

GRANTS, WARRANTY SCHEMES AND  
SUPPORT PROGRAMS  
Romania 2020-2027

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*Grants for investments and economic reconversion for SMEs - budget: 550 million euros*

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I. Objective: Granting grants for the reconversion of SMEs' activities, but also for making the necessary investments in the economy. The value of the scheme is 550,000,000 - 415,870,000 euros from non-reimbursable external funds, 62,380,500 co-financing from the state budget and 71,740,000 euros own co-financing provided by the beneficiaries of the financing.

II. Grant value: 50,000 euros - 200,000 euros

III. Co-financing: 15% of the state budget, 15% own co-financing.

Investment projects can be financed in complementarity with bank loans, in which case the project will have an additional bonus.

IV. Indicative areas for investment in production (excluding non-agricultural production):

- Food industry;
- Auto industry;
- Energy and energy efficiency equipment;
- Tourism;
- Constructions, construction materials;
- Transport services;
- Repair and maintenance services;
- Body care and maintenance services;
- Metal / wood constructions;
- Textile / leather garments;
- Pharmaceutical industry and medical equipment;
- Education services: nurseries, kindergartens;
- Health services: medical offices, medical equipment, medical devices;
- Creative industries;
- Construction;
- Information technology and artificial intelligence;
- Nanotechnologies and cutting-edge technologies;
- Equipment, machinery, production technologies.

V. Beneficiaries: SMEs and entities assimilated to SMEs

VI. Grant conditions:

- Operational activity of at least 1 year;
- Operating profit in one of the last two financial years;
- To ensure the sustainability of the project for at least 3 years after the expiration of the duration of
- project implementation;
- To achieve at least 50% of the value of the planned revenues within the cost-benefit analysis in the first two years of activity after the expiration of the project implementation period; Co-financing of at least 15% of the project value;
- Not to have outstanding budget obligations.

VII. Categories of financed expenses: expenses with the realization / acquisition of constructions, purchase of equipment, machinery, technologies, independent endowments, office furniture and specific furniture, expenses with land acquisition maximum 10% of the project value, consultancy expenses, and design, management project, technical assistance, site management, systematization and land use planning costs, environmental costs, utility connection costs, accessibility costs, promotion costs, participation in fairs, events, conferences, study expenses, expenses on intellectual property rights as well as any other categories of expenditure related to the investment project for the expansion of existing production capacity as well as for the expansion of service provision.

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*Investment grants for micro-enterprises - budget: EUR 117 million and additional funds through outsourcing: EUR 130 million*

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I. Name: SME Grants Axis 2.1

II. Objective: Strengthen the market position of micro-enterprises in the competitive areas identified in the National Competitiveness Strategy and Regional Development Plans.

III. Allocated budget: EUR 117 million and additional funds, through outsourcing, for the reserve list - EUR 130 million ERDF

IV. Source of funding (European funds, budget): ERDF

V. Development period (validity of the scheme): 2020 - 2023

VI. Beneficiary: micro-enterprises in the competitive fields identified in the National Competitiveness Strategy and Regional Development Plans.

VII. Description: Eligible investments under this call: Construction, modernization, expansion of production / service space; Endowment with tangible and intangible assets, including online trading tools

The eligible value of a project is between 25,000 euros and 200,000 euros. The beneficiary's contribution to the project is at least 10% of the eligible value of the project.

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Grants to increase the competitiveness of SMEs - budget (initial allocation and outsourcing): EUR 450 million

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- I. Objective: Improving economic competitiveness by increasing labor productivity in SMEs in the competitive sectors identified in the National Competitiveness Strategy.
- II. Allocated budget: EUR 450 million (outsourcing)
- III. Source of funding (European funds, budget): ERDF and state budget
- IV. Deployment period (validity of the scheme): 2020 - 2023
- V. Beneficiary: SMEs in the competitive sectors identified in the National Competitiveness Strategy.
- VI. Description: The aim is to support the development of SMEs in order to improve their advanced product and service development capacities, with a view to increasing the competitiveness of regional and national economies.

In this sense, SMEs that are interested in finding an optimal growth model are considered, both in the sense of moving to another dimension category, and in the sense of developing the activity carried out, in order to increase the size of the target market (local market to become regional, national or international).

Investments eligible under this call: Investments eligible for regional state aid:

Construction, modernization, expansion of the production / service space Endowment with tangible and intangible assets, including online marketing tools Investments financed by de minimis aid: implementation of the certification / recertification process of products, services or various specific processes, management systems of quality, environment or health, internationalization (participation at international level, outside Romania, in fairs, trade missions, exhibitions, as an exhibitor).

The project proposed in the financing application must necessarily include investments in tangible assets (construction / extension / endowment with tangible assets) financed by regional state aid.

