantee agreement between the European Commission and the European Investment Fund (EIF). The guarantee instrument shall take the form of a portfolio guarantee, implemented by the EIF, and deliver finance and investments in energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy to SMEs, small mid-caps and individuals, through working capital, including revolting credit lines, investment loans, or leasing. The sectors to be supported shall be defined following a detailed market assessment. It is expected that the instrument supports at least 450 beneficiaries. The total amount of RRF funding for the instrument shall be at least EUR 75 million. The structure of the instrument shall enable to leverage private funds. Any returns to the financial instrument, including from repayments, as well as profits obtained through the use of RRF funds, less the remuneration of the fund manager and the financial intermediaries, shall be used for the same policy goals, including after 2026.
58	C3.I2: Investment 2.2.b - Guarantee instrument for energy efficiency and renewable energy	Target	Finance or investment operations approved by the InvestEU Investment Committee		% (Percentage)	0	100	Q2	2025	Finance or investment operations approved by the InvestEU Investment Committee amounting to 100% of the EU Guarantee under the Bulgaria Member State Compartment, excluding related costs and fees.
59	C3.I2:	Milestone	Approved projects	Published list of projects				Q2	2025	The total funding to approved projects shall be at least EUR 83 million.

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Investment 2.2.c Grant scheme for the support of businesses in the transition to a circular economy			approved for funding						The call shall require that: - the beneficiaries shall be SMEs and large companies in the NACE sector C – Processing industry; - the selected projects shall support companies in introducing circular economy production methods, which shall support waste reduction, limiting single-use plastics, use of bio-resources, improving ecological standards and energy efficiency of products; - the projects are in compliance with intervention field 047 and 047bis of Annex VII to the RRF Regulation; - the grant financing does not exceed 50% of the total eligible investment cost; - the proposals comply with the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).
60	C3.I2: Investment 2.2.c Grant scheme for the support of businesses in the transition to a circular economy	Target	Companies supported		Number	0	240	Q4	2025	Companies supported in the area of circular economy.
61	C3.I2: Investment 2.3.a Equity instruments for climate neutrality and digital transformation investments	Milestone	Signature of a financing agreement between the Republic of Bulgaria and the European Investment Fund	Signed agreement and investment policy adopted				Q3	2022	Signature of the financing agreement between the EIF and the Government of Bulgaria, and adoption of the investment policy of the Fund. The investment policy shall: a) be adopted by the governing bodies of the financial instrument; b) be in line with the Commission's Guidance Note of 22 January 2021 (SWD(2021) 12 final) related to financial instruments; c) include selection criteria to ensure compliance with the "Do no significant

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										harm" Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) of supported transactions under this measure - through the use of sustainability proofing; - by requiring beneficiaries that derived more than 50% of their direct revenues during the preceding financial year from activities or assets on the following list of activities to adopt and publish green transition plans: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use; (ii) activities under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks; and (iii) activities related to waste landfills, incinerators and mechanical biological treatment plants. This requirement could be implemented, for example, by relying on the EIF's new restricted sectors (non-infra equity Funds – Paris alignment framework), adjusted by certain additional restrictions on ETS sectors and certain transport activities; and by requiring the verification of legal compliance with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation of the beneficiary by the EIF for all transactions, including those exempted from sustainability proofing. The Fund shall provide financial instruments (equity) support for project special purpose vehicles, as well as SMEs and Small Mid-caps and Mid-Caps for investment in assets that contribute to climate neutrality and accelerate the green and digital transition in priority sectors in Bulgaria. This is expected to be carried out by supporting the creation of infrastructure assets,

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										green energy production and storage infrastructure, including renewables, biomass, storage, recharging infrastructure for electric vehicles, hydrogen, digital infrastructure (ICT, optical infrastructure, data centres, 5G), urban regeneration, energy efficiency and social infrastructure. The support shall be delivered through venture capital funds and private equity. The management of the Fund shall be entrusted to the EIF. A dedicated RRF funding agreement shall be signed between the EIF and the Government of Bulgaria for the management of the RRF equity supported operations. An investment committee shall be responsible for approving operations with intermediaries as proposed by the fund manager (EIF) based on market needs and in an open and market-conform way. It is expected that the instrument supports at least 3 beneficiaries. The total amount of RRF funding shall be EUR 30 million. The structure of the Fund shall leverage private funds. Any returns to the Fund or financial instruments, including from repayments, as well as profits obtained through the use of RRF funding, less the remuneration of the fund manager and the financial intermediaries, shall be used for the same policy goals, including after 2026.
62	C3.I2: Investment 2.3.a Equity instruments for climate neutrality	Target	Operations approved by the Investment Committee		% (Percentage)	0	100	Q2	2026	Finance or investment operations amounting to 100% of the total amount of finance or investment approved by the Investment

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone /Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	and digital transformation investments									Committee designated by the government of Bulgaria.

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D. COMPONENT 4: LOW-CARBON ECONOMY

This component of the recovery and resilience plan of Bulgaria addresses the challenge of decarbonising the energy sector. The Bulgarian economy is the most resource- and carbon-intensive in the EU. The intensity of greenhouse gas emissions is more than four times higher than the EU average. The energy sector is the largest emitter of greenhouse gases in Bulgaria, accounting for more than 70 % of the country's total emissions.

The objective of the component is to decarbonise the economy through a sharp increase in the use of renewables and in energy savings, investments in smart grids, interconnections and storage infrastructure, market reforms and better governance of the energy sector. In particular, the component aims to accelerate the decarbonisation of the energy sector by cutting the carbon dioxide emissions from lignite and coal fired-power plants and by facilitating the deployment of renewables and alternative energy sources. It also aims to reduce both primary and final energy consumption with renovation of the national stock of residential and non-residential buildings, both public and private. Measures on flexibility and digitalisation of the electricity grid and increase of the crossborder interconnections capacities with the neighbouring Member states shall improve market integration. The component also aims to establish a competitive wholesale market through a gradual deregulation of electricity prices by 2025. The component includes measures improving the corporate governance of state-owned enterprises in the energy sector.

These investments and reforms shall support address Bulgaria's country-specific recommendations of 2019 and 2020 to "focus investment-related economic policy on […] energy infrastructure and energy efficiency" (country-specific recommendation 3, 2019) and to "focus investment on the green and digital transition, in particular on clean and efficient production and use of energy and resources, environmental infrastructure […], contributing to a progressive decarbonisation of the economy, including in the coal regions" (country-specific recommendation 3, 2020).

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

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

Reform 1 (C4.R1): Establishment of a National Fund for Decarbonisation

The objective of this reform is to establish the National Fund for Decarbonisation.

The measure consists in an assessment of the national energy efficiency regulatory framework and in the entry into force of legal act(s) establishing the National Fund for Decarbonisation.

Reform 2 (C4.R2): Facilitate investments in energy efficiency renovations in residential buildings

The objective of the reform is to tackle barriers to energy efficiency investments by amending the Condominium Ownership Management Act to facilitate the decision-making by owners of multi-apartment buildings; to regulate the professional management of condominium property in multi-apartment buildings; and to facilitate the application for collective loans to different financial institutions.

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The amendments shall be coordinated with related changes to other pieces of primary and secondary legislation. The implementation of the measure is expected to contribute to the efficiency of energy efficiency investments in building renovation.

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

Reform 3 (C4.R3): Definition and criteria for "energy poverty" for households

The objective of this reform is to contribute to tackle energy poverty and protect vulnerable consumers by introducing in the Energy Act and secondary legislation a definition of "energy poverty" and criteria for identifying households in energy poverty and vulnerable consumers. The reform shall take into account the criteria listed in the Directive (EU) 2019/944: low income, high expenditure of disposable income on energy and poor energy efficiency.

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

Investment 1 (C4.I1): Support for the renovation of the building stock

The objective of the measure is to increase the energy efficiency of the building stock.

The measure consists in three sub-measures for energy efficiency renovation of residential buildings and non-residential buildings – public or buildings in the fields of manufacturing, trade and services.

Investment 2 (C4.I2): Support for renewable energy for households

The objective of the measure is to increase the use of renewable energy in final energy consumption by households.

The measure consists in support for solar systems for domestic hot water supply or photovoltaic systems.

Investment 3 (C4.I3): Support for energy-efficient street lighting systems

The objective of the measure is to increase energy efficiency and reduce energy costs for municipal lighting systems.

The measure consists in support for street lighting systems.

Reform 4 (C4.R4): Boosting energy efficiency and renewable energy projects through the energy bills

The objective of the reform is to broaden the scope for implementing measures and projects to improve energy efficiency in a context of limited financial resources.

The measure consists of entry into force of legal acts to enable the use of Energy Service Companies (ESCO) models for covering the financing for energy efficiency renovations through the energy bills. The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 31 December 2022.

Reform 5 (C4.R5): One-stop shops for energy efficiency renovations

The objective of the reform is to reduce administrative burden linked to the energy efficiency renovation process.

The measure consists in the designation of one-stop shops for energy efficiency renovations in the country and the establishment of 6 pilot one-stop shops.

Reform 6 (C4.R6): Increasing electricity generation from renewable sources

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The objective of this reform is to support a faster expansion of electricity generation from renewable sources.

The reform consists in simplifying the procedures for the installation and connection of renewable energy sources.

Reform 7 (C4.R7): Supporting the green hydrogen value chain

The objective of this reform is to support the green hydrogen value chain.

The reform consists in the entry into force of legal act(s) on the green hydrogen value chain.

Investment 4 (C4.I4): Digital transformation of the electricity transmission grid

The objective of this investment is to increase the share of renewable energy sources, flexibility in the management and monitoring of the electricity system as well as the net cross-border transmission capacity at borders with Member States (i.e., Romania and Greece).

The investment consists in a programme for the digital transformation of the Electricity System Operator.

Reform 8 (C4.R8): Liberalisation of the electricity market

The objective of this reform is to complete the liberalisation of the wholesale electricity market and improve the electricity balancing market. This reform shall consist of the following elements:

- The liberalisation of the wholesale electricity market through entry into force of legal acts, which shall terminate the public supplier role for the Natsionalna Elektricheska Kompania EAD (NEK) and abolish the quotas for the regulated market. It shall also forbid long-term contracts, including power purchase agreements, or any similar measures having the same or equivalent object or effect with the exception of those for electricity from renewable sources or concluded on the power exchange. The long-term electricity purchase contracts for Maritsa East 1 and Maritsa East 3 which expire in 2024 and 2026, respectively shall not be extended and/or benefit of any new State aid support.
- The reform of the electricity balancing market through entry into force of legal acts, which ensure that: (i) the balancing capacity shall be purchased on market terms; (ii) the price of balancing energy suppliers shall be published within 30 minutes after intraday market closure; (iii) a single balancing price shall be introduced for periods without balancing energy activation; (iv) a 15-minute imbalance settlement period shall be introduced; and (v) no price caps for balancing electricity shall be set.

The market coupling on the day-ahead market at the border with Romania as well as with Greece on the intraday market shall be completed by 31 December 2021 and 31 December 2022, respectively.

Reform 9 (C4.R9): Roadmap to Climate Neutrality

The objective of the reform is to provide an updated strategic framework for the decarbonisation of the economy. The reform covers the establishment of an Energy Transition Commission to prepare scenarios and recommendations for a roadmap to Climate Neutrality. The Council of Ministers shall adopt a Decision on a roadmap to Climate Neutrality. The Energy Transition Commission shall be set up at expert level with broad involvement of stakeholders to ensure expertise, independence and pluralism. The Commission shall assess different scenarios for the coal/lignite phase out, including for an accelerated phase-out. The scenario report and the recommendations shall be made public. The scenarios and recommendations developed shall

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include steps for completing the phase out of coal/lignite at the latest by 2038. The implementation of the reform shall be completed by 30 September 2022.

Reform 10 (C4.R10): Decarbonisation of the energy sector

The objective of this reform is the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions associated with power generation.

The reform consists in: (i) the limitation of the carbon dioxide emissions associated with electricity generation, and (ii) entry into force of legal act(s) on decarbonisation, including a regulatory cap on carbon dioxide emissions from existing lignite and coal fired power plants.

Investment 7 (C4.I7): Increasing the use of renewable energy from geothermal sources

The objective of the investment is to support the production of renewable energy from geothermal sources.

The investment consists in the entry into force of a revised regulatory framework for geothermal energy and a geothermal tool accessible online.

Investment 8 (C4.I8): National infrastructure for storage of electricity (RESTORE)

The objective of the investment is to support electricity storage facilities.

The investment consists in the installation of electricity storage facilities.

Reform 11 (C4.R11). Improving corporate governance of state-owned companies in the energy sector

The objective of the reform is to increase the transparency and competitiveness of state-owned companies in the energy sector.

The measure consists in the separation of coal-related undertakings from the Bulgarian Energy Holding.

Investment 9 (C4.I9): Subsidy scheme – renovation of residential buildings

This measure shall consist of a public investment in a subsidy scheme in order to incentivise investments in the energy efficiency renovation of residential buildings. The scheme shall operate by providing subsidies to the private sector.

The scheme shall be managed by the Bulgarian Development Bank as the implementing partner. It shall cover projects for which applications were submitted under sub-measure 1 of Investment 1 of Component 4 “Support for the renovation of the building stock” and transferred to the Bulgarian Development Bank.

In order to implement the investment into the scheme, Bulgaria and the Bulgarian Development Bank shall sign an Implementing Agreement that shall include the following content:

1. Description of the decision-making process of the scheme:
    a. For project applications listed in Annex 1 to the Council of Ministers Decree No 22 of 2026, for which contracts have been concluded by the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works as of the date of entry into force of Council of Ministers Decree No 22 of 2026, the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works shall assess compliance with both eligibility and quality assessment criteria. In that case, projects shall be approved for

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funding by an investment committee of the Bulgarian Development Bank only after an assessment by the Bulgarian Development Bank of compliance with the eligibility conditions and of absence of conflict of interest as defined in Article 61(3) of Regulation 2024/2509 in the Ministry's assessment of the eligibility and quality criteria. The final award decision for these projects shall be taken by the investment committee of the Bulgarian Development Bank and approved by a majority of votes from members who are independent from the government.

b. For the project applications listed in Annex 1 to the Council of Ministers Decree No 22 of 2026, for which contracts have not been concluded by the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works as of the date of entry into force of Council of Ministers Decree No 22 of 2026, the final award decision shall be taken by an investment committee and approved by a majority of votes from members who are independent from the government, following the assessment performed by the Bulgarian Development Bank of both eligibility and qualitative criteria.

2. Key requirements of the associated subsidy policy, which shall include:
   a. The description of the subsidies provided and eligible final beneficiaries.
   b. The requirement that all investments supported are economically viable.
   c. The requirement to comply with the 'Do no significant harm' (DNSH) principle as set out in the DNSH Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01). In particular, the subsidy policy shall exclude the following list of activities and assets from eligibility: (i) activities and assets related to fossil fuels, including downstream use[17],
   (ii) activities and assets under the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) achieving projected greenhouse gas emissions that are not lower than the relevant benchmarks[18], (iii) activities and assets related to waste landfills, incinerators[19] and mechanical biological treatment plants[20].
   d. The requirement that final beneficiaries of the scheme shall not receive funding from other EU instruments to cover the same costs.
3. The amount covered by the scheme, the fee structure for the Bulgarian Development Bank and the requirement to use any unused proceeds of the scheme, including beyond 2026, for the same policy purposes.

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[17]Except for (a) assets and activities in power and/or heat generation, as well as related transmission and distribution infrastructure, using natural gas, that are compliant with the conditions set out in Annex III of the 'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01) and (b) activities and assets under point (ii) for which the use of fossil fuels is temporary and technically unavoidable for the timely transition towards a fossil fuel free operation.

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

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

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

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4. Monitoring, audit, and control requirements, including:
    a. The description of the implementing partner's monitoring system to report on the subsidies granted.
    b. The description of the implementing partner's procedures that will ensure the prevention, detection and correction of fraud, corruption, and conflicts of interests.
    c. The obligation to verify the eligibility of every operation in accordance with the requirements laid out in the Implementing Agreement before awarding a subsidy.
    d. The obligation of carrying out risk-based ex-post audits in accordance with an audit plan of the Bulgarian Development Bank. These audits shall verify i) that the control systems are effective, including the detection of fraud, corruption, and conflict of interests; ii) compliance with the DNSH principle, the State Aid rules; and iii) that the requirement that final beneficiaries of the Scheme have not received support from other Union instruments to cover the same cost is respected. The audits shall also verify the legality of the transactions and that the conditions of the applicable Implementing Agreement are being respected.

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

Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
63	C4.R1: Establishment of a National Fund for Decarbonisation	Milestone	Assessment of the national energy efficiency regulatory framework published by an independent expert panel	Publication of the assessment of the national energy efficiency regulatory framework on the website of the Energy Ministry				Q3	2022	An assessment of the national energy efficiency regulatory framework shall be carried out by an independent expert panel and it shall: 1. Identify barriers to energy efficiency investments; 2. provide recommendations for changes to the national regulatory framework; 3. Identify options on the structure of the National Fund for Decarbonisation, in particular, on ownership and governance; 4. Identify potential sources for the capitalisation of the National Fund for Decarbonisation.
64	C4.R1: Establishment of a National Fund for Decarbonisation	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) establishing the National Fund for Decarbonisation	Provision in legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q2	2025	Entry into force of legal act(s) for the establishment of the National Fund for Decarbonisation. The legal act(s) shall define: (i) the purpose of the Fund, including to finance energy efficiency and renewable energy measures in buildings; (ii) the eligible uses of the Fund's resources, including for the provision of (a) financial instrument(s), for example credit lines, guarantees and/or a combination of them with a grant component, and (b) technical assistance for the preparation of projects; (iii) the bodies of the Fund and their competencies; (iv) the Fund Manager as a legal person or a consortium of legal persons. Furthermore, the legal act(s) shall provide for the chairperson of the management board to perform the functions of the fund manager until the selection of the first fund manager following the establishment of the National Fund for Decarbonisation.
65	C4.R1: Establishment of a National	Milestone	Contract and operating rules	Contract signed and operating rules adopted				Q4	2025	The contract between the Management Board of the National Fund for Decarbonisation and the selected

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Fund for Decarbonisation									Fund Manager shall be signed, following an open selection procedure. Furthermore, the Management Board of the National Decarbonisation Fund shall adopt the operating rules of the Fund, which shall: (i) include the investment strategy, eligible beneficiaries, and types of instruments; (ii) include details on leverage, sources of funding including private funds, implementation arrangements, financial products, and risk policy.
66	C4.R3: Definition of "energy poverty" and of criteria for identifying households in energy poverty and vulnerable consumers	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the Energy Act and secondary legislation concerning "energy poverty"	Provision in the Energy Act indicating the entry into force of the amendments to the Energy Act and of the secondary legislation				Q4	2022	The amendments to the Energy Act and the subsequent secondary legislation shall regulate the definition of "energy poverty" and define criteria for identifying households in energy poverty and vulnerable consumers. The amendments shall take into account the criteria listed in the Directive 2019/944: low income, high-energy costs as a share of available income and low energy efficiency.
67	C4.R2: Facilitating investments in energy efficiency renovations in residential buildings	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the Condominium Ownership Management Act	Provision in the Condominium Ownership Management Act indicating the entry into force of the amendments				Q3	2022	The amendments of Condominium Ownership Management Act shall: a. facilitate decision-making by owners of individual sites in multi-apartment buildings by reducing the threshold required to support renovation of buildings. b. regulate the professional management by creating the conditions for improving its quality. c. facilitate the application for collective credits by the condominium through the setting up of a joint bank account in the name of the condominium.
68	C4.I1: Support for the renovation of	Milestone	Establishing a national support scheme for energy	Publication of the Ministerial order				Q3	2022	The scheme shall include three sub-measures: a. sub-measure 1: Energy renovation of at least 2.15 million m² total gross floor area of residential buildings;

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	the building stock		efficiency renovation for residential and non-residential buildings	establishing the scheme						b. sub-measure 2: Energy renovation of at least 354 non-residential public buildings; and c. sub-measure 2 and 3 combined: Energy renovation of 524 non-residential buildings The scheme shall ensure a minimum of 30 % of primary energy demand savings compared to pre-renovation state and compliance with the "Do no significant harm" Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).
69	C4.I1: Support for the renovation of the building stock Sub-measure 1: Renovation of residential buildings	Milestone	Call for proposals for the energy efficiency renovation for residential buildings	Publication of call specifications				Q3	2022	The call for proposals shall be published by the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, which is the responsible authority for the energy efficiency renovation of residential buildings. The call shall include the following two stages of application: a. stage 1 – open for applications with 100% grants financing; b. stage 2 – open for applications with 80% grants financing and 20% own financing by homeowners. The two stages of application shall run consecutively and not in parallel.
70	C4.I1: Support for the renovation of the building stock Sub-measure 1: Renovation of residential buildings Sub-measure 2: Renovation of non-residential public buildings and	Milestone	Signature of contracts for the energy efficiency renovation of buildings	Signed contracts				Q2	2025	Signature of contracts for the energy efficiency renovation of buildings by the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works and final beneficiaries and/or municipalities on behalf of final beneficiaries.

