

Brussels, 3.11.2021 C(2021) 7974 final

# **COMMISSION DECISION**

of 3.11.2021

on the award of project development assistance under the Innovation Fund - call for small-scale projects  $\,$ 

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# on the award of project development assistance under the Innovation Fund – call for small-scale projects

## THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/856 of 26 February 2019 supplementing Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the operation of the Innovation Fund<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 13(2) thereof,

### Whereas:

- (1) In the framework of the Innovation Fund, in accordance with Commission Decision C(2020) 4352<sup>2</sup>, the first call for small-scale projects (InnovFund-SSC-2020-single-stage) was published on 1 December 2020 with a deadline of 10 March 2021.
- (2) In response to this call, the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency ('CINEA') received 232 applications covering all eligible sectors and all Member States of the European Union, Iceland and Norway. CINEA evaluated the applications in accordance with Article 200 of the Financial Regulation as well as the provisions of Article 12 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/856 and of the call.
- (3) Following the evaluation, from the proposals, which were rejected for grant award, CINEA drew up a list of 13 proposals pre-selected for project development assistance. The proposals included in that list met the minimum requirements under greenhouse gas emissions avoidance and degree of innovation criteria and were awarded at least 50% of total points under the project maturity criterion. CINEA considered that the proposals could improve their maturity through specific project development assistance under the Innovation Fund.
- (4) CINEA communicated the list of proposals pre-selected for project development assistance to the European Investment Bank ('the EIB') for further assessment in line with the rules set out in the Agreement between the European Union and the EIB<sup>3</sup>. Following assessment, the EIB drew up the final list of 10 proposals selected to receive project development assistance.
- (5) The Commission consulted the Member States on the list of proposals selected for project development assistance and the maximum amount of the Innovation Fund support made available for project development assistance in accordance with points (a) and (c) of Article 21(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/856.

Commission Decision C(2020) 4352 of 2 July 2020 on the activities related to the Innovation Fund, serving as a financing decision and as a decision launching the first call for proposals in 2020.

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OJ L 140, 28.5.2019, p. 6.

Commission Decision C(2021)2100 of 6.4.2021 on the Agreement between the European Union and the European Investment Bank in respect of the project development assistance under the Innovation Fund established by Article 10a(8) of Directive 2003/87/EC.

- (6) This Decision concerns the proposals selected for the project development assistance.
- (7) Through Commission Decision C(2021) 4677 of 30 June 2021, the decision to award the project development assistance was delegated to the Director General of DG Climate Action of the European Commission,
- (8) In accordance with point (c) of Article 18 of the Delegated Regulation, through Decision C(2020) 4352 of 2 July 2020, the Commission delegated the implementation of the project development assistance to the European Investment Bank.
- (9) The proposals listed in the Annex should therefore be awarded project development assistance,

# HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

#### Article 1

The proposals listed in the Annex are awarded project development assistance amounting to a total sum of maximum EUR 1 700 000.

Done at Brussels, 3.11.2021

For the Commission Mauro Raffaele Petriccione Director-General Directorate-General for Climate Action