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Sub-measure 3: Renovation of non-residential buildings in manufacturing, trade and services									
71	C4.I1: Support for the renovation of the building stock Sub-measure 1: Renovation of residential buildings	Target	Energy-efficiency renovation of residential buildings		Gross floor area of residential buildings (m^2)	0	2.15 million	Q2	2026	2.15 million m^2 of gross floor area of residential buildings have been renovated.
72	C4.I1: Support for the renovation of the building stock Sub-measure 2: Renovation of non-residential buildings, including public buildings and Sub-measure 3: Renovation of non-residential buildings in manufacturing,	Milestone	Calls for proposals for the energy efficiency renovation for non-residential buildings	Publication of calls specifications for call 1 (public buildings) and call 2 (buildings in manufacturing, trade and services)				Q3	2022	The following two calls for proposals shall be published by the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works for the energy efficiency renovation of non-residential buildings: a. call for public buildings; b. call for buildings in manufacturing, trade and services.

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	trade and services									
75	C4.I1: Support for the renovation of the building stock Sub-measure 2: Renovation of non-residential public buildings and Sub-measure 3: Renovation of non-residential buildings in manufacturing, trade and services	Target	Energy efficiency renovation of non-residential buildings		Number of buildings	0	550	Q2	2026	At least 550 non-residential public buildings or non-residential buildings in manufacturing, trade and services, have been renovated.
75a	C4.I9: Subsidy scheme – renovation of residential buildings	Milestone	Implementing Agreement, legal subsidy agreements and transfer of funds	Entry into force of the Implementing Agreement, signature of legal subsidy agreements, certificate of transfer				Q2	2026	Entry into force of the Implementing Agreement. The Bulgarian Development Bank shall have entered into legal subsidy agreements with final beneficiaries for an amount necessary to use 100% of the RRF funds covered by the Implementing Agreement (including management fees). Bulgaria shall transfer EUR 340 million to the Bulgarian Development Bank.
76	C4.I2: Support for renewable	Milestone	Establishing a national renewable energy support	Publication of the Ministerial order				Q4	2022	The scheme shall finance the purchase 'best in class' solar domestic hot water (DHW) or photovoltaic systems up to 10 kWp and ensure compliance with the

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	energy for households		scheme for households	establishing the scheme						'Do no significant harm' Technical Guidance (2021/C58/01).
78	C4.I2: Support for renewable energy for households	Target	Payment(s) for solar domestic hot water or photovoltaic systems		Number	0	1 420	Q4	2025	Proof(s) of payment(s) for at least 1 420 solar domestic hot water or photovoltaic systems.
79	C4.I3: Support for energy-efficient street lighting systems	Milestone	Signature of grant contracts for renovation of public lighting systems (call 1)	Signed contracts by Ministry of Energy with the successful applicants				Q3	2022	The grant contracts to renovate public lighting systems shall specify that a reduction in primary energy consumption of at least 30 % to be achieved.
81	C4.I3: Support for energy-efficient street lighting systems	Target	Reduction of primary energy consumption		Energy savings in Megawatt-hours (MWh) per year	0	120 000	Q2	2026	Reduction of primary energy consumption, 120 000 MWh per year, following renovation of public street lighting systems.
82	C4.R4: Boosting energy efficiency and renewable energy projects through the energy bills	Milestone	Entry into force of legal acts regarding energy efficiency improvements under Energy Service Companies (ESCO) model.	Provisions indicating the entry into force of the legal acts				Q4	2022	Legal acts shall enable a method of financing energy efficiency improvements using the utility bill as the repayment vehicle. The mechanism shall not allow financing of gas boilers as an option for replacement of oil heating systems.

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
83	C4.R5: One-stop shops for energy efficiency renovations	Milestone	Establishment of pilot one-stop-shops for energy renovation	One-stop-shop operational				Q4	2022	Six physical pilot one-stop shops shall be operational on a regional basis to provide advice and reduce the administrative burden for both, households and businesses. The one-stop-shop shall integrate all the necessary information and services needed for energy renovation, including on the available EU sources of financial support.
84	C4.R5: One-stop shops for energy efficiency renovations	Target	One-stop shops designated		Number	0	21	Q2	2025	Legal act(s) shall designate 21 regional information centres as one-stop shops for energy efficiency renovations.
85	C4.I4: Digital transformation of the electricity transmission grid	Milestone	Signed contracts or the commencement of works for the upgrade of the national transmission systems	Signed contract(s) by ESO EAD or the commencement of works				Q3	2022	Signature of contracts or commencement of works for the upgrade of the national transmission systems related to the deployment of Substation Automation Systems (SAS) in 171 substations at 110 kV voltage level.
88	C4.I4: Digital transformation of the electricity transmission grid	Target	Increase of maximum monthly net cross-border transmission capacity by 1 600 MW		Megawatts (MW)	0	1 600	Q2	2025	1 600 MW of additional maximum monthly net cross-border transmission capacity with Romania and Greece, compared to 2020 levels, shall be made available to the market, as evidenced by data from the ENTSO-e Transparency platform.
89	C4.I4: Digital transformation of the electricity transmission grid	Target	Conditions for the integration of production capacity from renewable sources into the electricity system	Report by an independent engineer	Megawatts (MW)	0	4 500	Q2	2026	A report by an independent engineer confirming that the electricity transmission system meets the technical conditions to integrate additional 4 500 MW of production capacity from renewable sources into the electricity system.

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					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
90	C4.R7: Supporting the green hydrogen value chain	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on the green hydrogen value chain	Provision in legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q2	2025	Entry into force of legal act(s) on the green hydrogen value chain.
91	C4.R8: Liberalisation of the electricity market	Milestone	Entry into force of legal acts	Provision in the legal acts indicating the entry into force				Q3	2022	The legal acts shall: 1. liberalise the electricity wholesale market at the latest by 1 July 2025 by: - abolishing quota obligations for the regulated market and terminating the role of Natsionalna Elektricheska Kompania EAD (NEK) as public supplier; - prohibiting long-term contracts, including power purchase agreements, or any other similar agreements having the same or equivalent object or effect with the exception of such agreements for energy from renewable sources or those concluded on the power exchange. Upon expiry or early termination of current power purchase agreements, plants that have benefitted from such agreements shall not receive new State aid to support power production from hard coal or lignite; 2. reform the electricity balancing market at the latest by 31 December 2024 by ensuring that: a. the purchase of balancing capacity shall be market-based; b. the price of balancing energy shall be published within 30 minutes after intraday market closure; c. a single balancing price shall be introduced for periods without balancing energy activation; d. a 15-minute imbalance settlement period shall be introduced; e. no price caps for balancing electricity shall be set.
92	C4.R8:	Milestone	Electricity market integration	Completion of the day-ahead and intraday				Q4	2022	The day-ahead electricity market coupling with Romania shall be completed and operational by 31 December 2021.

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					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	Liberalisation of the electricity market			electricity market coupling with Romania and Greece						The intraday electricity market coupling with Greece shall be completed and operational by 31 December 2022.
93	C4.R11: Improving corporate governance of state-owned companies in the energy sector	Milestone	Conditions for a new state-owned holding company	Adoption of a Council of Ministers decision				Q4	2025	The Council of Minister shall adopt a decision authorising the Minister of Energy to work on a resolution concerning the corporate restructuring of the Bulgarian Energy Holding. The decision shall require that: - A new state-owned enterprise shall be established, to be set-up as a holding company. It shall be the sole owner of coal-related undertakings previously owned by the Bulgarian Energy Holding; - An auditor shall evaluate the assets to be transferred.
93a	C4.R11: Improving corporate governance of state-owned companies in the energy sector	Milestone	Resolution of the Minister of Energy, acting for the state as the sole owner of the Bulgarian Energy Holding	Adoption of a resolution of the Minister of Energy				Q2	2026	The Minister of Energy, acting for the state as the sole owner of the Bulgarian Energy Holding, shall adopt a resolution deciding on the corporate restructuring of the Bulgarian Energy Holding. The resolution shall include the following points: (i) establishment of a new state-owned holding company through a spinoff of the Bulgarian Energy Holding's property; (ii) adoption of the new holding company's By-Laws; (iii) appointment of the new holding company's management.
95	C4.R6: Increasing electricity generation from renewable sources	Milestone	Entry into force of legal acts	Provisions indicating the entry into force of the legal acts				Q4	2022	Legal acts shall: 1. simplify the permitting procedures for renewable energy installations generating electricity by: a. introducing deadlines for issuance of permits in order to ensure the grid connection procedure does not exceed 6 months. b. introducing accountability procedures in case of delays in the issuance of grid connection permits

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										by distribution and transmission system operators. 2. enable the designation of priority zones for onshore wind parks. 3. simplify the permitting procedure for solar photovoltaic installations for own use up to 1 MW by: a. introducing a notification regime for grid connection without requiring the issuance of an opinion by the distribution system operator. b. phasing out the obligations to declare excise duty for self-generation and to register a tax warehouse.
96	C4.R6: Increasing electricity generation from renewable sources	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s)	Provision indicating the entry into force of legal act(s)				Q2	2026	Entry into force of legal act(s), which shall provide for: 1.the adoption of a plan designating priority zone(s) for onshore wind, jointly identifying at least 2 GW of aggregated deployment potential for onshore wind energy production. Among priority zone(s) designated by the plan, there shall be zone(s) with access to the existing transmission network; 2. the extension of the period of validity of the opinion on the conditions and method for connecting a facility for the production of electricity from wind energy; 3. connection of electricity production sites with joint use of the transmission capacity; 4. simplified regulatory regime for operators of a closed electricity distribution network which distribute electricity between energy sites with an integrated activity; 5. the adoption of a methodology for calculating the quantities of electricity generated, allocated for

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					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										consumption and sold for the facilities of active customers, citizen energy communities, consumers of self-generated electricity from renewable sources and renewable energy communities. 6. the amendment of electricity trading rules in relation to participation in the electricity market of active clients, citizen energy communities, consumers of own electricity from renewable sources, and renewable energy communities.
97	C4.I8: National infrastructure for storage of electricity (RESTORE)	Milestone	Amendment of the national legislative framework to support fast deployment of electricity storage	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the amendments				Q4	2022	Amendments to the relevant primary or secondary legislation shall eliminate barriers, introduce a specific regulatory, and support framework for the construction, connection and operation of electricity storage facilities.
105	C4.I7: Increasing the use of renewable energy from geothermal sources	Milestone	Entry into force of legal acts regarding the use of renewable energy from geothermal sources	Provisions indicating the entry into force of the legal acts				Q4	2022	The legal acts shall: 1. remove key impediments identified in the roadmap for the development of geothermal energy as a renewable energy source; 2. provide that there is no pollution of groundwater and water surfaces, both in geothermal energy studies and during operation of the installation; 3. regulate the use of geothermal energy as a resource.
106	C4.I7: Increasing the use of renewable energy from geothermal sources	Milestone	Geothermal tool	Geothermal tool accessible online				Q4	2025	The tool shall allow for the calculation of the levelized cost of geothermal heat based on geographic location and heat characteristic(s). The tool shall be accessible online.

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113	C4.R9: Roadmap to Climate Neutrality	Milestone	Entry into force of the Government Decision establishing the Green Energy Transition Commission	Provision in the Government Decision indicating the entry into force of the Government Decision and the establishment of the Green Energy Transition Commission				Q2	2022	The Government Decision shall establish the Commission and give it a mandate to prepare scenarios and recommendations for a Roadmap to Climate Neutrality. The Commission shall be set up at expert level with broad involvement of stakeholders to ensure expertise, independence and pluralism. The scenario report and the recommendations shall be addressed to the Government and made public. The scenarios and recommendations developed shall include steps for completing the phase out of coal/lignite as soon as possible and at the latest by 2038. The development of the scenarios and of the report is expected to contribute to the timely finalisation of the Territorial Just Transition Plans for the coal regions. The Commission shall assess different scenarios for the coal/lignite phase out, including for an accelerated phase-out to be completed by 2030, in line with comparable neighbouring Member States.
114	C4.R9: Roadmap to Climate Neutrality	Milestone	Adoption by the Council of Ministers of a Decision on a Roadmap to Climate Neutrality	Council of Ministers Decision adopted				Q3	2022	The Council of Ministers shall adopt a Decision on a Roadmap to Climate Neutrality. The Roadmap shall set the final date for the coal/lignite phase out at the latest by 2038, as identified in one of the scenarios developed by the Energy Transition Commission in its Report with scenarios and recommendations.
115	C4.R10: Decarbonisation of the energy sector	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) introducing a CO2 emissions cap for lignite	Provision in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q2	2025	Entry into force of legal act(s) which shall: a. include a prohibition to build and operate new installations for production of electricity from coal or lignite; and b. place an overall limit on the annual amount of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions for existing coal

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					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
			and coal fired power plants							and lignite fired power plants ("Emission Cap"). The Emission Cap shall be applicable as of 1 January 2026. The Emission Cap shall require that yearly emissions of all existing lignite and coal fired power plants do not cumulatively exceed 10 983 000 tonnes of CO2 until the coal and lignite phase out. The annual Emission Cap shall apply as follows: - In 2026, the Emission Cap of 10 983 000 tonnes of CO2 shall apply to the CO2 emissions in 2026; - In 2027, the Emission Cap of 10 983 000 tonnes of CO2 shall apply to the average CO2 emissions in 2026 and 2027; - As of 2028, the Emission Cap of 10 983 000 tonnes of CO2 shall apply to average CO2 emissions over a rolling three-year period comprising the year concerned and the two previous years. The legal act(s) shall also provide for the annual CO2 emissions to be calculated in accordance with the annual cycle for monitoring, reporting and verification of emissions under the EU ETS.
120	C4.R10: Decarbonisation of the energy sector	Milestone	Carbon dioxide emissions from coal- or lignite-fired power plants	Carbon dioxide emissions from coal- or lignite-fired power plants not exceeding 10 983 000 tonnes				Q2	2026	The carbon dioxide emissions of nine coal- or lignite-fired power plants shall not exceed 10 983 000 tonnes in 2025. The carbon dioxide emissions shall be calculated by using the annual verified carbon dioxide emissions for nine coal and lignite power plants for electricity generation as recorded in the Union Emissions Registry (EU ETS).
122	C4.I8: National infrastructure	Milestone	Signature of contracts for	Signature of contracts				Q2	2025	Signature of contracts for grant support for electricity storage facilities.

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					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	for storage of electricity (RESTORE)		electricity storage facilities							The selection procedure shall require a discharge period of at least 2 hours and a capacity of at least 10 MW.
125	C4.I8: National infrastructure for storage of electricity (RESTORE)	Target	Electricity storage facilities		Megawatt-hours (MWh)	0	3 000	Q2	2026	Installation and connection to the electricity grid of electricity storage facilities for 3 000 MWh of capacity.

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E. COMPONENT 5: BIODIVERSITY

This component of the Bulgarian recovery and resilience plan aims at ensuring effective management of the National Ecological Network with a view to protecting and restoring ecosystems and natural habitats and species of European and national importance.

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

Reform 1 (C5.R1): Establishment of the governance structure of the Natura 2000 Network

The objective of the measure is to build effective Natura 2000 management structures.

The measure consists of legislative changes, which set up structures for managing the Natura 2000 network at national and regional level and introduce requirements for developing network management plans. The legislative changes shall also introduce the requirement that all protected areas are managed on the basis of planning documents, which shall define site-specific conservation objectives and measures.

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

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

Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
126	C5.R1: Establishment of the governance structure of Natural 2000 Network	Milestone	Amendments to the Biodiversity Act	Entry into force				Q3	2022	The amendments to the Biodiversity Act shall introduce the requirement to create structures for the management of the Natura 2000 network at national and regional level and to develop network management plans. The amendments shall also introduce the requirement that all protected areas are managed on the basis of planning documents, which shall define site-specific conservation objectives and measures.

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F. COMPONENT 6: SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

This component of the Bulgarian recovery and resilience plan aims at enhancing the sustainable management and competitiveness of the Bulgarian agricultural sector in the context of the green transition.

The component contributes to addressing the country-specific recommendations for the years 2019 and 2020 that recommend focusing investment and investment-related policies on the green transition (country-specific recommendation 3 of 2019 and country-specific recommendation 3 of 2020).

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

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

Reform 1 (C6.R1): National Action Programme

The objective of this reform is to contribute to the objectives of the Farm to Fork Strategy 2030.

The measure consists in adopting the National Action Programme.

Investment 1 (C6.I1): Technological and ecological transition of agriculture

The objective of this investment is to support the technological and ecological transition of the Bulgarian agricultural sector.

The measure consists in extract(s) on payment(s) issued from the Information System for Management and Monitoring of EU funds in Bulgaria (EUMIS) for at least 1 700 projects to promote the technological and ecological transition of agriculture.

Investment 2 (C6.I2): Digitalisation of processes from farm to fork

The objective of the measure is to facilitate the automated data exchange between the administration and farmers.

The measure consists in the electronic agricultural information system being accessible.

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

Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
131	C6.R1: National Action Programme	Milestone	Adoption of the National Action Programme	Adoption by the Council of Ministers				Q2	2025	The National Action Programme for contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the Farm to Fork Strategy 2030 shall be adopted.
134	C6.I1: Technological and ecological transition of agriculture	Target	Extract(s) on payment(s)		Number	0	1 700	Q2	2026	Extract(s) on payment(s) issued from the Information System for Management and Monitoring of EU funds in Bulgaria (EUMIS) for at least 1 700 projects to promote the technological and ecological transition of agriculture.
136	C6.I2: Digitalisation of processes from farm to fork	Milestone	Electronic agricultural information system	Electronic agricultural information system accessible				Q4	2025	Acceptance-delivery protocol shall be issued, confirming that the electronic agricultural information system including the communication network of field and rain sensors and four additional modules is accessible.

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G. COMPONENT 7: DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

This component of the Bulgarian recovery and resilience plan contains measures that aim at building a modern and secure digital infrastructure and maximising the access to online services for citizens, enterprises, public administrations and institutions, especially in rural and remote areas.

The investments included under this component concern the large-scale expansion of digital infrastructure and digital TETRA system and radio relay network.

The reforms included under this component aim to contribute to the development and implementation of an effective policy and regulatory framework, the assignment of radio frequency spectrum for the development of 5G networks and services and the creation of a favourable investment environment.

The component supports addressing the 2019 and 2020 country-specific recommendations of the Council and will directly or indirectly contribute to addressing aspects of country-specific recommendation for 2019 and 2020. In particular, the reforms and investments included in this component contribute to strengthening "employability by reinforcing digital skills" (country-specific recommendation 4, 2019), to improving access to distance working and promoting digital skills and equal access to education (country-specific recommendation 2, 2020), and to focusing investments on the green and digital transition (country-specific recommendation 3, 2020), minimising administrative burden to companies by improving the effectiveness of public administration and reinforcing digital government (country-specific recommendation 4, 2020).

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

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

Reform 2 (C7.R2): Assignment of radio frequency spectrum

The objective of the reform is to address the challenges of 5G readiness and promote the accelerated rollout of 5G networks.

The reform consists in reducing spectrum fees and assigning spectrum rights in several bands.

Reform 3 (C7.R3): Creating a favourable investment environment

The reform aims to address key recommendations of the Common Union Toolbox for Connectivity[21], and shall:

- Streamline the permit procedures for the construction, maintenance, equipment and/or improvement of radio transmission systems, as well as their replacement or completion by assembling or dismantling elements of the radio transmission system;
- Extend the right of accessing existing physical infrastructure controlled by public sector bodies to commercial operators where the latter have no interest in building such networks or would consider shared use as an opportunity to reduce their investment costs;

The implementation of this measure shall be completed by 30 June 2021.

[21] https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/document.cfm?doc_id=75185.

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Investment 1 (C7.I1): Large-scale expansion of digital infrastructure

The objective of this investment is to support the expansion of digital infrastructure.

The investment consists in upgrading the state backbone network and supporting the expansion of very high capacity networks (“VHCN”).

Investment 2 (C7.I2): TETRA system and radio relay network

The objective of the investment is to increase the national coverage of the TETRA network.

The investment consists in the delivery of equipment based on the TETRA standard.

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

Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
137	C7.R2: Assignment of radio frequency spectrum	Milestone	Entry into force of the decree on the reduction of spectrum fees	Provision in the decree of the Council of Ministers indicating the entry into force of the reduction of spectrum fees				Q1	2021	The Decree of the Council of Ministers shall establish the reduction of the one-time fee for the use of the radio spectrum by 50% and reduction of the annual fee for the use of the spectrum by 35%. This concerns the fees under the Law on electronic communications levied by the Communications Regulation Commission.
138	C7.R2: Assignment of radio frequency spectrum	Milestone	Notification of assignment of the rights of use to operators in the 26 GHz spectrum band	Notification of assignment				Q4	2022	Notification of assignment of rights of use to operators in the 26 GHz spectrum band.
139	C7.R2: Assignment of radio frequency spectrum	Milestone	Entry into force of decision(s) by the Communications Regulation Commission assigning rights in the 700 MHz and 800 MHz spectrum bands	Provision in the decision(s) indicating the entry into force				Q2	2025	Entry into force of decision(s) by the Communications Regulation Commission assigning rights of use to operators in the 700 MHz and 800 MHz spectrum bands.
140	C7.R3: Creating a favourable investment environment	Milestone	Entry into force of legislative changes implementing recommendations under the Connectivity Toolbox	Provision in the Law on spatial planning and in the decision 558 of the Council of Ministers indicating the entry into force of legislative changes				Q4	2020	Legislative changes shall ensure that: - No building permit is required for maintenance, equipment and/or improvement of elements of the radio transmission systems, as well as their replacement; - Free capacity of fibre networks controlled by public sector bodies may be provided for use to commercial operators;

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Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										- Publicly funded infrastructure projects, shall by default design construction of protective pipes and cable trunks in a way which shall be open for use by all operators.
146	C7.I1: Large-scale expansion of digital infrastructure	Milestone	Upgrade of the State backbone network	State backbone network upgraded				Q2	2026	Acceptance protocol(s) shall be provided, demonstrating the delivery and/or installation of equipment, with which: - 1 200 providers of services of general interest have been granted access to at least 10 Gbps access points; - 24 universities and scientific institutes have been granted access to 200 Gbps access points; - 185 municipalities have been provided with access nodes, part of the state network.
147	C7.I1: Large-scale expansion of digital infrastructure	Milestone	Access to very high capacity networks (VHCN)	Access to very high capacity networks provided				Q2	2026	Access to VHCN shall be provided for settlements covering at least 350 000 people.
148	C7.I2: TETRA system and radio relay network	Milestone	Award of contracts for development of TETRA system and radio relay network	Communication of awards				Q2	2022	The public procurement procedures shall be carried out through an open and competitive tender. Two public procurement procedures with the following subjects shall be conducted: - Building, development and optimisation of the digital TETRA system and microwave network managed by the Ministry of Interior needed for its building as a unified radio communication system for providing a communication environment for management, interaction, and coordination of state units; - Delivery of terminal devices and equipment needed for adding 14 000 subscribers from all state institutions to the TETRA network.

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					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
149	C7.I2: TETRA system and radio relay network	Milestone	Delivery of equipment based on the TETRA standard	Equipment delivered				Q2	2025	Acceptance protocols shall be provided proving the delivery of: - 14 000 end user devices based on the TETRA standard; - 109 base stations based on the TETRA standard.

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H. COMPONENT 8: SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

The main objective of the component is to enhance the sustainability of the transport sector by reforming the road and railways sectors, promoting zero-emission vehicles, enhancing road safety, and investing in railways, intermodal transport and sustainable urban mobility. This includes investments in the modernisation and digitalisation of railways, new zero-emission rolling stock, and clean public transport. The component is expected to contribute to the green and digital transition, as well as towards a more balanced territorial growth.

The reforms and investments included in Component 8 on Sustainable Transport are expected to contribute to addressing the country-specific recommendations conveyed to Bulgaria in 2019 and 2020, on the need to focus investments on sustainable transport.

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

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

Reform 1 (C8.R1): Strategic transport framework

The objective of the reform is to increase the sustainability of transport in Bulgaria.

The reform consists in the entry into force of a national plan, the publication of a market assessment and the signature of new public service contract(s) for the provision of public rail transport services.

Reform 2 (C8.R2): Road safety

The objective of the reform is the improvement of road safety, as Bulgaria has one of the highest rates of road accident fatalities in the EU.

The reform includes setting up a conceptual framework for new road safety management in a single integrated strategic document for 2021-2030.

Reform 3 (C8.R3): Sustainable urban mobility

The objective of the reform is to promote the sustainable urban mobility, through the use of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans integrated into territorial strategies for the development of NUTS 2 (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) planning regions and integrated into development municipal plans.

Reform 4 (C8.R4): Integrated public transport

The objective of the reform is to increase the quality and efficiency of the public transport service.

The reform consists in the entry into force of legal act(s) relating to public transport. The National System for a Single Transport Document including the clearing system for the distribution of the revenues from the sale of the single transport documents as well as the development, implementation and subsequent update of the Intelligent Public Transport Management System and of the National Access Point System are not part of the RRF measure.

Reform 5 (C8.R5): Electric mobility

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The objective of the reform is to increase the uptake of zero-emission and low-emission transport in Bulgaria.

The reform consists in the entry into force of legal act(s) on electric mobility as well as the introduction of low-emission zones.

Investment 1 (C8.I1): Railways rolling stock

The objective of the investment is to increase the uptake of the zero-emission railways rolling stock.

The investment consists in the procurement of railways rolling stock.

Investment 5 (C8.I5): Road safety

The objective of the investment is to support the road safety activities on Bulgarian roads.

The investment consists in the purchase of equipment.

Investment 6 (C.8.I6): Sofia metro line 3
The objective of the investment is to build kilometers and stations of the metro in Sofia.

The investment consists in building 3 kilometers and 3 stations of the metro in Sofia.

Investment 7 (C8.I7): Green mobility
The objective of the investment is to support sustainable urban mobility measures.

The investment consists in the acceptance and/or handover of zero-emission buses and/or trolleybuses, the installation of charging stations for buses, construction and/or renovation of cycling infrastructure as well as lighting for pedestrian crossings.

Investment 8 (C8.I8): Equipment and wagons for monitoring or maintenance of railway tracks and overhead lines

The objective of the investment is to support the monitoring or maintenance of railway tracks and overhead lines.

The investment consists in the acceptance and/or delivery of equipment and wagons.

Investment 9 (C8.I9): Renovation of railway infrastructure

The objective of the investment is to support the renovation of the Bulgarian railway network.

The investment consists in the renovation of railway lines, overhead lines and track layout.

Investment 10 (C8.I10): Metro rolling stock

The objective of the investment is to purchase rolling stock for the metro.

The investment consists in the delivery of 8 metro trains.

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

Seq N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
161	C8.R1: Strategic transport framework	Milestone	Entry into force of the National Plan for the Development of Combined Transport in Bulgaria by 2030	Entry into force the plan via approval of the government				Q2	2022	The National Plan for the Development of Combined Transport in Bulgaria by 2030 shall enter into force via approval by the Council of Ministers. The National Plan for the Development of Combined Transport in the Republic of Bulgaria by 2030 shall encourage and facilitate modal shift towards more environmentally friendly modes of transport - rail, inland waterway and maritime - and achieve a more sustainable and less polluting impacts of transport with a clear action plan including objectives, resources and timeline until 2030.
162	C8.R1: Strategic transport framework	Milestone	Strengthening the capacity to manage and implement TEN-T railways projects	Independent audit completed				Q4	2022	The responsible bodies for transport investments, such as the National Railway Infrastructure Company (NRIC), Road Infrastructure Agency, together with the Ministry of Transport and Communication, shall be subject to an independent audit of their organisation, administrative and technical capacity to carry out the management and coordination, tendering procedures, financial management, monitoring, and internal quality control and reporting. The audit shall include the definition of the organisation, coordination, split of responsibilities and resources (quantity and profile of staff, other technical resources) needed to prepare and implement TEN-T projects in view of the objective of completing the TEN-T core network by 2030.
163	C8.R1: Strategic transport framework	Milestone	Measures on transport	Measures by the Ministry of Transport and Communications taken				Q4	2025	The Ministry of Transport and Communications (MTC) shall approve: • an action plan with milestones, timeline and performance indicators on the capacity of the National Railway Infrastructure Company (NRIC) and MTC to manage TEN-T projects; • the creation of a joint coordination working group(s) between the MTC and the NRIC on project planning and reporting;

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										• the creation of a database to track progress of the implementation of the TEN-T railway infrastructure projects.
164	C8.R1: Strategic transport framework	Milestone	Market assessment on the scope of public service obligation	Publication of the market assessment on the website of the Ministry of Transport and Communications				Q2	2025	Market assessment on the scope of the public service obligation for the new public service contract (PSC) shall be published. The market assessment shall indicate whether a less distortive measure than a PSC award can be used.
165	C8.R1: Strategic transport framework	Milestone	New public service contract(s) (PSC) for public rail transport services	Signature of contract(s)				Q4	2025	The new public service contract(s) for the provision of public transport services by rail in Bulgaria shall be signed following a tender procedure. The new public service contract(s) shall provide for its/their entry into force no later than 13 December 2026. The tender shall be divided into multiple lots. The new contract(s) shall include the following provisions: - The rolling stock acquired after 2009, including under RRP, shall be provided to the operator(s) for free use and shall be determined in proportion to the volume of the service that will be performed. - The operator(s) shall have the possibility to rent the rolling stock acquired before 2009 and owned by the current operator. - The operator(s) shall be obliged to return the rolling stock to the owner in the condition in which it was received, taking into account the normal depreciation rate. - When calculating the compensation to operator(s), the public financing of the vehicles for their entire economically useful life shall be taken into account.
169	C8.R2: Road safety	Milestone	New road safety strategy and its action plan	Adoption by the government				Q4	2020	The National Strategy for road safety in the Republic of Bulgaria for the period 2021-2030 and Action Plan (2021-2023) shall enter into force.

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					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										The new road safety strategy shall include the following objectives: • reduction of deaths and serious injuries due to road accidents of 50% by 2030 vs the 2019 baseline, in line with EU Road Strategy Framework and vision Zero; • integrated management of all road safety issues - in-depth coordination of relevant institutions and enhancement on administrative capacity for road safety management (based on studies, analysis, needs assessment, prioritisation and planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting); • social responsibility and changes in the behaviour of road users; • support on the law enforcement, effective prevention of road safety rules violation, and increase of sanctions for road safety offences; • increase of vehicle safety; • protection of vulnerable road users, e.g. pedestrians and cyclists; • improvement on the after road traffic accident injury response.
173	C8.R3: Sustainable urban mobility	Milestone	Integration of sustainable urban mobility into territorial strategies and development planning	Entry into force of Integrated Territorial Strategies and Integrated Municipal Development Plans				Q3	2022	The milestone refers to preparation and entry into force of: • Integrated Territorial Strategies for the development of NUTS 2 (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) planning regions with inclusion of elements of sustainable urban mobility • Integrated Municipal Development Plans The Integrated Territorial Strategies of the NUTS 2 level planning regions shall define the development objectives and priorities of each of the six planning regions as well as the measures necessary for their implementation. Integrated Territorial Strategies shall

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					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										include elements for sustainable urban mobility planning at regional level. In addition, Municipalities' Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans shall either be part of the Integrated Municipal Development plans or adopted and published individually by the municipalities.
176	C8.R4: Integrated public transport	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on public transport	Provision in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q4	2025	The legal act(s) on public transport shall provide for: · rules for the provision of real-time travel data, · establishment of a transport scheme with coordinated timetables, · rights and/or obligations of operator(s) and passenger(s), · principles for tariff policies for public passenger services, · principles for the planning and management of public transport.
178	C8.R5: Electric mobility	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on electric mobility	Provision indicating the entry into force of legal act(s)				Q4	2025	The legal act(s) shall provide for: · simplification of the connection procedure for charging stations installed for personal use; · an obligation for mayors of municipalities with a population of more than 5 000 inhabitants to build at least one publicly accessible charging station. The legal act(s) shall also introduce an annual tax depreciation rate for electric vehicles.
181	C8.R5: Electric mobility	Milestone	Low-emission zones	Low-emission zones introduced				Q4	2025	Low-emission zones shall be introduced and applicable for at least part of the year in Sofia and Plovdiv. The entry and circulation of vehicles of categories M1 and N1 of at least the first environmental group under Bulgarian legislation shall be prohibited into those zones.
184	C8.I1: Railways rolling stock	Milestone	Signature of contracts for the purchase of zero-emission	Contracts signed				Q2	2025	Contracts shall be signed, following public procurement procedure(s), for the purchase of: - At least 12 zero-emission electric multiple units with a minimum capacity of 200 seats, equipped with ERTMS on-board equipment;

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			railways rolling stock							- 20 single-deck zero-emission electric multiple unit trains with a capacity of at least 300 seats, equipped with ERTMS on-board equipment; - 9 battery shunting locomotives with digital remote-control. The contracts shall specify that the Bulgarian Ministry of Transport and Communications shall become the owner of the rolling stock.
186	C8.I1: Railways rolling stock	Target	Zero-emission railways rolling stock		Number	0	41	Q2	2026	- Report(s) of findings shall be signed for 12 zero-emission electric multiple units. An acceptance protocol shall be signed for at least one (out of 12) zero-emission electric multiple unit - Report(s) of findings shall be signed for 20 single-deck zero-emission electric multiple units. An acceptance protocol shall be signed for at least one (out of 20) zero-emission electrical multiple unit. - Acceptance protocol(s) shall be signed for 9 battery shunting locomotives.
197	C8.I5: Road safety	Milestone	Signature of contracts for purchase of equipment	Signature of contracts				Q2	2026	Contracts shall be signed for the purchase of the following equipment: - 31 special-purpose vehicles; - 1 software for signals on road infrastructure. The special-purpose vehicles shall represent the best available levels of environmental performance in the sector.
199	C8.I6: Sofia metro line 3	Milestone	Contracts on the construction of new sections of line 3 of Sofia metro following open and competitive tender	Signature of contracts on the construction works				Q2	2022	The contracts for line 3 of Sofia metro shall be signed, following an open, public and competitive tender. The contracts shall include the construction of 3 km of metro lines and 3 stations on the new line section Hadzhi Dimitar – Levski. The contracts shall provide for a clean urban transport infrastructure for the operation of zero-emission rolling

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										stock, thus that infrastructure shall exclusively be used by zero-emission rolling stock.
200	C8.I6: Sofia metro line 3	Target	Construction of metro line 3 in Sofia		Percentage (%)	0	60	Q2	2025	Construction works of the metro line 3 in Sofia shall reach 60%, as certified by supervision report.
201	C8.I6: Sofia metro line 3	Target	Metro line 3 in Sofia		Number of km and stations constructed	0	3/3	Q2	2026	3 km and 3 stations of metro line 3 in Sofia shall be constructed.
201a	C8.I10 Metro rolling stock	Target	Metro trains		Number	0	8	Q2	2026	Commissioning protocol(s) signed for 8 metro trains.
203	C8.I7: Green mobility	Milestone	Zero-emission buses and/or trolleybuses, charging stations, lighting for pedestrian crossings and cycling infrastructure	Acceptance and/or handover of zero-emission buses and/or trolleybuses; installation of charging stations for buses; lighting for pedestrian crossings; construction and/or renovation of cycling infrastructure				Q2	2026	Acceptance and/or handover of 68 zero-emission buses and/or trolleybuses. Installation of 27 charging stations for buses. Lighting for 258 pedestrian crossings shall be built. 26 km of cycling infrastructure shall be constructed and/or renovated.
206a	C8.I8: Equipment and wagons for monitoring or maintenance of railway tracks and overhead lines	Target	Acceptance and/or delivery of equipment and wagons		Units of equipment and wagons	0	44	Q2	2026	Acceptance or/and delivery of 40 units of equipment and 4 wagons. These special-purpose vehicles shall represent the best available levels of environmental performance in the sector.

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206b	C8.I9: Renovation of railway infrastructure	Target	Renovation of railway lines, overhead lines and track layout		Km of renovated railway lines, overhead lines and track layout	0	65	Q2	2026	51 km of railway lines and overhead lines shall be renovated. 14 km of track layout shall be renovated.

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I. COMPONENT 9: LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

This component of the Bulgarian recovery and resilience plan aims at setting the framework for improving the competitiveness and sustainable development of the regions of the country and promoting local development. The component also targets water management, which is an important aspect of the green transition.

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

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

Reform 1 (C9.R1): A new regional approach with the direct involvement of local communities in the management of European funds and instruments

The objective of the measure is to promote the direct involvement of local communities in each region of the country in the management of EU funds. This is expected to boost the sense of ownership at local level and to increase policy effectiveness by addressing locally identified needs in a more targeted way.

The measure consists of legislative changes strengthening the role of regional and local authorities in the preparation and implementation of integrated territorial strategies and projects financed with EU funds.

Reform 2 (C9.R2): Water supply and sewerage reform

The objective of the measure is to reform the regulatory framework for water supply and sewerage.

This measure consists in the adoption and entry into force of legal act(s) on the introduction of incentives, including financial incentives, for consolidation in relation to water and sewerage services.

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

Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
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207	C9.R1: A new regional approach with the direct involvement of local communities in the management of European funds and instruments	Milestone	Amendments to the regulatory framework regarding management of EU funding	Entry into force of the amendments to the Financial Resources Management of the European Structural and Investment Funds Act				Q2	2022	The amendments to the Financial Resources Management of the European Structural and Investment Funds Act shall enhance the direct involvement of the regional and local level in the management of EU funds by strengthening their role in the design and implementation of integrated territorial strategies and projects. Under this revised legal framework, the Regional Development Councils (which include representatives of the regional and local authorities) shall function as territorial bodies responsible for the implementation of strategic documents at regional planning level and for the preselection of projects to be financed with EU funds at local level on the basis of integrated territorial development strategies.
208	C9.R2: Water supply and sewerage reform	Milestone	Adoption and entry into force of legal act(s) on incentives for consolidation	Adoption and entry into force of legal act(s)				Q2	2026	Adoption and entry into force of legal act(s) on the introduction of incentives, including financial incentives, for consolidation in relation to water and sewerage services.

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J. COMPONENT 10: BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

This component aims to strengthen the potential for sustainable growth and increase the overall resilience of the Bulgarian economy by addressing challenges in the overall business environment and improving the institutional framework. It includes reforms and investments in areas such as justice, the fight against corruption, the digitalisation of the public administration, the governance of state owned enterprises, anti-money laundering, the quality of the legislative process, public procurement, and audit and control mechanisms.

The measures included in the component contribute to addressing country-specific recommendation 1, 2 and 3 of 2019, and country-specific recommendation 4 of 2020 in relation improving the business environment, minimising administrative burden to companies by improving the effectiveness of public administration and reinforcing digital government, ensuring an effective functioning of the insolvency framework, and stepping up the efforts to ensure adequate risk assessment, mitigation, effective supervision and enforcement of the anti-money laundering framework, and upgrading the corporate governance of State-owned enterprises.

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

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

Reform 1 (C10.R1): Reform in the justice system

The objective of this reform is to improve the justice system and contribute to its accessibility.

The reform consists in (i) the entry into force of legal act(s) on the digitalisation of certain judicial acts and processes; (ii) the entry into force of legal act(s) related to free legal assistance and exemptions from court fees; and (iii) the adoption of a roadmap related to follow-up on judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.

Reform 2 (C10.R2): Anti-corruption

The objective of this reform is to further combat corruption at all levels of public administration, justice and prosecution systems.

In particular, the reform shall:

- ensure that the National Council on Anti-Corruption Policies monitors the implementation of the National Strategy for Preventing and Combatting Corruption and its associated Roadmap by adopting report(s) on their implementation;
- improve the role of the Inspectorate of the Supreme Judicial Council in the prevention and counteracting corruption through revised ethical guidelines and trainings. This shall not lead to increase in the disciplinary powers of the Inspectorate. The Venice Commission shall be consulted before the Inspectorate revises the guidelines and organises the trainings;
- introduce legal act(s) concerning integrity and anti-corruption measures in relation to state-owned enterprises and with regard to civil servants holding positions with a high corruption risk in the central executive branch;
- set up an Anti-Corruption Body with the authority to investigate and gather evidence, subject to legal safeguards for the rights and freedoms of individuals and businesses.

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With the objective of ensuring the effectiveness of criminal investigations and the accountability and criminal liability of the Prosecutor General, the reform shall:

- introduce the possibility of a judicial review of a prosecutor's decision not to open an investigation;
- introduce annual reporting by the Prosecutor General on investigations and convictions in corruption cases;
- provide for the necessary safeguards and guarantees for an independent investigation of the Prosecutor General and their deputies.

Finally, the reform shall include legislative measures to protect whistle-blowers and to regulate lobbying activities in the context of public decision-making.

Reform 3 (C10.R3): Legal acts regarding the mediation framework

The objective of this reform is to support the uptake of mediation in Bulgaria.

This shall be achieved by legal acts, which shall provide that the court, in certain civil and commercial cases, obliges the parties to take part in an information meeting on the mediation procedure.

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

Reform 4 (C10.R4): Measures concerning the insolvency framework

The objective of this reform is to introduce new measures aimed at increasing the efficiency of insolvency and restructuring procedures.

The reform consists in the entry into force of legal act(s) and adoption of guidelines regarding insolvency or restructuring procedures, organising trainings, upgrading electronic tool(s), as well as statistical data publication.

Reform 5 (C10.R5): Digital reform of the Bulgarian construction sector

The objective of this reform is to lay the foundation for the digital transformation of the construction sector in Bulgaria.

The reform consists in the approval by the Council of Ministers of a strategy and a roadmap to introduce the Building Information Modelling.

Reform 6 (C10.R6): Registry reform to unlock the potential of eGovernment

The objective of this reform is to support the organisation, quality, and security of registers in the public administration, the potential of eGovernment and the reduction of administrative burden on citizens.

The reform consists in legal act(s) concerning electronic registers.

Reform 7 (C10.R7): Governance framework for state-owned enterprises

The objective of this reform is to improve the governance of state-owned enterprises.

The reform consists in the publication by the Public Enterprises and Control Agency of information on the composition of the management boards of large state-owned enterprises.

Reform 8 (C10.R8): Measures concerning the anti-money laundering framework

The objective of this reform is to introduce new measures as part of the anti-money laundering framework.

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The reform consists in adopting or revising supervisory strategies and procedures, adopting an action plan to mitigate money laundering and terrorist financing risks, and updating the national risk assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing.

Reform 9 (C10.R9): Improving the quality of the legislative process

This reform aims to improve the quality and predictability of the legislative process within the National Assembly.

This shall be achieved by provisions in the Rules for the Organisation and the Activity of the National Assembly ensuring that:

- all draft legislation proposed by Members of Parliament is accompanied by reasoning and a preliminary impact assessment;
- a summary view of stakeholders' opinions and the committee's summary opinion are included in the parliamentary committee reports on draft laws; and
- the proposals for amendments and supplements to a draft legislative act adopted at the first vote may not refer to legislative acts, different from those, the amendment or supplement of which has been proposed in the initially submitted draft legislative act, except under specific circumstances.

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

Reform 10 (C10.R10): Public procurement

The objective of this reform is to increase transparency and competition in the public procurement process.

The reform consists in the entry into force of legal act(s), increased controls, including ex-ante checks, penalties in case of violations of the rules, the introduction of eForms, trainings and the publication of a report containing options for centralisation in public procurement procedures.

Reform 11 (C10.R11): Entrepreneurial Bulgaria

The objective of this reform is to support the development of the high-tech sector in the country and support entrepreneurship.

The reform consists in the entry info force of legal act(s) related to a visa for start-up entrepreneurs, personal bankruptcy, a more flexible type of commercial company, distance work.

Reform 12 (C10.R12): Economic analysis council

The objective of this reform is to lay the foundations for a process of gradual and sustainable provision of in-depth academic economic expertise to the Bulgarian government, which is expected to be a starting point for improving strategic and long-term economic decision-making.

The reform shall establish an Economic Analysis Council as an advisory body, which shall be supported by a secretariat. The main output of the Economic Analysis Council shall be an annual report on the state of the Bulgarian economy.

Investment 1 (C10.I1): Upgrading the Unified Information System of Courts

The objective of this investment is to increase the digitalisation in the justice system.

The investment consists in the upgrade of the Unified Information System of Courts.

Investment 2 (C10.I2): Digitalisation of litigation processes in administrative justice

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The objective of this investment is to increase the digitalisation of proceedings before the administrative courts.

The investment consists in the upgrade of the Single Case Management Information System.

Investment 3 (C10.I3): Information and communication infrastructure at the Public Prosecutor's Office

The objective of this investment is to increase the digitalisation and security of the information exchange within the Public Prosecutor's Office.

The investment consists in the delivery and/or installation of hardware and software related to the information and communication systems.

Investment 4 (C10.I4): Security services

The objective of this investment is to increase the quality of anti-corruption and security policies.

The investment consists in the upgrade of security and video surveillance systems and the acquisition of police vehicles.

Investment 6 (C10.I6): Trainings and computer configurations for the introduction of Building Information Modelling

The objective of this investment is to support the set up of Building Information Modelling (BIM).

The investment consists in trainings on BIM and the delivery of computer configurations for public administration(s).

Investment 10 (C10.I10): Monitorstat system

The objective of this investment is to structure the information concerning the strategic planning processes of the central government.

The investment consists in the upgrade of the Monitorstat system.

Investment 11 (C10.I11): Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan

The objective of this investment is to increase the administrative capacity for the delivery of projects in the context of performance-based funding, with a focus on the recovery and resilience plan of Bulgaria.

The investment consists in upgrades to the Unified Management Information System, trainings on public procurement, and video guides.

Investment 12 (C10.I12): Digitalisation of the Customs Agency

The objective of this investment is to upgrade the information and communication systems of the Customs Agency.

The investment consists in the upgrade or development of information and communication systems of the Customs Agency.

Investment 13 (C10.I13): Digitalisation of the National Revenue Agency

The objective of this investment is to upgrade the information and communication systems of the National Revenue Agency.

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The investment consists in the delivery of hardware and software for the upgrade of information and communication systems.

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

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213	C10.R1: Reform in the justice system	Milestone	Adoption of a Roadmap by the Council of Ministers for the implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights	Roadmap developed and adopted				Q3	2021	Adoption of a Roadmap on the implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights ('ECHR') and the planning of concrete measures and deadlines, as well as the institutions responsible for their enforcement.
214	C10.R1: Reform in the justice system	Milestone	Entry into force of the legislative amendments to the Legal Assistance Act	Provisions in the law indicating the entry into force of legislative amendments to the Legal Assistance Act				Q4	2022	The amendments shall be based on an analysis on extending the types of free legal assistance, the reasons for granting legal assistance and the exemptions from court fees for the individuals that have been granted legal assistance. They shall broaden the scope of legal assistance to cover representation: - before courts of arbitration; - before special administrative bodies, including the State Refugees Agency, Commission for Protection against Discrimination, Consumers' Protection Commission; - for out-of-court dispute resolution and mediation. The amendments shall also widen the circle of persons eligible for legal assistance to include: - disabled persons receiving monthly allowance in accordance with the Law on Integration of Disabled Persons; and - individuals for whom a request for placement under guardianship has been filed. The amendments shall provide for exemptions from court fees for the individuals who have been granted legal assistance.

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215	C10.R1: Reform in the justice system	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on e-justice in administrative cases	Provisions in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q4	2025	The legal act(s) shall provide for the possibility for: - a judicial act related to administrative case(s) to be drawn up as an electronic document and to be signed with a qualified electronic signature, with the exception of judicial acts that cannot be drafted in written format due to their nature, or where other legal provision(s) provide otherwise; - the parties in administrative legal proceedings to submit administrative documents in an electronic form; - holding virtual hearings in administrative legal proceedings.
217	C10.R2: Anti-corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of the law on the protection of persons reporting breaches or publicly disclosing information on breaches and of the amendments to the legal framework related to whistleblowing	Provisions in the law indicating entry into force of the law on the protection of persons reporting breaches or publicly disclosing information on breaches and of the amendments to the legal framework related to whistleblowing				Q3	2022	Entry into force of the law on the protection of persons reporting breaches or publicly disclosing information on breaches, which shall transpose the following requirements of Directive (EU) 2019/1937, related to the creation of confidential internal and external channels for reporting; the establishment of verification mechanisms of the submitted signals; providing protection and support measures to whistle-blowers; ensuring provision of feedback and record-keeping on the results of the performed inspections based on signals. In addition, amendments shall be made to: - the Law on the Self-government and Local Administration to introduce a requirement that the results of the activity of the ethics committees dealing with signals on unethical behaviour, conflicts of interests and other signals on corrupt behaviour of municipal councillors are made public; - the provisions in the Criminal Code governing the criminal offenses of insult and defamation to revise the applicable sanctions.

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218	C10.R2: Anti-corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) providing for the set-up of an Anti-corruption body	Provision in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q4	2025	The legal act(s) shall provide for the set-up of a politically and financially independent Anti-corruption body. The legal act(s) shall provide that the Anti-corruption body: - shall have its management appointed under a transparent process ensuring political independence; - shall have the authority to investigate and gather evidence, subject to legal safeguards for the rights and freedoms of individuals and businesses; - shall refer to the Illegal Asset Forfeiture Body cases of significant discrepancies in assets or conflict of interest; - shall support the development of integrity checks; - shall cooperate with the European Public Prosecutor's Office.
219	C10.R2: Anti-corruption	Milestone	Improving the role of the Inspectorate within the Supreme Judicial Council in preventing and counteracting corruption in the judiciary	Distributed revised ethical guidelines for the conduct of magistrates and a summary of good and bad practices on compliance with ethical rules; anti-corruption trainings organised; introduced templates and procedures for regular reporting and publication of outcomes on the completion of cases				Q4	2022	The Inspectorate to the Supreme Judicial Council shall: - revise the ethical guidelines for the conduct of magistrates, in cooperation with the Supreme Judicial Council, and shall summarise good and bad practices with regards to compliance with ethical rules, in line with the relevant European and International standards; - organise and deliver anti-corruption trainings as well as trainings on integrity and conflict of interest; - Introduce a template for reporting on the completion of cases within the legally specified time limits; and - introduce a procedure for regular reporting and publication of the outcomes on the completion of the cases. The proposed measures shall not lead to an increase in the disciplinary powers of the Inspectorate and shall be consulted with the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe prior to their implementation.

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220	C10.R2: Anti-corruption	Milestone	Members and Chairperson of the Anti-corruption body	Members of the Anti-corruption body elected or appointed; Chairperson designated				Q2	2026	Election or appointment of the members of the Anti-corruption body, and designation of the Chairperson of the Anti-corruption body.
222	C10.R2: Anti-corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) concerning the criminal proceedings and the accountability and criminal liability of the Prosecutor General	Provisions in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q2	2025	1. The legal act(s) concerning criminal proceedings shall include: 1.1. The judicial review over the decision of the prosecutor not to open an investigation and determination of the scope and conditions under which such judicial control shall be carried out. Excessive burdening of judges and prosecutors shall be avoided by limiting the scope of the judicial review; 1.2. The possibility for the separation of the materials for a defendant in a separate case in the trial phase; 1.3. The right of the victim to request the acceleration of the investigation if more than one year has elapsed since the initiation of the investigation and there is no person who is accused; 1.4. Grounds for resumption of the investigation by the Prosecutor General. 2. The legal act(s) concerning the accountability of the Prosecutor General shall include: 2.1. A timeframe in the procedure for hearing the Prosecutor General in connection with the report on law enforcement and on the activities of the Prosecutor's Office; 2.2. The obligation for annual reporting on the activities of the Prosecutor's Office in combating corruption crimes, which shall include information and analysis on initiated and completed cases for corruption crimes and for corruption crimes of high public interest, information on the stage of the process

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										at which the cases are located, the number of convictions and acquittals, and other grounds for closing the proceedings. The legal act(s) shall indicate that the annual report shall also include analyses related to the deadlines for carrying out investigations, the quality of the indictments and the reasons for the specific outcome of the proceedings; 2.3. Granting the right to request judicial review of prosecutorial acts for the termination or suspension of investigations, for a list of criminal offences committed by persons under Article 6(1) of the Anti-corruption law, to: (i) the state body who submitted the signal to report the crime under investigation, as well as (ii) the Anti-Corruption Commission, the Unlawfully Acquired Assets Forfeiture Commission, the Agency for State Financial Inspection and the Court of Auditors, even if the investigation did not originate from their signal. 3. The legal act(s) concerning the criminal liability mechanism for the Prosecutor General and their deputies, shall include: 3.1. Suspension of the Prosecutor General and their deputies in the event of criminal proceedings against them by a majority of 13 out of 25 members of the Supreme Judicial Council (‘SJC’) plenum; 3.2. Independent selection and appointment of a judge, having the rank of a Supreme Court of Cassation judge and experience in criminal justice, appointed at least to a position as a judge in the district court. If there is a legitimate reason to initiate an investigation against the Prosecutor General or their deputies, the Supreme Court of Cassation shall initiate the selection procedure, which shall be done using an electronic random allocation system. The SJC shall only have the obligation to appoint the judge as a prosecutor, without

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										being able to change the result of the random allocation. The legal act(s) shall provide for the assignment of periodic audits of the electronic system; 3.3. Guarantees for career stability and independence by introducing the possibility of appointing the judge appointed as a prosecutor to investigate the Prosecutor General or their deputy as a judge at the previously held position after the end of their term; 3.4. Limiting the oversight of the Prosecutor's Office over the prosecutorial acts of investigation of the Prosecutor General or their deputies by appointing a judge of the Supreme Court of Cassation as a prosecutor exercising control over the actions of the prosecutor who investigates the Prosecutor General or their deputies; 3.5. In order to ensure the independent conduct of investigative actions and to avoid any potential undue influence by the Prosecutor General, the members of the investigation team shall be employees of the Ministry of Interior or of the Customs Agency. 4. Transmission of the draft legal act(s) under point 3 to the Council of Europe's Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights and to the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe prior to their adoption.
223	C10.R2: Anti-corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on lobbying activities	Provision in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q4	2025	Legal act(s) on lobbying activities in the Republic of Bulgaria shall enter into force.
226a	C10.R2: Anti-corruption	Milestone	Integrity and anti-corruption measures	Provisions in the legal act(s) indicating the entry				Q2	2026	The integrity and anti-corruption measures shall include: 1. In relation to state-owned enterprises (SOEs):

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				into force; Adopted Code of Ethical Conduct; Analysis of legislation on conflicts of interest						1.1. Entry into force of legal act(s) to introduce the obligation for the Public Enterprises and Control Agency (PECA) to adopt a corruption risk management system and the obligation for state-owned enterprises to introduce the corruption risk management system, adopted by PECA. The legal acts shall specify that the corruption risk management system shall cover the selection of employees in managerial positions, measures to prevent conflict of interest, methodology to assess and control corruption risks, ethics and integrity trainings of persons employed in SOEs, and the role of an integrity officer; 1.2. Adoption of a Code of Ethical Conduct. 2. With regard to civil servants holding positions of high corruption risk in the central executive branch: 2.1. Identification of positions of high corruption risk for which integrity checks should be carried out; 2.2. Publication in the Official Journal of the legal act(s) stating the obligation to carry out integrity tests for civil servants at least in the following circumstances: • upon appointment; • on promotion to a higher management position; • based on the results of an inspection by the inspectorates. The legal act(s) shall enter into force after a reasonable period and no later than 31 December 2026. Such entry into force shall be automatic and shall not entail any further legal implementing measures. 2.3. Preparation of an analysis of the definition of conflicts of interest under national legislation and recommendation(s) for possible improvement(s).
227	C10.R3: Legal acts regarding	Milestone	Entry into force of legal acts regarding	Provisions indicating the entry				Q4	2022	The legal acts shall provide that the court, in certain civil and commercial cases, obliges the parties to take

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	the mediation framework		the mediation framework	into force of the legal acts						part in an information meeting on the mediation procedure. The legal acts shall also provide for circumstances under which the court does not oblige the parties to participate in such an information meeting. The information meeting shall be carried out in the mediation centres at the courts and their territorial divisions. The legal acts shall regulate the organisation and the operation of mediation centres and the status of their staff, as well as the procedure for the selection of mediators.
228	C10.R4: Measures concerning the insolvency framework	Milestone	Entry into force of legal acts with regards to the insolvency and restructuring procedures	Provisions in the legal acts, indicating their entry into force				Q3	2022	Entry into force of legal acts, which shall provide for: - early warning tools; - facilitating the opening and conducting of insolvency and restructuring procedures; - duties of the directors in case of likelihood of insolvency; - a possibility for electronic exchange of information and documents in the insolvency, restructuring and discharge of debt procedures; - stricter regulation of the profession of insolvency practitioners to ensure they have the necessary expertise and that the conditions for eligibility, as well as the process for the appointment, removal and resignation of practitioners are clear, transparent and fair.
229	C10.R4: Measures concerning the insolvency framework	Milestone	Measures on the insolvency framework	1. Trainings organised; 2. Electronic tool(s) upgraded; 3. Entry into force of legal act(s) and adoption of guidelines;				Q2	2025	The measures shall cover the following elements: 1. Organisation of trainings on the insolvency framework. 2. Upgrade of electronic tool(s) to ensure electronic means of communication can be used by parties in insolvency and restructuring proceedings. 3. Entry into force of legal act(s) and adoption of guidelines concerning restructuring, insolvency or discharge of debt.

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				4. Publication of statistical data						4. Statistical data published concerning restructuring, insolvency and discharge of debt.
230	C10.R5: Digital reform of the Bulgarian construction sector	Milestone	Strategy and roadmap for the introduction of Building Information Modelling (BIM)	Strategy and roadmap approved				Q2	2025	The Council of Ministers shall approve a strategy and a roadmap for the introduction of building information modelling (BIM) level 2.
231	C10.R6: Registry reform to unlock the potential of eGovernment	Milestone	Entry into force of amendments to the Electronic Governance Law	Provisions in the Electronic Governance Law indicating the entry into force of the amendments				Q3	2022	The amendments to the Electronic Governance Law shall introduce: • rules for the establishment of registers of administrative authorities and their requirements; • definitions of 'register', 'central data administrator'; • a definition of the Protected Shared e-Government Information Space.
232	C10.R6: Registry reform to unlock the potential of eGovernment	Milestone	Entry into force of amendments to the Law on Cadastre and Property Register	Provisions in the Law on Cadastre and Property Register indicating the entry into force of the amendments				Q3	2022	The amendments to the Law on Cadastre and Property Register shall establish the requirements for the content of property accounts in the property register and the process for their creation based on the existing personal accounts, as well as specify the responsibilities of the registry judges and of the Registry Agency in the process of setting up the property accounts in the register.
233	C10.R6: Registry reform to unlock the potential of eGovernment	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on electronic governance	Provisions indicating the entry into force of legal act(s)				Q2	2025	The legal act(s) shall introduce an obligation: • for administrative authorities to maintain databases and registers entrusted to them by law in an electronic format. • to provide free of charge data available in an electronic format in the Unified System for Civil Registration and Administrative Service of the Population (ESGRAON) relating to birth, marriage and death, to other administrative

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										authorities providing electronic administrative services.
234	C10.R7: Governance framework for state-owned enterprises	Milestone	Adoption of a state ownership policy	Adopted document by the Council of Ministers establishing a state ownership policy				Q3	2022	The state ownership policy shall be developed by the Public Enterprises and Control Agency and adopted by the Council of Ministers. It shall contain the justification and the objectives for the participation of the state in state-owned enterprises (SOEs), as well as the role of the state in the management of SOEs and in the implementation of the policy.
235	C10.R7: Governance framework for state-owned enterprises	Milestone	Adoption of the annual Summary Reporting on the Performance of State-owned Enterprises	Adoption of the 2020 and 2021 annual summary reports on the activities of state-owned enterprises by the Council of Ministers				Q4	2022	Annual summary reports on the activities of state-owned enterprises shall be adopted by the Council of Ministers. The summary reports shall review the results of the activity of state-owned enterprises, including statutory ones, as well as analyse the performance of state-owned enterprises by sector and the individual performance of all state-owned enterprises categorised as "large" in accordance with the Law on Public Enterprises. The summary reports shall also assess state-owned enterprises' compliance with applicable corporate governance and disclosure standards.
237	C10.R7: Governance framework for state-owned enterprises	Milestone	Compliance of the composition of the management boards of large state-owned enterprises	Information on management boards published by the Public Enterprises and Control Agency				Q2	2025	The management board positions of all large SOEs, as listed in the annual summary report on state-owned public enterprises by the Public Enterprises and Control Agency, shall: i) have been filled following a competitive procedure; or ii) have a competitive procedure open; or

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										iii) have been filled with a temporary appointment not exceeding 6 months at the time of publishing of the below information. For closed competitive procedures, the Public Enterprises and Control Agency shall publish information on the composition of the management boards of large state-owned enterprises that shall cover the date of the announcement of the procedure and a list of nominated candidates, supported by links or references to the documentary evidence. For open competitive procedures, the published information shall specify the date of the announcement of the procedure, supported by links or reference to the documentary evidence. For temporary appointments, the published information shall specify the date of appointment, supported by links or reference to the documentary evidence on the date of appointment.
238	C10.R8: Measures concerning the anti-money laundering framework	Milestone	Adoption of the action plan to mitigate the money laundering and terrorist financing risks identified in the national risk assessment	Action plan adopted by the Council of Ministers to follow up the national risk assessment				Q3	2021	The action plan shall be adopted by the Council of Ministers and shall aim to enhance the capacity of the competent Bulgarian institutions to effectively mitigate the risks of money laundering and terrorist financing. The action plan shall contain an explanation of the actions undertaken in the period 2019-2021 for mitigation of risks identified in the 2019 National Risk Assessment Report, including legislative, institutional, regulatory, supervisory and operational actions. The action plan shall further outline additional actions to address remaining threats and vulnerabilities, which are still on-going, as well as the expected results of their implementation, priority, deadline for execution, stage and responsible authority. The action plan shall

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										be prepared in accordance with the recommendations received under SRSP project 19BG17 "Enhancing capabilities of Bulgarian authorities to effectively mitigate money laundering and terrorism financing risks".
239	C10.R8: Measures concerning the anti-money laundering framework	Milestone	Adoption of an update to the national risk assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing	Update to the national risk assessment adopted				Q4	2022	Adoption of an update of the national risk assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing under Article 95(1) of the Law on Measures against Money Laundering, including on the risks linked to citizenship investment schemes, and adoption of sectorial risk assessments of the non-profit organisations' sector and of virtual assets, in accordance with the guidance received under the SRSP project 19BG17 "Enhancing capabilities of Bulgarian authorities to effectively mitigate money laundering and terrorism financing risks". The update to the national risk assessment, and the sectorial risk assessments of the non-profit organisations' sector and of virtual assets shall be carried out by the permanent interdepartmental working group established by an act of the Council of Ministers in compliance with Article 96 of the Law on Measures against Money Laundering.
240	C10.R8: Measures concerning the anti-money laundering framework	Milestone	Capacity and capabilities of supervisors	1. Adoption or revision of supervisory strategic documents; 2. Adoption or revision of amendments to the supervisory procedures or manuals; 3. Adoption of guidance on the				Q2	2025	The Financial Intelligence Directorate of the State Agency for National Security, the Bulgarian National Bank, the Financial Supervision Commission and the National Revenue Agency, in their capacity as supervisory authorities under the Law on the Measures against Money Laundering, shall in respect of the obliged entities under their supervision: - adopt or revise supervisory strategic documents to set targets for supervision of the obliged entities, to allocate resources for the supervision of the obliged entities in accordance with their risk profile and to set up a performance reporting procedure;

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				approach to politically exposed persons; 4. Provisions in the law indicating the entry into force of the amendments						- adopt or revise their supervisory procedures or manuals to ensure a consistent approach to monitoring, including rules on record keeping of the files and documents examined during on-site inspections and follow-up actions to ensure that obliged entities comply with their anti-money laundering obligations. The Financial Intelligence Directorate of the State Agency for National Security shall adopt guidance on how to deal with customers who are politically exposed persons. This guidance shall be applicable to all obliged entities under the supervision of the Financial Intelligence Directorate of the State Agency for National Security, the Financial Supervision Commission, the Bulgarian National Bank and the National Revenue Agency. The Bulgarian National Bank and the National Revenue Agency shall adopt additional guidance on how to deal with customers who are politically exposed, applicable to the obliged entities under their respective supervision. In addition, legislative amendments shall be adopted to provide for verification procedures for prevention of money laundering of persons providing professional company services, for example accountants and tax advisors.
241	C10.R9: Improving the quality of the legislative process	Milestone	Entry into force of the Rules for the Organisation and the Activity of the National Assembly	Provisions in the Rules for the Organisation and the Activity of the National Assembly indicating their entry into force				Q4	2021	The Rules for the Organisation and the Activity of the National Assembly shall ensure that: • all draft legislation proposed by Members of Parliament is accompanied by reasoning and a preliminary impact assessment; • submitted to the National Assembly draft legislative acts are entered into the public register on draft laws and all written opinions of citizens or legal entities are published on the website of the responsible parliamentary committee;

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										• the parliamentary committee report on the draft legislative act includes a summary of the views of the stakeholders' opinions and a summary opinion of the committee; • proposals for amendments submitted between the first and the second vote are made public via a public register; and • the proposals for amendments and supplements to a draft legislative act adopted at the first vote may not refer to legislative acts, different from those, the amendment or supplement of which has been proposed in the initially submitted draft legislative act, except for editorial or legal- technical amendments.
242	C10.R10: Public Procurement	Milestone	Entry into force of legislative amendments to the Law on Public Procurement to reduce the number of contracts without a call for tender and single-call bids	Provisions in the Law on Public Procurement providing for the entry into force of the amendments				Q4	2022	The legislative changes aim to reduce the use of negotiated procurement (without prior publication) and single-tender contracts. They shall ensure: - regular (at least once a year) collection of information and reporting on the use of such procedures to assess progress, a justification for the percentage reached each time and an explanation on how progress has been made towards the objective; - reinforcement of the ex-ante and ex-post controls and controls by the relevant agencies; - increase in the scope of administrative responsibility and effective and dissuasive sanctions for breaches of the rules for the use of such procedures; - regular reporting on the use of effective sanctions in financial correction procedures for non-compliance with public procurement procedures by authorities responsible for the control and audit of the EU funds. Moreover, the legislative amendments shall include:

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										- prohibition of the "reassignment" of tasks from "in-house" contracts (as defined in Article 12 of the Public Procurement Directive) to a subcontractor; - a legal requirement for a timely publication of signed "internal" procurement contracts and annexes thereto; - a legal requirement to publish information on payment under such contracts, in case these contracts are valued at BGN 50 000 or more; - effective and dissuasive penalties in case of non-compliance with the elements above.
244	C10.R10: Public Procurement	Milestone	Public Procurement Agency's methodology	Changes to the methodology of the Public Procurement Agency				Q2	2025	The changes to the Public Procurement Agency's methodology shall: • increase the weighting of the risk factor for procurement procedures supported by EU funds; • introduce new risk factors for selecting procedures for checks; • introduce template(s) for reporting and a procedure for the publication of the outcome of the checks.
245	C10.R10: Public Procurement	Milestone	Standard eForms for public procurement	Standard eForms are introduced				Q2	2025	Standard eForms for contractors shall be introduced.
245a	C10.R10: Public Procurement	Milestone	Measures on public procurement	Entry into force of legal act(s); publication of report(s) and guideline(s); launch of training(s); order on publication.				Q2	2026	The measures shall consist of: - Entry into force of legal act(s) introducing the obligation for contracting authorities to publish annual indicative public procurement plans on the procurement platform. - Publication of a report by an independent organisation containing options for centralisation in public procurement procedures, options for pilot projects, as well as recommendations. - Publication of guideline(s) on public procurement.

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										- Launch of training(s) on public procurement. - Issuance of an order by the Public Procurement Agency requiring the publication at least four times per year of list(s) of contracting authorities to which letters of recommendation have been sent.
248	C10.R10: Public Procurement	Milestone	Share of procurement procedures with a single bidder and share of negotiated procedures without prior publication	Share of procurement procedures				Q2	2026	The share of procurement procedures with a single bidder shall be measured as a percentage of all awarded public contracts, based on data published in the Official Journal of the EU (TED database) and the Bulgarian national public procurement register in 2025. The share of procurement procedures with a single bidder shall not exceed 34%, taking into account the methodology of the Single Market Scoreboard. The share of negotiated procurement procedures without prior publication with Union support shall be measured as a percentage of all tendering procedures for public contracts with Union support, based on data published in the Official Journal of the EU (TED database) and the Bulgarian national public procurement register in 2025, and calculated at lot level. The share of negotiated procurement procedures without prior publication with Union support shall not exceed 3.9%, taking into account the methodology of the Single Market Scoreboard.
251	C10.R11: Entrepreneurial Bulgaria	Milestone	Introduction of a procedure and requirements for issuing and revoking a visa for start-up entrepreneurs	Provisions in the law indicating the entry into force of the Ordinance on the procedure and requirements for issuing and revoking				Q3	2022	The Council of Ministers shall adopt an ordinance to establish the procedure and requirements for issuing and revoking the start-up visa, which has been introduced by Article 24p of the Law on Foreign Citizens. The ordinance shall regulate the establishment of an expert council as an advisory body to the Minister of

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				a start-up visa adopted by the Council of Ministers						Economy to provide opinion on submitted projects, applying for issuance of a certificate for high-tech and/ or innovative project, called "Start-up visa", as well as the conditions and procedure for issuance, extension and revocation of the certificate.
252	C10.R11: Entrepreneurial Bulgaria	Milestone	Entry into force of the Personal Bankruptcy Law	Provisions in the Personal Bankruptcy Law indicating its entry into force				Q3	2022	The Personal Bankruptcy Law shall introduce insolvency procedures of natural persons, which shall include a repayment plan, realisation of assets, and insolvency procedures in the absence of income and property of natural persons.
253	C10.R11: Entrepreneurial Bulgaria	Milestone	Entry into force of a new chapter in the Commerce Law for the introduction of a new legal form of a commercial company	Provisions in the Commerce Law indicating the entry into force of the amendments				Q4	2022	The amendments shall introduce a chapter in the Commerce Law for a new legal form of a commercial company, which shall provide for more flexible instruments for business development, including acquisition contracts, option pools, convertible loans, tag-along and drag along rights, and variable capital.
255	C10.R11: Entrepreneurial Bulgaria	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on distance working	Provisions in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q2	2025	Legal act(s) shall concern distance working in relation to health and safety of the working conditions, the reporting of work and the monitoring of working time.
256	C10.R12: Economic analysis council	Milestone	Institutionalisation of the Economic Analysis Council	Economic Analysis Council and its Secretariat established and operational				Q3	2022	The Economic Analysis Council shall be established as an advisory body and shall be supported by a secretariat. It is expected to provide the Bulgarian government with in-depth academic economic expertise. Its main output shall be an annual report on the state of the Bulgarian economy identifying the challenges and risks it faces and proposing solutions to them.

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258	C10.I1: Upgrading the Unified Information System of Courts	Milestone	Upgrade of the Unified Courts Information System	Upgraded Unified Information System of Courts				Q4	2025	Upgrade of the Unified Courts Information System by the addition of the following modules shall be issued: - a module for the allocation and digitalisation of cases for order for payment proceedings; - a module for the administration of mediation procedures. 3 000 computers with monitors and 2 200 laptops shall be delivered. Data storage hardware shall be installed at two core data centres and at one archive data centre.
260	C10.I2: Digitalisation of litigation processes in administrative justice	Milestone	Information modules and hardware for the digitalisation of litigation processes in administrative justice	Information modules introduced; hardware for remote hearings and for data storage delivered				Q4	2025	Acceptance protocol(s) of the upgrade of the Single Case Management Information System by adding information modules providing for the possibility: (i) to electronically access case materials and submit documents; (ii) for electronic service of summons; and (iii) to hold remote hearings. Acceptance protocol(s) of the delivery of hardware to the country's administrative courts for remote court hearings shall be issued. Acceptance protocol(s) of the installation of the data storage hardware in a data centre of the Supreme Judicial Council shall be issued.
263	C10.I3: Information and communication infrastructure at the Public Prosecutor's Office	Milestone	Information and communication infrastructure at the Public Prosecutor's Office	Information and communication infrastructure at the Public Prosecutor's Office upgraded				Q2	2025	Hardware and software shall be delivered and/or installed related to the information and communication systems at the Public Prosecutor's Office.
265	C10.I4: Security services	Milestone	Upgrade of security and video surveillance systems and	Security system and video surveillance systems upgraded				Q2	2026	Acceptance protocol(s) for the upgrade of the Integrated Automated Security System (IASS), including interventions related to infrastructure and data analysis.

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			acquisition of police vehicles	and police cars acquired						Acceptance protocol(s) for the upgrade of the Geographic Information System (GIS), including interventions related to high-tech capabilities and data analysis. Acceptance protocol(s) for the upgrade of video surveillance systems with a vehicle number recognition functionality at 18 road junctions. Acceptance protocol(s) for the acquisition of 300 police vehicles.
267	C10.I4: Security services	Milestone	Acquisition of body cameras	Acceptance protocol(s)				Q2	2025	Acceptance protocol(s) for 1 146 police body cameras.
270	C10.I6: Trainings and computer configurations for the introduction of building information modelling	Milestone	Trainings on building information modelling and computer configurations for public administration(s)	Computer configurations delivered; trainings organised				Q2	2026	Delivery and acceptance protocol(s) shall be issued for the delivery of a total of 300 computer configurations to public administration(s). Trainings on building information modelling shall be organised.
278	C10.I10: Monitorstat system	Milestone	Upgraded Monitorstat system	Upgrade of system and adoption of methodology				Q4	2025	The Monitorstat system shall be upgraded into a tool where strategic documents can be uploaded and their progress monitored. A methodology on strategic documents shall be adopted.
279	C10.I11: Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Milestone	Provision of a repository system for monitoring of the implementation of the RRP	Audit report confirming the repository system functionalities				Q2	2022	A repository system for monitoring the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP) shall be in place and operational before the first payment request. The system shall include, as a minimum, the following functionalities: (a) collection of data and monitoring of the achievement of milestones and targets; (b) collection, storage and access to the data required

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										by Article 22(2)(d)(i) to (iii) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241.
280	C10.I11: Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Target	Update of video guides to cover in full all business processes of the RRP information system		Number	0	36	Q2	2022	Introduction of a visualisation of workflows in the form of video guides to facilitate the work of users. Given the adaptation of the Unified Management Information System for the EU structural instruments in Bulgaria (UMIS 2020) system for the purpose of implementing the RRP, as well as the uniqueness of the new instrument, the guides shall be tailored to address the RRP specifically: 36 video guides are expected to be updated, which are expected to cover in full all of the possible business processes that users could encounter when implementing the RRP while working in the information system.
281	C10.I11: Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Milestone	Entry into force of the act setting up the Management and Control system for the RRP	Adoption and entry into force of the act (an order of the Minister of Finance) approving the Management and Control System				Q2	2022	The Management and Control System in the context of the RRP shall be approved before the first payment request, and shall include: • the ministries/bodies responsible for carrying out controls on the implementation of the plan (investments and reforms); • the specification of measures to combat fraud, corruption, double funding and conflict of interest and arrangements for reporting and correcting serious irregularities.
282	C10.I11: Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Milestone	An approved workload analysis for the National Funds Directorate and the Central Coordination Unit, entry into force of the amendments to the structural regulations for the Executive Agency	An approved workload analysis for the National Funds Directorate and the Central Coordination Unit, provision in the amendments to the structural regulations for the Executive Agency				Q2	2022	A workload analysis shall be carried out for the National Funds Directorate, for the Central Coordination Unit and for the Executive Agency 'Audit of EU Funds', taking into account the burden arising from the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Plan and the amended functions and/or responsibilities of the two bodies. The analysis shall provide adequate information on administrative capacity needs and develop a set of recommendations to address insufficient capacity where necessary taking the current available resources and tasks as a

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			'Audit of EU Funds' and the implementation of respective recommendations	'Audit of EU Funds' indicating the entry into force of the amendments, and the respective recommendations have been implemented						baseline. Based on the analysis and recommendations, the decisions on the allocation of the necessary resources and on the entry into force of the amendments to regulations for both bodies shall take place before the first payment request.
283	C10.I11: Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Target	Members of staff trained on procurement		Number	0	800	Q4	2022	The trainings shall be completed with a certificate and include staff from municipalities, budget operators, and state owned or controlled companies, in particular those with responsibilities related to the implementation of the RRP.
284	C10.I11: Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Milestone	Update or release of video guides	Update and/or release of video guides				Q2	2025	Video guides on the Unified Management Information System shall be released and/or updated.
285	C10.I11: Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Milestone	Trainings on the activities under the RRF	Trainings organised		0		Q4	2025	Trainings organised on the activities under the RRF.
285a	C10.I12: Digitalisation of the Customs Agency	Milestone	Digitalisation of the Customs Agency	Upgrade or development of systems				Q2	2026	Acceptance protocol(s) for the upgrade or development of information and communication systems, including interventions related to systems for import control, transit system, guarantee management, management of lines at the customs, single window environment for customs, systems of exchange of excise data, video data centre(s).

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285b	C10.I13: Digitalisation of the National Revenue Agency	Milestone	Digitalisation of the National Revenue Agency	Delivery of hardware and software for the upgrade of systems				Q2	2026	Acceptance protocol(s) for delivery of hardware and software for the upgrade of information and communication systems, including interventions related to communications and server equipment, virtualisation, solution for protection of end users, email environment, network security.

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K. COMPONENT 11: SOCIAL INCLUSION

This component of the Bulgarian recovery and resilience plan aims to foster social inclusion by

- improving social protection and service provision. This shall encompass a reform of the minimum income scheme, and the development of new tools for the Social Assistance Agency and for the Employment Agency;
- reforming long-term care provision in Bulgaria, in accordance with the Common European Guidelines on the transition from institutional to community-based care as well as with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In addition, persons with permanent disabilities shall be supported through the provision of assisting devices to promote their mobility and independent living;
- promoting the social economy and the cultural and creative sectors. This shall be achieved by the construction of focus centres for the social and solidarity economy providing supporting tools to social enterprises, by establishing grant schemes for cultural and creative sectors and by digitising content of archives.

The component encompasses two reforms and seven investments and contributes to addressing the challenges identified in the CSRs, notably the recommendations to address the shortcomings of the minimum income scheme (country-specific recommendation 2 2020 and 4 2019), as well as to improve access to integrated employment and social services (country-specific recommendation 4 2019).

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

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

Reform 1 (C11.R1): Reform of the minimum income scheme

The objective of the reform is to revise the criteria and expand the coverage of the minimum income scheme.

The measure consists of an analysis and the entry into force of legal act(s) concerning the minimum income scheme.

Reform 2 (C11.R2): Reform of social services

The objective of the reform is to ensure the quality of social services in Bulgaria.
The measure consists of entry into force of legal act(s) concerning social services.

Investment 1 (C11.I1): Infrastructure works in long-term care establishments

The objective of the investment is to perform infrastructure works in the building stock of the establishments where social services are provided to persons with disabilities and old people.

The measure consists of construction and/or renovation works.

Investment 2 (C11.I2): Provision of assisting devices to persons with permanent disabilities

The objective of the investment is to selectpersons with permanent disabilities to receive assisting devices.

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The measure consists of approval of the selection of persons with permanent disabilities.

Investment 3 (C11.I3): Development of the social economy

The objective of this investment is to promote the social economy by providing assistance to the development of social and solidarity economy enterprises and organisations.

The investment shall encompass the construction of focus centres for the social and solidarity economy, which shall support social and solidarity economy enterprises and organisations by providing counselling activities and technical assistance, including through assisting in the digitalisation of the business processes of those enterprises. The location of the focus centres shall ensure that every region, as identified by the level two of the nomenclature of territorial units for statistics classification, shall be served by one focus centre.

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

Investment 4 (C11.I4): Renovation of the Social Assistance Agency

The objective of this investment is to renovate the Social Assistance Agency territorial structures, including providing accessibility for persons with disabilities.

The measure consists of renovation works and delivery of equipment.

Investment 5 (C11.I5): Digital services at the Employment Agency

The objective of this investment is to provide the Employment Agency with access to digital services.

The measure consists of digital services and equipment.

Investment 6 (C11.I6): Support of the cultural sector

The objective of the investment is to support the cultural sector in Bulgaria.

The measure consists of the entry into force of legal act(s) and provision of grant support.

Investment 7 (C11.I7): Digitisation of archives

The objective of the investment is to digitise the content of archives and provide access to them.

The measure consists in the publication of a methodology, digitising content and making it available on the digital platform.

Investment 8 (C11.I8): Culture infrastructure

The objective of the investment is to digitise the infrastructure and business processes of the National Palace of Culture and the Festival and Congress Centre - Varna.

The measure consists in the delivery of equipment.

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

Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicator for milestones	Quantitative indicator for target			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
286	C11.R1: Reform of the minimum income scheme	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the secondary legislation of the Social Assistance Act	Provision in the secondary legislation indicating the entry into force of the amendments to the Social Assistance Act				Q1	2022	To increase the adequacy and coverage of the minimum income scheme, the amendments shall include a gradual increase of the percentages used for the computation of the income threshold of the minimum income scheme, the Differentiated Minimum Income (DMI), as follows: - for 2022: by an average coefficient of at least 1,10; - for 2023: by a coefficient of at least 1 365; - for 2024: by a coefficient of at least 1 224.
287	C11.R1: Reform of the minimum income scheme	Milestone	Finalisation of a report on the minimum income scheme	Final report issued by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies and published on the website of the Ministry.				Q4	2022	The analysis shall make evidence-based recommendations to expand effective coverage, enhance the targeting of the minimum income scheme, incentivise the take-up of gainful employment, improve linked activation measures through the PES and significantly reduce the administrative burden for the individuals and for the administration in the application procedures. The analysis shall: - review the eligibility and working criteria of the minimum income scheme, including ownership criteria, PES registration and community work requirements, together with the implementation of activation measures; - review employment incentives, including the tapering out of benefits for the recipients of the minimum income support who uptake gainful employment; - analyse the administrative burden of the process and take this into account in its recommendations with a view to achieving a significant reduction; For the elements above the analysis shall provide references to the challenges identified in the context

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Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicator for milestones	Quantitative indicator for target			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										of the European Semester and to analysis from international organizations with relevant expertise.
288	C11.R1: Reform of the minimum income scheme	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) related to the minimum income scheme	Provisions in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force of the amendments				Q2	2025	The amendments to the legal act(s) shall provide for: - revisions to the eligibility and work requirement criteria related to the minimum income scheme, including reducing the required registration time at the employment services from 6 to 3 months, and introducing incentives to uptake employment; - linking the Differentiated Minimum Income (DMI) to the annually updated at-risk-of-poverty threshold; - the at-risk-of-poverty threshold shall be harmonized with the EUROSTAT methodology; - ensurance that for each target group of the scheme, the DMI is computed by multiplying a group-specific coefficient by an anchoring element, common to all target groups: o for each target group, the group-specific coefficient shall not be lower than its 2021 value; o the anchoring element shall be equal to at least 30% of the most recent AROP threshold; - introduction of the legal definition of ‘economically inactive’; - provisions specifying the activities for the activation of the ‘economically inactive’.
290	C11.R2: Reform of social services	Milestone	Entry into force of the Ordinance on the Quality of Social Services	Provision in the ordinance indicating entry into force of the Ordinance on the Quality of Social Services				Q2	2022	The Ordinance on the Quality of Social Services shall outline the minimum quality standards for the provision of social services. The minimum quality standards shall cover: - the architectural requirements of new facilities providing residential care, including on the maximum number of users per facility providing

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Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicator for milestones	Quantitative indicator for target			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										social services and on the maximum number of users per bedroom. Users per bedroom shall be no more than two; - the social services provided by the day-care facilities accompanying the facilities providing residential care, including counselling activities and therapy provided; - the requirements for the modernisation of existing facilities providing residential care, including residential care homes for older people. In addition, the ordinance shall cover: - the procedures for the monitoring and evaluating the provision of social services by responsible entities; - the standards for the qualifications and professional development of the personnel providing social services.
291	C11.R2: Reform of social services	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on the National Map of Social Services	Provision in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q2	2025	The National Map of Social Services shall cover: - a list of social services at the municipal and district level funded fully or partly from the state budget; - the maximum number of users for each social service for which funding is provided fully or partly from the state budget.
293	C11.I1: Infrastructure works in long-term care establishments	Target	Renovation and/or construction of establishments providing residential care, establishments for provision of accompanying specialized and advisory social services to persons with disabilities,		Number	0	250	Q2	2026	A total of 250 of the following: homes for old people, establishments providing residential care, and establishments for provision of accompanying specialized and advisory social services to persons with disabilities, shall be renovated and/or constructed.

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Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicator for milestones	Quantitative indicator for target			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
			and homes for old people							
297	C11.I2: Provision of assisting devices to persons with permanent disabilities	Milestone	Methodology for the selection of persons with permanent disabilities	Adoption by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy				Q4	2022	A methodology determining the selection procedure to assign assisting devices to persons with permanent disabilities shall be adopted. The methodology shall be built considering health and specific needs as well as socio-demographic characteristics of the persons with permanent disabilities.
298	C11.I2: Provision of assisting devices to persons with permanent disabilities	Milestone	Selection of persons with permanent disabilities to receive assisting devices	Approval of selection of persons with permanent disabilities to receive assisting devices				Q2	2026	Selection of 2 148 persons with permanent disabilities to receive assisting devices shall be approved.
299	C11.I3: Development of the social economy	Target	Building and equipping 6 regional focus centres		Number	0	6	Q4	2022	Construction and/or renovation works shall be finalised for 6 regional focus centres. In addition, equipment, including furniture, shall be delivered and installed.
303	C11.I4: Renovation of the Social Assistance Agency	Milestone	Signature of contracts for the Social Assistance Agency territorial structures	Signed contracts				Q2	2025	In relation to the Social Assistance Agency territorial structures, the contracts shall cover renovation works or delivery of air conditioning appliances or delivery of stair-climbing devices.
304	C11.I4: Renovation of the Social Assistance Agency	Target	Territorial structures of the Social Assistance Agency renovated		Number	0	419	Q4	2025	Renovation works of 91 Social Assistance Agency territorial structures shall be carried out. Air conditioning appliances in 181 Social Assistance Agency territorial structures shall be delivered.

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Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicator for milestones	Quantitative indicator for target			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										Stair-climbing devices in 147 Social Assistance Agency territorial structures shall be delivered.
306	C11.I5: Digital services at the Employment Agency	Milestone	Digital services for the Employment Agency	Access to digital services				Q2	2026	The Employment Agency shall have access to: - the National Database information system; - the digital laboratory platform; - the application which lists job trainings and vacancies; - software for processing survey results; - digital services concerning employment subsidies, trainings and registration procedures for job seekers. The digital laboratory and the application which lists job trainings and vacancies shall be publicly available. In addition, 428 tablets and ID card readers shall be delivered.
307	C11.I6: Support of the cultural sector	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on the National Culture Fund	Provision in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q2	2025	The legal act(s) shall provide for: - a revision of the organisation and management structure of the National Culture Fund; - monitoring of the activities of the National Culture Fund.
308	C11.I6: Support of the cultural sector	Target	Support for the cultural sector		Number	0	460	Q4	2025	Grant support via grant schemes operated by the National Cultural Fund shall be provided as follows: - grant scheme “Support for European Cultural Cooperation” requiring at least 10% co-financing from beneficiaries. - grant scheme “Support for Development and Audience Access” requiring at least 10% co-financing from the beneficiaries. - grant scheme “New Generation of Local Culture Policies” with two calls for proposals. The first call

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Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicator for milestones	Quantitative indicator for target			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										shall target municipalities which are district centres and the grant amount shall be between BGN 170 000 and BGN 2 000 000, with 50% co-financing from the beneficiaries. The second call shall target municipalities which are not district centres with 25% co-financing from the beneficiaries.
312	C11.I7: Digitisation of archives	Milestone	Methodology and standards for the digitisation of content	Publication of the methodology and standards for the digitisation of content				Q2	2025	The methodology shall cover the criteria for the designation of institutions as national coordinators and the criteria for the selection of content as well as standards applicable to the content that shall be digitised. The standards shall apply to the digitisation of the content of museums, libraries and archives.
314	C11.I7: Digitisation of archives	Milestone	Digitised content available on the digital platform, equipment for digitising content delivered	Content digitised and equipment delivered				Q2	2026	Digitised content of the archives of the Bulgarian National Film Archives, the Bulgarian National Television, and the Bulgarian National Radio, the Bulgarian News Agency, and the National Archive Fund, shall be available on the digital platform on cultural heritage. Additionally, equipment for digitising content in at least 28 museums and 7 libraries shall be delivered.
314a	C11.I8: Culture infrastructure	Milestone	Digital equipment	Digital equipment delivered				Q2	2026	In relation to the National Palace of Culture and the Festival and Congress Centre – Varna, the following shall be delivered: - 66 LED displays and software for their control; - Platform for digitalisation of business processes; - Network equipment and cyber-security platform.

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L. COMPONENT 12: HEALTHCARE

This component of the Bulgarian recovery and resilience plan aims to improve the provision and availability of health services across Bulgaria. It encompasses six reforms and seven investments.

The component includes investments in the health sector across the territory, including modernisation of part of the hospitals and medical facilities providing either paediatric, oncological or psychiatric care.

The component also includes the construction of outpatient care units, the establishment of an air ambulance system, as well as measures addressing shortages of healthcare professionals, including their unbalanced geographical distribution.

The enhancement of e-health and digital innovation in healthcare shall be supported by the completion of the implementation of the National Health Information System and by the development of a platform for medical diagnostics.

In addition, the component introduces strategies and action plans underpinning the investments. National strategies and plans also cover additional relevant concerns, including health education in schools and healthy aging.

The component contributes to addressing the challenges identified in the country-specific recommendations to mobilise adequate financial resources to strengthen the resilience, accessibility and capacity of the health system, and ensure a balanced geographical distribution of health workers (country-specific recommendation 1 2020), as well as to improve access to health services and addressing shortages of health professionals (country-specific recommendation 4 2019).

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

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

Reform 1 (C12.R1): Upgrading the strategic framework of the healthcare sector

The objective of the reform is to increase the resilience of the health system to shocks, as well as to increase the population's access to quality and timely healthcare by providing the strategic underpinning of future investments and reforms and identifying relevant actions.

The reform shall include the adoption of a number of strategies and plans, namely:

- the National Health Strategy 2030, which shall aim to address the existing structural challenges of the health sector, including the shortages of healthcare professionals across the territory, by setting out the strategic goals and priorities over a 10-year period;
- the National Strategy for Mental Health of the Citizens of the Republic of Bulgaria 2021-2030, which shall provide recommendations to foster the integration of psychiatric services into community-based services and services received at home (deinstitutionalisation), as well as addressing the main problems faced by the psychiatric care system in the country, including outdated equipment and facilities as well as staff shortages;
- the National Strategy for Child and Adolescent Health and Paediatric Care in the Republic of Bulgaria 2030, which shall provide targeted recommendations to strengthen health care services for children and adolescents, starting from pregnancy;

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- the National Strategy for Healthy Geriatric Care and Ageing in the Republic of Bulgaria 2021-2030. The strategy shall promote a comprehensive set of recommendations targeting the health and well-being of older people, taking into account regional demographic trends and the availability of services, including access to health and social services.

The adoption of these strategies shall be complemented by the adoption of accompanying action plans for their implementation. The action plans shall build on the recommendations of the strategies to outline measures, including their timeline.

The reform also includes the adoption of:

- the National Map on the Long-Term Needs of the Healthcare Sector in Bulgaria, which shall provide recommendations on how to promote a balanced distribution of healthcare services in Bulgaria, based on an analysis covering health facilities in each region;
- the National Plan for Combating Cancer in the Republic of Bulgaria 2021-2027, which shall outline measures aiming to reduce cancer incidence and mortality, targeting screening activities for early detection of cancer, as well as cancer treatment therapies;

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

Reform 2 (C12.R2): Development of e-health and of the National Health Information System

The objective of the reform is to contribute to the development of e-Health.

The measure consists in the entry into force of legal act(s) on e-Health and the upgrade of the National Health Information System (NHIS).

Reform 3 (C12.R3): Improving the attractiveness of health professions and promoting a more balanced distribution of health professionals across the territory

The objective of the reform is to contribute to reducing the shortages of health professionals and their uneven distribution across the country.
The measure consists in the entry into force of legal act(s) and other actions.

Reform 6 (C12.R6): Plan for modern health education in schools

The objective of the reform is to contribute to reducing preventable health diseases via the provision of healthcare education in schools.

The reform consists of the development and adoption of a Plan for Health Education in the Bulgarian School 2021-2027. The plan shall specify measures to promote a healthy lifestyle among students in the areas of reproductive health, nutrition and harmful consumption of alcohol and other psychoactive substances.

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

Investment 1 (C12.I1): Modernisation of hospital facilities

The objective of this investment is to modernise the equipment of facilities providing paediatric and oncological care.

The measure consists in the delivery of medical equipment as well as construction and/or renovation works.

Investment 2 (C12.I2): Centres for interventional diagnosis and endovascular treatment of cerebrovascular diseases

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The objective of the investment is to increase the access of care provided for cerebrovascular diseases.

The measure consists in construction and/or renovation works and delivery of equipment for specialised centres.

Investment 3 (C12.I3): Modernisation of psychiatric care

The objective of the investment is to modernise the outdated equipment and infrastructures of facilities providing psychiatric care.

The measure consists in renovating psychiatric care facilities and the delivery of equipment.

Investment 4 (C12.I4): Establishment of an air ambulance system

The objective of this investment is to set up an air ambulance system.

The measure consists in the delivery of helicopters.

Investment 5 (C12.I5): National digital platform for medical diagnostics

The objective of the investment is to achieve a higher quality of IT infrastructure for medical diagnostic services.
The measure consists in the establishment of a digital platform for medical diagnostics.

Investment 7 (C12.I7): Development of outpatient care

The objective of this investment is to foster preventive and outpatient care in remote areas.

The measure consists in building and/or renovating outpatient medical units, and/or delivering ambulatory containers.

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

Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
315	C12.R1: Upgrading the strategic framework of the healthcare sector	Milestone	National Strategy for the Mental Health of Citizens of the Republic of Bulgaria 2021-2030 and action plan for the implementation of the strategy	Adoption of the strategy and the action plan by the Council of Ministers				Q2	2021	The National Strategy for the Mental Health of Citizens of the Republic of Bulgaria 2021-2030 shall set out the strategic goals and priorities over a ten-year period and provide recommendations covering: - the integration of psychiatric care into community-based and at-home service provision (deinstitutionalisation) for people suffering from mental illness and eating disorders; - shortages of staff working in the field of mental health; - renovation needs of the facilities providing psychiatric care. The action plan shall formulate measures and actions, including their timeline, to implement the recommendations of the strategy.
316	C12.R1: Upgrading the strategic framework of the healthcare sector	Milestone	National Map of the Long-Term Needs of the Healthcare Sector	Adoption by the Council of Ministers				Q3	2022	The National Map of the Long-Term Needs for Healthcare Sector shall include an analysis on the needs of the healthcare system across the territory of Bulgaria. The analysis shall cover: - availability of hospital and outpatient care across the territory; - the need for new health care facilities, including outpatient care facilities; - shortages of medical professionals; - renovation and equipment needs of the healthcare facilities, including outpatient care facilities; - relevant information on Bulgarian municipalities including demographic characteristics of the population; health insurance coverage as well as morbidity and mortality rates. Based on this analysis, the map shall also provide recommendations on how to promote a balanced distribution of health services in Bulgaria.

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Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
317	C12.R1: Upgrading the strategic framework of the healthcare sector	Milestone	National Health Strategy 2030	Adoption of the strategy				Q3	2022	The National Health Strategy 2030 shall set out the strategic goals and priorities over a ten-year period and provide recommendations to address the existing structural challenges of the health system. The recommendations shall address: - regional imbalances of healthcare service provision; - the allocation of services between hospital and outpatient care, concerning prevention, rehabilitation activities, as well as long-term care; - the development of performance indicators to evaluate service provision and its management; - the shortages and distribution of health professionals on the basis of the analysis in the National Map (milestone 316). An action plan covering for the period 2023-2026 shall be adopted by the Council of Ministers. It shall formulate measures and actions, including their timeline, to implement the recommendations of the strategy.
318	C12.R1: Upgrading the strategic framework of the healthcare sector	Milestone	National Strategy for Child and Adolescent Health and Paediatric Care in the Republic of Bulgaria 2030	Adoption of the strategy				Q4	2022	The National Strategy for Child and Adolescent Health and Paediatric care in the Republic of Bulgaria 2030 shall set out the strategic goals and priorities over a ten-year period and provide recommendations covering: - the accessibility of diagnosis and treatments targeting children and adolescents, including specialized pediatric medical equipment in health facilities; - awareness raising and prevention initiatives, including for parents and in relation to pregnancy; - regional patronage care and supply of counselling health services. An action plan covering for the period 2023-2025 shall be adopted by the Council of Ministers. It shall formulate

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Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										measures and actions, including their timeline, to implement the recommendations of the strategy.
319	C12.R1: Upgrading the strategic framework of the healthcare sector	Milestone	National Plan for Combating Cancer in the Republic of Bulgaria 2021-2027	Adoption by the Council of Ministers				Q4	2022	The National Plan for Combating Cancer in the Republic of Bulgaria 2021-2027 shall outline measures to enhance: - early detection of cancer through screening activities; - the availability and accuracy of cancer diagnostics; - access to and effectiveness of treatments; - the well-being of cancer patients and cancer survivors.
321	C12.R2: Development of e-health and of the National Health Information System	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the e-Health regulatory framework	Provision in the law indicating the entry into force of the amendments to the eHealth regulatory framework				Q4	2022	The amendments to the e-Health regulatory framework shall develop further access to e-Health services by introducing the legal basis for: - online prescriptions and dispensation of medicinal products; - telemedicine, including telediagnostics and telemonitoring; - the registration of medical information via electronic health records and their maintenance. The amendments shall also include the organisation of the work processes of the National Health Information System (NHIS).
322	C12.R2: Development of e-health and of the National Health Information System	Milestone	Upgrade of the National Health Information System (NHIS)	Accessible services on the website of the NHIS				Q2	2025	The National Health Information System (NHIS) shall be upgraded by adding new functionalities related to services concerning: - electronic medical records of citizens; - e-prescriptions and e-referrals modules; - a system for the collection of data from hospitals.
323	C12.R3: Improving the attractiveness of health professions and promoting a	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) concerning funding for medical personnel	Provisions in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q2	2025	The legal act(s) shall: - provide for additional monthly funding for medical personnel working in remote or hard-to-reach settlements.

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Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
	more balanced distribution of health professionals across the territory									- set the methodology to compute the additional monthly funding that medical facilities distribute to the medical personnel working in remote or hard-to-reach areas. The methodology shall be based on factors including remoteness, difficult accessibility of settlements and number of hired medical personnel. Each medical facility shall distribute at least 90% of its additional monthly allocation to personnel costs, according to the qualifications of medical personnel. A list of the medical facilities that are eligible for additional funding under this methodology shall be published on the website of the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF).
324	C12.R3: Improving the attractiveness of health professions and promoting a more balanced distribution of health professionals across the territory	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on healthcare	Provisions in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force				Q2	2025	The legal act(s) shall: - introduce a methodology for determining the number of nursing and/or midwifery professionals, required in different types of healthcare facilities; - abolish university fees for students in nursing and midwifery programmes; - provide that the personnel costs for health professionals in providers of hospital and outpatient medical care which have contracts with the National Health Insurance Fund are determined according to their qualifications; - offer free training of health professionals who commit to work in outpatient clinics in regions with limited access to healthcare; - introduce the possibility for nursing and midwifery professionals, rehabilitators and doctor’s assistants to establish their own practice; - provide for the invitation for participation of the professional organisation of nurses, midwives and associated health professionals in the process

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Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										of negotiations with the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF). - introduce health care services performed for newborns up to 6 months after discharge from the hospital in the package of outpatient care activities financed by the NHIF provided by nursing and midwifery professionals via their own private practice.
328	C12.R6: Plan for modern health education in schools	Milestone	National Plan for Health Education in the Bulgarian Schools 2021-2027	Adoption by the Council of Ministers				Q4	2022	The National Plan for Health Education in the Bulgarian Schools 2021-2027 shall specify measures to foster health education in schools, covering topics such as reproductive health, nutrition and harmful consumption of alcohol and other psychoactive substances.
330	C12.I1: Modernisation of hospital facilities	Milestone	Hospital facilities	Equipment delivered and hospital facilities constructed and/or renovated				Q2	2026	- Equipment shall be delivered to 50 hospital facilities; - 6 hospital facilities shall be constructed and/or renovated.
332	C12.I2: Centres for interventional diagnosis and endovascular treatment of cerebrovascular diseases	Milestone	Signature of contract(s) for construction and/or renovation works and for the supply of medical equipment	Signed contract(s)				Q4	2025	The contract(s) shall cover the construction and/or renovation and the supply of medical equipment for medical centres for interventional diagnosis and treatment of cerebrovascular diseases categorised as group 2 in the Concept for the Development of Centres for Interventional Diagnostics and Endovascular Treatment of Cerebrovascular Diseases.
333	C12.I2: Centres for interventional diagnosis and endovascular treatment of cerebrovascular diseases	Milestone	Centres for cerebrovascular diseases	Equipment delivered and centres for cerebrovascular diseases constructed and/or renovated				Q2	2026	- Six Group 2 centres for interventional diagnosis and endovascular treatment of cerebrovascular diseases shall be constructed and/or renovated; - equipment for the six Group 2 centres shall be delivered; - equipment for 17 Group 1 centres shall be delivered.

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Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
335	C12.I3: Modernisation of psychiatric care	Milestone	Medical facilities providing psychiatric care	Equipment delivered and medical facilities providing psychiatric care renovated				Q2	2026	18 medical facilities providing psychiatric care shall be renovated. Additionally, equipment for a total of 25 medical facilities providing psychiatric care (including the aforementioned 18) shall be delivered.
336	C12.I4: Establishment of an air ambulance system	Milestone	Signature of contract(s) for the delivery of helicopters to the air ambulance system	Signed contract(s)				Q2	2025	The contract(s) shall cover the delivery of seven helicopters to the air ambulance system, which shall: - be classified as category A, class 1 or 2; - include medical equipment, as well as ground equipment.
337	C12.I4: Establishment of an air ambulance system	Target	Delivery of helicopters to the air ambulance system		Number	0	7	Q2	2026	Proof(s) of delivery of seven helicopters with medical equipment for the needs of the emergency medical services shall be provided.
339	C12.I5: National Digital Platform for Medical Diagnostics	Milestone	Signature of contract(s) for the development of the National Digital Platform for Medical Diagnostics	Signed contract(s)				Q2	2025	The contract(s) shall cover the development of the National Digital Platform for Medical Diagnostics with the following: - the uploading of medical images; - the processing of the medical images by a machine learning algorithm.
340	C12.I5: National Digital Platform for Medical Diagnostics	Target	Healthcare facilities accessing the National Digital Platform for Medical Diagnostics		Number	0	20	Q2	2026	Access to the National Digital Platform for Medical Diagnostics shall be granted to 20 healthcare facilities.
343	C12.I7: Development of outpatient care	Milestone	Signature of contract(s) for the construction and/or renovation works for outpatient units or mobile ambulatory containers as well as	Signed contract(s)				Q4	2025	The contract(s) shall cover construction and/or renovation works for 100 outpatient care units or mobile ambulatory containers. In addition, the contract(s) shall cover the supply of a digital platform. The platform shall: - allow for the provision of telemedicine services; - include modules for medical diagnostics and treatment.

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Seq. N°	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
			the supply of equipment							
345	C12.I7: Development of outpatient care	Milestone	Outpatient care units and/or mobile ambulatory containers	Outpatient units constructed and/or renovated; mobile containers and equipment delivered; digital platform accessible				Q2	2026	Outpatient care units shall be constructed and/or renovated, and mobile ambulatory containers shall be delivered. In total, these outpatient care units and mobile ambulatory containers shall amount to 100. In addition, equipment shall be delivered. A digital platform shall be accessible.

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M. COMPONENT 13: REPOWEREU

The objective of the REPowerEU component of the Bulgarian recovery and resilience plan is to reduce the dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the green transition across key sectors of the economy, while also focusing on supporting vulnerable groups.

The component includes reforms on establishing a governance framework for energy poverty and preparation for retail electricity market liberalisation, as well as on enhancing the transparency of grid connection procedures, and improving the functioning of the electricity balancing market, along with enabling demand-response measures. These reforms are complemented by investments in a national information system for energy poor households and vulnerable customers, electricity storage infrastructure, and photovoltaic installations and electric vehicles for social service facilities.

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

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

Reform 1 (C13.R1): Governance framework for energy poverty and preparation of retail market liberalisation

The objective of this reform is to contribute to addressing energy poverty and protecting energy poor households and vulnerable customers, as well as to further facilitate the liberalisation of the retail market.

The measure consists in legal act(s) related to energy poverty.

Reform 2 (C13.R2): Transparency of connection procedures for new renewable and storage capacities

The objective of this reform is to increase the transparency of connection procedures for new renewable capacities.

The measure consists in making an online grid hosting capacity map accessible.

Reform 3 (C13.R3): Functioning of the balancing market and demand-response

The objective of this reform is to support the functioning of the balancing market in Bulgaria.

The measure consists in the accession of the Transmission System Operator ESO EAD to the Platform for the International Coordination of Automated Frequency Restoration and Stable System Operation (PICASSO) and the publication of a report by the Energy and Water Regulatory Commission.

Investment 1 (C13.I1): Information system on energy poor households and vulnerable customers

The objective of this investment is to facilitate the identification of energy poor households and vulnerable customers.

The investment consists in an information system on energy poor households and vulnerable customers.

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Investment 2 (C13.I2): Scaled-up measure: National infrastructure for storage of electricity (RESTORE)

The objective of this investment is to support electricity storage facilities and is a scale-up of the existing investment 8 of component 4.

The investment consists in the installation of electricity storage facilities.

Investment 3 (C13.I3): Installation of Photovoltaic Systems and Provision of Electric Vehicles

The objective of this investment is to support renewable energy installations and electric vehicles intended for use by social service facilities.

The measure consists in (i) the installation of photovoltaic systems in social services facilities; and (ii) the delivery of electric vehicles.

Investment 4 (C13.I4): Support for capacities for electricity generation from renewable sources and electricity storage

The objective of the investment is to increase the share of clean energy in Bulgaria's energy mix.

The measure consists in supporting the installation and connection to the grid of electricity storage co-located with capacity of electricity from renewable sources.

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

Seq Nr	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
347	C13.R1: Governance framework for energy poverty and preparation of retail market liberalisation	Milestone	Legal act(s) designating and establishing responsible body(-ies)	Adoption of legal act(s)				Q2	2025	Legal act(s) shall - designate a responsible body for maintaining an information system of energy poor households and energy vulnerable customers; - establish a responsible body for designing measures tackling energy poverty in view of a retail electricity market liberalisation. The legal act(s) shall specify that the responsible body shall design a programme in relation to reducing energy poverty within the first six months of its establishment.
348	C13.R1: Governance framework for energy poverty and preparation of retail market liberalisation	Milestone	Preparatory measures for liberalisation of retail market	Entry into force of legal act(s); adoption of a decision of the Energy and Water Regulatory Commission; approval of a communication strategy				Q4	2025	The following preparatory measures shall be taken: 1. Entry into force of legal act(s) that allow for the possibility of a targeted compensation mechanism based on the status of households as energy poor and/or as vulnerable customers. 2. Adoption of a decision of the Energy and Water Regulatory Commission (EWRC) that shall set a base value for electricity supplied to households for an annual period. In addition, the responsible body for designing measures tackling energy poverty shall prepare a communication strategy regarding the retail electricity market liberalisation, including on measures to protect energy poor households and vulnerable customers, which shall be approved.

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Seq Nr	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
349	C13.R2: Transparency of connection procedures for new renewable and storage capacities	Milestone	Grid hosting capacity map	Grid hosting capacity map accessible online				Q2	2026	The grid hosting capacity map shall be accessible online. The grid hosting capacity map shall contain information at 400 kV and 220 kV sub-station level on: - total transmission capacity for connection; - reserved capacity under connection procedures for generation facilities, consumption facilities, electricity storage facilities; - remaining capacity for connection; - planned investments in new sub-stations for the upcoming 5 years. The methodology used to determine the remaining capacity for connection shall be made available online and shall require the update of the grid capacity hosting map at least once per month.
350	C13.R3: Functioning of the balancing market and demand-response	Milestone	Membership of the PICASSO Platform	Confirmed membership of ESO EAD in the PICASSO Platform				Q2	2025	The ESO EAD shall become a member of the PICASSO Platform.
351	C13.R3: Functioning of the balancing market and demand-response	Milestone	Report by the EWRC	Publication of report by the EWRC				Q2	2026	The Energy and Water Regulatory Commission (EWRC) shall publish a report that: - assesses the regulatory conditions for the participation of energy storage systems and industrial consumers in the balancing market. - conducts a cost-benefit analysis for the installation of smart meters for households and non-household consumers with an allocated capacity of up to 100 kW

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Seq Nr	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
										connected to the low-voltage distribution network. - outlines measures for removing barriers to demand-response, including through the deployment of smart meters and the participation of aggregators. The draft report shall be subject to a public stakeholder consultation.
352	C13.I1: Information system on energy poor households and vulnerable customers	Milestone	Information system on energy poor households and vulnerable customers	Information system on energy poor households and vulnerable customers				Q2	2026	Acceptance protocol(s) for an information system on energy poor households and vulnerable customers.
353	C13.I2: National infrastructure for storage of electricity (RESTORE) (scaled-up)	Target	Electricity storage facilities		Megawatt-hours (MWh)	0	1 900	Q2	2026	Installation and connection to the electricity grid of electricity storage facilities for 1 900 MWh of capacity.
354	C13.I3: Installation of Photovoltaic Systems in Social Services Facilities and Provision of Electric Vehicles	Milestone	Installation of photovoltaic systems and delivery of electric vehicle	Issuance of certificates of installation or delivery				Q2	2026	Acceptance certificate(s) of installation of photovoltaic systems with a minimum capacity of 15 kW in 500 social service facilities have been issued. Certificate(s) of delivery of 250 electric light commercial vehicles have been issued.

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Seq Nr	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name	Qualitative indicators (for milestones)	Quantitative indicators (for targets)			Indicative timeline for completion		Description of each milestone and target
					Unit of measure	Baseline	Goal	Quarter	Year	
356	C13.I4: Support for capacities for electricity generation from renewable sources and electricity storage	Milestone	Call(s) for selection of projects	Publication of call(s)				Q2	2025	Call(s) for the selection of projects for the construction of production capacity of electricity from renewable sources (wind and solar power) collocated with electricity storage are published.
357	C13.I4: Support for capacities for electricity generation from renewable sources and electricity storage	Milestone	Electricity storage co-located with capacity of electricity from renewable sources	Installation and connection to the grid				Q2	2026	Installation and connection to the grid of at least 350 MW of electricity storage, co-located with 1 425 MW of capacity of electricity from renewable sources.

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2. Estimated total cost of the recovery and resilience plan

The estimated total cost of the recovery and resilience plan of Bulgaria is BGN 12 075 546 451, which equals EUR 6 174 106 145 on the basis of the EUR BGN ECB reference rate of 15 October 2021.

The estimated total cost of the REPowerEU chapter is EUR 498 208 098. In particular, the estimated total cost of the measures referred to in Article 21c(3), point (a), of Regulation (EU) 2023/435 is EUR 0, whilst the cost of the other measures in the REPowerEU chapter is EUR 498 208 098.

SECTION 2: FINANCIAL SUPPORT

1. FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

The instalments referred to in Article 2(2) shall be organised in the following manner:

1.1. First Instalment (non-repayable support)

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
1	C1.R1 Reform in preschool and school education and vocational education and training	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the Pre-school and School Education Act and to secondary legislation
5	C1.R2 Higher education reform	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the Higher Education Act
6	C1.R2 Higher education reform	Milestone	National Map of Higher Education
35	C3.R1 Legal framework to attract industrial investment and develop industrial ecosystems	Milestone	Entry into force of the new Industrial Parks Act
113	C4.R9 Roadmap to Climate Neutrality	Milestone	Entry into force of the Government Decision establishing the Green Energy Transition Commission
137	C7.R2 Assignment of radio frequency spectrum	Milestone	Entry into force of the decree on the reduction of spectrum fees
140	C7.R3 Creating a favourable investment environment	Milestone	Entry into force of legislative changes implementing recommendations under the Connectivity Toolbox
148	C7.I2 TETRA system and radio relay network	Milestone	Award of contracts for development of TETRA system and radio relay network
161	C8.R1 Strategic transport framework	Milestone	Entry into force of the National Plan for the Development of Combined Transport in Bulgaria by 2030
169	C8.R2 Road safety	Milestone	New road safety strategy and its action plan
199	C8.I6 Sofia metro line 3	Milestone	Contracts on the construction of new sections of line 3 of Sofia metro following open and competitive tender
207	C9.R1 A new regional approach with the direct involvement of local communities in	Milestone	Amendments to the regulatory framework regarding management of EU funding

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Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
	the management of European funds and instruments		
213	C10.R1 Reform in the justice system	Milestone	Adoption of a Roadmap by the Council of Ministers for the implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights
238	C10.R8 Measures concerning the anti-money laundering framework	Milestone	Adoption of the action plan to mitigate the money laundering and terrorist financing risks identified in the national risk assessment
241	C10.R9 Improving the quality of the legislative process	Milestone	Entry into force of the Rules for the Organisation and the Activity of the National Assembly
279	C10.I11 Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Milestone	Provision of a repository system for monitoring of the implementation of the RRP
280	C10.I11 Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Target	Update of video guides to cover in full all business processes of the RRP information system
281	C10.I11 Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Milestone	Entry into force of the act setting up the Management and Control system for the RRP
282	C10.I11 Information and administrative environment for the implementation of the recovery and resilience plan	Milestone	An approved workload analysis for the National Funds Directorate and the Central Coordination Unit, entry into force of the amendments to the structural regulations for the Executive Agency 'Audit of EU Funds' and the implementation of respective recommendations
286	C11.R1 Reform of the minimum income scheme	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the secondary legislation of the Social Assistance Act
290	C11.R2 Reform of social services	Milestone	Entry into force of the Ordinance on the Quality of Social Services
315	C12.R1 Upgrading the strategic framework of the healthcare sector	Milestone	National Strategy for the Mental Health of Citizens of the Republic of Bulgaria 2021-2030 and action plan for the implementation of the strategy
		Instalment Amount	EUR1 368 912 911

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1.2. Second Instalment (non-repayable support) :

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
2	C1.R1 Reform in preschool and school education and vocational education and training	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the Employment Promotion Act
3	C1.R1 Reform in preschool and school education and vocational education and training	Milestone	Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategic Framework for the Development of Education, Training and Learning in the Republic of Bulgaria (2021-2030)
7	C1.R2 Higher education reform	Milestone	Action plan for the implementation of the Strategy for the Development of Higher Education in the Republic of Bulgaria (2021-2030)
8	C1.I1 STEM centres and innovation in education	Milestone	Establishment of the national STEM centre
321	C12.R2 Development of e-health and of the National Health Information System	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the e-Health regulatory framework
40	C3.I2.1.a Guarantee instrument for growth	Milestone	Signature of contribution agreement between the European Commission and the Government of Bulgaria
43	C3.I2.1.b Equity instruments for growth	Milestone	Signature of financing agreement between the European Investment Fund and the Government of Bulgaria
46	C3.I2.1.c Grant scheme for technological modernisation	Milestone	Selection procedures completed
48	C3.I2.1.d Grant scheme for information and communication technology and cybersecurity in small and medium enterprises	Milestone	Selection procedures completed
50	C3.I2.1.e Innovation Pool (Equity instruments for innovation)	Milestone	Signature of financing agreement between the European Investment Fund and the Government of Bulgaria
56	C3.I2.2.b Guarantee instrument for energy efficiency and renewable energy	Milestone	Signature of the contribution agreement between the European Commission and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria
61	C3.2.3.a Equity instruments for climate neutrality and digital transformation investments	Milestone	Signature of a financing agreement between the Republic of Bulgaria and the European Investment Fund
63	C4.R1 Establishment of a National Fund for Decarbonisation	Milestone	Assessment of the national energy efficiency regulatory framework published by an independent expert panel
66	C4.R3 Definition of “energy poverty” and of criteria for identifying households in energy poverty and vulnerable consumers	Milestone	Entry into force of amendments to the Energy Act and secondary legislation concerning “energy poverty”
67	C4.R2 Facilitating investments in energy efficiency renovations in residential buildings	Milestone	Entry into force of the amendments to the Act on the Administration of Condominium Property Ownership Management Act

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Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
68	C4.I1 Support for the renovation of the building stock.	Milestone	Establishing a national support scheme for energy efficiency renovation for residential and non-residential buildings
69	C4.I1 Support for the renovation of the building stock Sub-measure 1: Renovation of residential buildings	Milestone	Call for proposals for the energy efficiency renovation for residential buildings
72	C4.I1 Support for the renovation of the building stock Sub-measure 2: Renovation of non-residential buildings, including public buildings and Sub-measure 3: Renovation of non-residential buildings in manufacturing, trade and services	Milestone	Calls for proposals for the energy efficiency renovation for non-residential buildings
82	C4.R4 Boosting energy efficiency and renewable energy projects through the energy bills	Milestone	Entry into force of legal acts regarding energy efficiency improvements under Energy Service Companies (ESCO) model.
85	C4.I4 Digital transformation of the electricity transmission grid	Milestone	Signed contracts or the commencement of works for the upgrade of the national transmission systems
79	C4.I3 Support for energy-efficient street lighting systems	Milestone	Signature of grant contracts for renovation of public lighting systems (call 1)
29	C2.I1 Programme to support research and innovation	Target	Signature of contracts with research higher education institutions
92	C4.R8 Liberalisation of the electricity market	Milestone	Electricity market integration
83	C4.R5 One-stop shops for energy efficiency renovations	Milestone	Establishment of pilot one-stop-shops for energy renovation
91	C4.R8 Liberalisation of the electricity market	Milestone	Entry into force of legal acts
105	C4.I7 Increasing the use of renewable energy from geothermal sources	Milestone	Entry into force of legal acts regarding the use of renewable energy from geothermal sources
114	C4.R9 Roadmap to Climate Neutrality	Milestone	Adoption by the Council of Ministers of a Decision on a Roadmap to Climate Neutrality
95	C4.R6 Increasing electricity generation from renewable sources	Milestone	Entry into force of legal acts
97	C4.I8 National infrastructure for storage of electricity (RESTORE)	Milestone	Amendment of the national legislative framework to support fast deployment of electricity storage
76	C4.I2 Support for renewable energy for households	Milestone	Establishing a national renewable energy support scheme for households
126	C5.R1 Establishment of the governance structure of Natura 2000 Network	Milestone	Amendments to the Biodiversity Act
138	C7.R2 Assignment of radio frequency spectrum	Milestone	Notification of assignment of the rights of use to operators in the 26 GHz spectrum band
162	C8.R1 Strategic transport framework	Target	Strengthening the capacity to manage and implement TEN-T railways projects

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Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
173	C8.R3 Sustainable urban mobility	Milestone	Integration of sustainable urban mobility into territorial strategies and development planning
214	C10.R1 Reform in the justice system	Milestone	Entry into force of the legislative amendments to the Legal Assistance Act
217	C10.R2 Anti-corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of the law on the protection of persons reporting breaches or publicly disclosing information on breaches and of the amendments to the legal framework related to whistleblowing
219	C10.R2 Anti-corruption	Milestone	Improving the role of the Inspectorate within the Supreme Judicial Council in preventing and counteracting corruption in the judiciary
227	C10.R3 Legal acts regarding the mediation framework	Milestone	Entry into force of legal acts regarding the mediation framework
228	C10.R4 Measures concerning the insolvency framework	Milestone	Entry into force of legal acts with regards to the insolvency and restructuring procedures
231	C10.R6 Registry reform to unlock the potential of eGovernment	Milestone	Entry into force of amendments to the Electronic Governance Law
232	C10.R6 Registry reform to unlock the potential of eGovernment	Milestone	Entry into force of amendments to the Law on Cadastre and Property Register
234	C10.R7 Governance framework for state-owned enterprises	Milestone	Adoption of a state ownership policy
239	C10.R8 Measures concerning the anti-money laundering framework	Milestone	Adoption of an update to the national risk assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing
242	C10.R10 Public Procurement	Milestone	Entry into force of legislative amendments to the Law on Public Procurement to reduce the number of contracts without a call for tender and single-call bids
235	C10.R7 Governance framework for state-owned enterprises	Milestone	Adoption of the annual Summary Reporting on the Performance of State-owned Enterprises
251	C10.R11 Entrepreneurial Bulgaria	Milestone	Introduction of a procedure and requirements for issuing and revoking a visa for start-up entrepreneurs
252	C10.R11 Entrepreneurial Bulgaria	Milestone	Entry into force of the Personal Bankruptcy Law
253	C10.R11 Entrepreneurial Bulgaria	Milestone	Entry into force of a new chapter in the Commerce Law for the introduction of a new legal form of a commercial company
256	C10.R12 Economic analysis council	Milestone	Institutionalisation of the Economic Analysis Council
283	C10.I11 Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Target	Members of staff trained on procurement
287	C11.R1 Reform of the minimum income scheme	Milestone	Finalisation of a report on the minimum income scheme
297	C11.I2 Provision of assisting devices to persons with permanent disabilities	Milestone	Methodology for the selection of persons with permanent disabilities

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Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
299	C11.I3 Development of the social economy	Target	Building and equipping 6 regional focus centres
316	C12.R1 Upgrading the strategic framework of the healthcare sector	Milestone	National Map of the Long-Term Needs of the Healthcare Sector
317	C12.R1 Upgrading the strategic framework of the healthcare sector	Milestone	National Health Strategy 2030
318	C12.R1 Upgrading the strategic framework of the healthcare sector	Milestone	National Strategy for Child and Adolescent Health and Paediatric Care in the Republic of Bulgaria 2030
319	C12.R1 Upgrading the strategic framework of the healthcare sector	Milestone	National Plan for Combating Cancer in the Republic of Bulgaria 2021-2027
328	C12.R6 Plan for modern health education in schools	Milestone	National Plan for Health Education in the Bulgarian Schools 2021-2027
		Instalment Amount	EUR 438 607 041

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1.3. Third Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
24	C2.R1 Common policy for research and innovation	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on research and innovation
25	C2.R1 Common policy for research and innovation	Milestone	Legal act(s) related to research and innovation
29a	C2.I1 Programme to support research and innovation	Milestone	Signature of contract
31	C2.I2 Investment in the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences	Milestone	Measures for the Joint Innovation Centre
32	C2.I2 Investment in the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences	Milestone	Quantum key distribution optical route
36	C3.I1 Programme for industrial parks and zones ("AttractInvestBG")	Target	Selection of industrial parks /zones
42	C3.I2 Investment 2.1.a Guarantee instrument for growth	Target	Operations approved by the InvestEU Investment Committee
47	C3.I2 Investment 2.1.c Grant scheme for technological modernisation	Target	Budget execution – transfer of at least EUR 120 million for technological modernisation
53	C3.I2 Investment 2.2.a - Grant scheme for investments in renewable electricity sources for own use with local storage facilities	Milestone	Approved projects
58	C3.I2 Investment 2.2.b - Guarantee instrument for energy efficiency and renewable energy	Target	Financial or investment operations approved by the InvestEU Investment Committee
59	C3.I2 Investment 2.2.c Grant scheme for the support of businesses in the transition to a circular economy	Milestone	Approved projects
64	C4.R1 Establishment of a National Fund for Decarbonisation	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) establishing the National Fund for Decarbonisation
84	C4.R5 One-stop shops for energy efficiency renovations	Target	One-stop shops designated
90	C4.R7 Supporting the green hydrogen value chain	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on the green hydrogen value chain
115	C4.R10 Decarbonisation of the energy sector	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) introducing a CO2 emissions cap for lignite and coal fired power plants
70	C4.I1 Support for the renovation of the building stock Sub-measure 1: Renovation of residential buildings Sub-measure 2: Renovation of non-residential public buildings And Sub-measure 3: Renovation of non-residential buildings in manufacturing, trade and services	Milestone	Signature of contracts for the energy efficiency renovation of buildings
88	C4.I4 Digital transformation of the electricity transmission grid	Target	Increase of maximum monthly net cross-border transmission capacity by 1600 MW

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Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
122	C4.I8 National infrastructure for storage of electricity (RESTORE)	Milestone	Signature of contracts for electricity storage facilities
131	C6.R1 National Action Programme	Milestone	Adoption of the National Action Programme
139	C7.R2 Assignment of radio frequency spectrum	Milestone	Entry into force of decision(s) by the Communications Regulation Commission assigning rights in the 700 MHz and 800 MHz spectrum bands
149	C7.I2 TETRA system and radio relay network	Milestone	Delivery of equipment based on the TETRA standard
164	C8.R1 Strategic transport framework	Milestone	Market assessment on the scope of public service obligation
184	C8.I1 Railways rolling stock	Milestone	Signature of contracts for the purchase of zero-emission railways rolling stock
200	C8.I6 Sofia metro line 3	Target	Construction of metro line 3 in Sofia
222	C10.R2 Anti-corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) concerning the criminal proceedings and the accountability and criminal liability of the Prosecutor General
229	C10.R4 Measures concerning the insolvency framework	Milestone	Measures on the insolvency framework
230	C10.R5 Digital reform of the Bulgarian construction sector	Milestone	Strategy and roadmap for the introduction of Building Information Modelling (BIM)
233	C10.R6 Registry reform to unlock the potential of eGovernment	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on electronic governance
237	C10.R7 Governance framework for state-owned enterprises	Milestone	Compliance of the composition of the management boards of large state-owned enterprises
240	C10.R8 Measures concerning the anti-money laundering framework	Milestone	Capacity and capabilities of supervisors
244	C10.R10 Public Procurement	Milestone	Public Procurement Agency's methodology
245	C10.R10 Public Procurement	Milestone	Standard eForms for public procurement
255	C10.R11 Entrepreneurial Bulgaria	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on distance working
263	C10.I3 Information and communication infrastructure at the Public Prosecutor's Office	Milestone	Information and communication infrastructure at the Public Prosecutor's Office
267	C10.I4 Security services	Milestone	Acquisition of body cameras
284	C10.I11 Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Milestone	Update or release of video guides
288	C11.R1 Reform of the minimum income scheme	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) related to the minimum income scheme
291	C11.R2 Reform of social services	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on the National Map of Social Services
303	C11.I4 Renovation of the Social Assistance Agency	Milestone	Signature of contracts for the Social Assistance Agency territorial structures
307	C11.I6 Support of the cultural sector	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on the National Culture Fund

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Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
312	C11.I7 Digitisation of archives	Milestone	Methodology and standards for the digitisation of content
322	C12.R2 Development of e-health and of the National Health Information System	Milestone	Upgrade of the National Health Information System (NHIS)
323	C12.R3 Improving the attractiveness of health professions and promoting a more balanced distribution of health professionals across the territory	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) concerning funding for medical personnel
324	C12.R3 Improving the attractiveness of health professions and promoting a more balanced distribution of health professionals across the territory	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on healthcare
336	C12.I4 Establishment of an air ambulance system	Milestone	Signature of contract(s) for the delivery of helicopters to the air ambulance system
339	C12.I5 National Digital Platform for Medical Diagnostics	Milestone	Signature of contract(s) for the development of the National Digital Platform for Medical Diagnostics
347	C13.R1 Governance framework for energy poverty and preparation of retail market liberalisation	Milestone	Legal act(s) designating and establishing responsible bodies
350	C13.R3 Functioning of the balancing market and demand-response	Milestone	Membership of the PICASSO Platform
356	C13.I4 Support for capacities for electricity generation from renewable sources and electricity storage	Milestone	Call(s) for selection of projects
		Instalment Amount	EUR 1 574 907 916

1.4. Fourth Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
4	C1.R1 Reform in preschool and school education and vocational education and training	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) in the field of vocational education and training
49	C3.I2 Investment 2.1.d Grant scheme for information and communication technology and cybersecurity in small and medium enterprises	Target	Budget execution – transfer of at least EUR 12.59 million for digitalisation
60	C3.I2 Investment 2.2.c Grant scheme for the support of businesses in the transition to a circular economy	Target	Companies supported
65	C4.R1 Establishment of a National Fund for Decarbonisation	Milestone	Contract and operating rules
93	C4.R11 Improving corporate governance of state-owned companies in the energy sector	Milestone	Conditions for a new state-owned holding company
78	C4.I2 Support for renewable energy for households	Target	Payment(s) for solar domestic hot water or photovoltaic systems
106	C4.I7 Increasing the use of renewable energy from geothermal sources	Milestone	Geothermal tool
136	C6.I2 Digitalisation of processes from farm to fork	Milestone	Electronic agricultural information system
163	C8.R1 Strategic transport framework	Milestone	Measures on transport
165	C8.R1 Strategic transport framework	Milestone	New public service contract(s) (PSC) for public rail transport services
176	C8.R4 Integrated public transport	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on public transport
178	C8.R5 Electric mobility	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on electric mobility
181	C8.R5 Electric mobility	Milestone	Low-emission zones
215	C10.R1 Reform in the justice system	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on e-justice in administrative cases
218	C10.R2 Anti-corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) providing for the set-up of an Anti-corruption body
223	C10.R2 Anti-corruption	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s) on lobbying activities
258	C10.I1 Upgrading the Unified Information System of Courts	Milestone	Upgrade of the Unified Courts Information System
260	C10.I2 Digitalisation of litigation processes in administrative justice	Milestone	Information modules and hardware for the digitalisation of litigation processes in administrative justice
278	C10.I10 Monitorstat system	Milestone	Upgraded Monitorstat system
285	C10.I11 Information and administrative environment for the recovery and resilience plan	Milestone	Trainings on the activities under the RRF
304	C11.I4 Renovation of the Social Assistance Agency	Target	Territorial structures of the Social Assistance Agency renovated
308	C11.I6 Support of the cultural and sector	Target	Support for the cultural sector
332	C12.I2 Centres for interventional diagnosis and endovascular treatment of cerebrovascular diseases	Milestone	Signature of contract(s) for construction and/or renovation works and for the supply of medical equipment

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Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
343	C12.I7 Development of outpatient care	Milestone	Signature of contract(s) for the construction and/or renovation works for outpatient units or mobile ambulatory containers as well as the supply of equipment
348	C13.R1 Governance framework for energy poverty and preparation of retail market liberalisation	Milestone	Preparatory measures for liberalisation of retail market
		Instalment Amount	EUR 968 928 522

1.5. Fifth Instalment (non-repayable support):

Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
10	C1.I1 STEM centres and innovation in education	Target	Construction and/or renovation
13	C1.I2 Infrastructure works in educational facilities	Target	Renovation and/or construction
18	C1.I3 Digital skills	Target	Digital clubs
21	C1.I3 Digital skills	Target	Certificates for acquired level of digital skills
22	C1.I4 Youth centres	Milestone	Construction and/or renovation
28	C2.I1 Programme to support research and innovation	Target	Letters accepting final reports
30	C2.I1 Programme to support research and innovation	Target	Reports approved
33	C2.I2 Investment in the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences	Milestone	Refurbishing the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and research project(s) in the field of green and digital transition
38	C3.I1 Programme for industrial parks /zones (“AttractInvestBG”)	Target	Confirmation letter(s) for the disbursement of grant amount corresponding to works in the industrial parks/zones
42a	C3.I2 Investment 2.1.a Guarantee instrument for growth	Target	Operations approved by the InvestEU Investment Committee
45	C3.I2 Investment 2.1.b Equity instruments for growth	Target	Operations approved by the Investment Committee
52	C3.I2 Investment 2.1.e Innovation Pool (Equity Instruments for Innovation)	Target	Operations approved by the Investment Committee
55	C3.I2 Investment 2.2.a - Grant scheme for investments in renewable electricity sources for own use with local storage facilities	Target	Capacity of installed storage facilities
62	C3.I2 Investment 2.3.a Equity instruments for climate neutrality and digital transformation investments	Target	Operations approved by the Investment Committee
93a	C4.R11 Improving corporate governance of state-owned companies in the energy sector	Milestone	Resolution of the Minister of Energy, acting for the state as the sole owner of the Bulgarian Energy Holding

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Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
120	C4.R10 Decarbonisation of the energy sector	Milestone	Carbon dioxide emissions from coal- or lignite-fired power plants
71	C4.I1 Support for the renovation of the building stock Sub-measure 1: Renovation of residential buildings	Target	Energy-efficiency renovation of residential buildings
75	C4.I1 Support for the renovation of the building stock Sub-measure 2: Renovation of non-residential public buildings and Sub-measure 3: Renovation of non-residential buildings in manufacturing, trade and services	Target	Energy efficiency renovation of non-residential buildings
75a	C4.I9 Subsidy scheme – renovation of residential buildings	Milestone	Implementing Agreement, legal subsidy agreements and transfer of funds
81	C4.I3 Support for energy-efficient street lighting systems	Target	Reduction of primary energy consumption
89	C4.I4 Digital transformation of the electricity transmission grid	Target	Conditions for the integration of production capacity from renewable sources into the electricity system
96	C4.R6 Increasing electricity generation from renewable sources	Milestone	Entry into force of legal act(s)
125	C4.I8 National infrastructure for storage of electricity (RESTORE)	Target	Electricity storage facilities
134	C6.I1 Technological and ecological transition of agriculture	Target	Extract(s) on payment(s)
146	C7.I1 Large-scale expansion of digital infrastructure	Milestone	Upgrade of the State backbone network
147	C7.I1 Large-scale expansion of digital infrastructure	Milestone	Access to very high capacity networks (VHCN)
186	C8.I1 Railways rolling stock	Target	Zero-emission railways rolling stock
197	C8.I5 Road safety	Milestone	Signature of contracts for purchase of equipment
201	C8.I6 Sofia metro line 3	Target	Metro line 3 in Sofia
201a	C8.I10 Metro rolling stock	Target	Metro trains
203	C8.I7 Green mobility	Milestone	Zero-emission buses and/or trolleybuses, charging stations, lighting for pedestrian crossings and cycling infrastructure
206a	C8.I8 Equipment and wagons for monitoring or maintenance of railway tracks and overhead lines	Target	Acceptance and/or delivery of equipment and wagons
206b	C8.I9 Renovation of railway infrastructure	Target	Renovation of railway lines, overhead lines and track layout
208	C9.R2 Water supply and sewerage reform	Milestone	Adoption and entry into force of legal act(s) on incentives for consolidation
220	C10.R2 Anti-corruption	Milestone	Members and Chairperson of the Anti-corruption body
226a	C10.R2 Anti-corruption	Milestone	Integrity and anti-corruption measures

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Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
245a	C10.R10 Public Procurement	Milestone	Measures on public procurement
248	C10.R10 Public Procurement	Milestone	Share of procurement procedures with a single bidder and share of negotiated procedures without prior publication
265	C10.I4 Security services	Milestone	Upgrade of security and video surveillance systems and acquisition of police vehicles
270	C10.I6 Trainings and computer configurations for the introduction of building information modelling	Milestone	Trainings on building information modelling and computer configurations for public administration(s)
285a	C10.I12 Digitalisation of the Customs Agency	Milestone	Digitalisation of the Customs Agency
285b	C10.I13 Digitalisation of the National Revenue Agency	Milestone	Digitalisation of the National Revenue Agency
293	C11.I1 Infrastructure works in long-term care establishments	Target	Renovation and/or construction of establishments providing residential care, establishments for provision of accompanying specialized and advisory social services to persons with disabilities, and homes for old people
298	C11.I2 Provision of assisting devices to persons with permanent disabilities	Milestone	Selection of persons with permanent disabilities to receive assisting devices
306	C11.I5 Digital services at the Employment Agency	Milestone	Digital services for the Employment Agency
314	C11.I7 Digitisation of archives	Milestone	Digitised content available on the digital platform, equipment for digitising content delivered
314a	C11.I8 Culture infrastructure	Milestone	Digital equipment
330	C12.I1 Modernisation of hospital facilities	Milestone	Hospital facilities
333	C12.I2 Centres for interventional diagnosis and endovascular treatment of cerebrovascular diseases	Milestone	Centres for cerebrovascular diseases
335	C12.I3 Modernisation of psychiatric care	Milestone	Medical facilities providing psychiatric care
337	C12.I4 Establishment of an air ambulance system	Target	Delivery of helicopters to the air ambulance system
340	C12.I5 National Digital Platform for Medical Diagnostics	Target	Healthcare facilities accessing the National Digital Platform for Medical Diagnostics
345	C12.I7 Development of outpatient care	Milestone	Outpatient care units and/or mobile ambulatory containers
349	C13.R2 Transparency of connection procedures for new renewable and storage capacities	Milestone	Grid hosting capacity map
351	C13.R3 Functioning of the balancing market and demand-response	Milestone	Report by the EWRC
352	C13.I1 Information system on energy poor households and vulnerable customers	Milestone	Information system on energy poor households and vulnerable customers
353	C13.I2 National infrastructure for storage of electricity (RESTORE) (scaled-up)	Target	Electricity storage facilities

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Sequential Number	Related Measure (Reform or Investment)	Milestone / Target	Name
354	C13.I3 Installation of Photovoltaic Systems in Social Services Facilities and Provision of Electric Vehicles	Milestone	Installation of photovoltaic systems and delivery of electric vehicles
357	C13.I4 Support for capacities for electricity generation from renewable sources and electricity storage	Milestone	Electricity storage co-located with capacity of electricity from renewable sources
		Instalment Amount	EUR 1 822 749 755

SECTION 3: ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

1. ARRANGEMENTS FOR MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLAN

The monitoring and implementation of the recovery and resilience plan of Bulgaria shall take place in accordance with the following arrangements:

- *The National Fund Directorate* of the Ministry of Finance shall collect and report data on progress and act as the Authority responsible for preparing and submitting payment requests and receiving payments from the EC. The Directorate shall act as a focal point at national level with regard to the preparation of common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Facility, for carrying out checks and controls on the implementation of investments and reforms, including active monitoring of the progress in implementing the measures on the basis of the milestones and targets set in the RRP.
- *The Economic and Financial Policy Directorate* at the Ministry of Finance shall be responsible for the reporting on the progress in the implementation of the milestones and targets of the Bulgarian RRP within the European Semester cycle.
- *The Central Coordination Unit Directorate* shall be responsible for the development of the Plan, the programming documents, including the allocation of funds under the Facility and the drawing up of a strategic framework for information and communication activities in relation to the implementation of the Plan. The Directorate shall be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the milestones and targets of the Plan, including progress on common indicators, green and digital contribution of investments etc. The Directorate shall also be responsible for the setting up of the information system with all the functionalities required for the monitoring of the implementation of the Bulgarian RRP as well as for the further upgrades to the Unified Management Information System.
- *The Executive Agency "Audit of EU Funds"*, attached to the Minister of Finance, shall carry out the audit work under the Facility in order to provide assurance on the reliability of the data on the implementation of the milestones and objectives and the way in which they are collected, as well as assurance that the implementation ensures that double funding, fraud, corruption and conflict of interest are prevented and the principle of sound financial management is respected.

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