The eligible value of a project is between 200,000 euros and 1,000,000 euros.

For investments eligible for regional state aid, the beneficiary's contribution to the project depends on the intensities established by the state aid regulations, namely Regulation (EU) no. Commission Regulation (EC) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market pursuant to Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty.

For investments eligible for de minimis aid, the beneficiary's contribution to the project shall be at least 10% of the eligible de minimis value of the project.

The calls are competitive, the funding being granted according to the score obtained (all submitted projects are evaluated).

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*Grants for the development of SMEs by financing large investments - budget (initial allocation and outsourcing): 550 million euros*

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I. Objectives: to improve economic competitiveness by increasing labor productivity in SMEs in the competitive sectors identified in the National Competitiveness Strategy.

II. Allocated budget: 150 million euros (total budget from over-contracting - 550 million euros).

III. Source of funding (European funds, budget): ERDF and state budget.

IV. Deployment period (validity of the scheme): 2020 - 2023

V. Beneficiary: SMEs in the competitive sectors identified in the National Competitiveness Strategy.

VI. Description: The investments eligible under this call are investments financed by regional state aid: Construction, modernization, expansion of the production / service space Endowment with tangible, intangible assets. Modernization works can only be considered eligible insofar as they relate to an initial investment. The provisions of Regulation (EU) no. Commission Regulation (EC) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market pursuant to Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty. The call is competitive, the funding being awarded according to the score obtained (all submitted projects are evaluated). The amount of the grant awarded is a minimum of EUR 2 million and a maximum of EUR 6 million.

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*Grants for the digitization of SMEs - budget: 150 million euros*

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I. Objective: to support activities aimed at digitizing the activity of companies, especially companies with production activity aimed at providing IT equipment, the use of electronic signatures, broadband connection, the purchase of standardized and customized software, automation of industrial equipment, automation technological flows, etc.

II. The value of the call for projects: EUR 100 million, with the possibility of additional funding of up to approximately EUR 150 million, depending on the number of applications.

III. The value of the grants awarded: 30,000 euros - 100,000 euros / project

IV. Source of funding: EU funds - JOP, Priority Axis 2 and co-financing from the state budget

V. Estimated number of beneficiaries: 1,100 companies

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*State aid scheme for new investments (greenfield) - budget: 1.5 billion lei annually*

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I. Objective: To stimulate and attract new investments with a major impact on the economy by financing the realization of investment projects, including greenfield investments. This state aid scheme finances state and intangible assets related to the investment project with state aid. Granting state aid for regional development by supporting investments in high-tech fixed assets, for the realization of high value-added products.

II. Allocated budget: 1.5 billion lei (for 2020); annually, until 2023 the budget will be allocated by the State Budget Law

III. Source of financing: State budget

IV. Deployment period (validity of the scheme): until 31.12.2020, extended until 2023 (currently the European Commission has launched for consultation a proposal to extend the validity of the European regulation on the basis of which this state aid scheme is developed, respectively until 2023).

V. Scope: undertakings in all sectors of activity except those provided for in Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 651/2014 (steel sector, coal sector, shipbuilding sector, synthetic fibers sector, etc.).

VI. Beneficiaries: Enterprises carrying out new investment projects, including greenfield investments, investments with a major impact on the economy

VII. Estimated number of beneficiaries: 150

VIII. Description: The Ministry of Public Finance is currently implementing the state aid scheme through GD no. 807/2014 for the establishment of a state aid scheme aimed at stimulating and attracting new investments with major impact on the economy, which finances the implementation of investment projects, including greenfield investments. This state aid scheme finances state and intangible assets related to the investment project with state aid. At the same time, given the current economic context generated by the coronavirus pandemic, the Ministry of Public Finance is considering modifying this state aid scheme in order to make it more flexible and increase the accessibility to state aid financing of investments made by enterprises.

Method of granting: non-reimbursable amounts, from the MFF budget, within the maximum level of state aid and the maximum intensity allowed, as follows:

Regiunea	2014-2017		2018-2020	
	Nivelul maxim al ajutorului de stat	Intensitate maxim admisă	Nivelul maxim al ajutorului de stat	Intensitate maxim admisă
București (NUTS3 RO 321)	11,25 milioane euro	15%	7,5 milioane euro	10%
Regiunea Vest (NUTS2 RO 42) și Ilfov (NUTS3 RO 322)	26,25 milioane euro	35%	26,25 milioane euro	35%
Regiunile Nord-Vest, Centru, Nord-Est, Sud-Est, Sud-Muntenia, Sud-Vest Oltenia	37,5 milioane euro	50%	37,5 milioane euro	50%



Total initial investment value (excluding VAT): minimum 4.5 million lei (~ 1 million euros)

Eligible eligible costs: construction of new buildings; rental of existing buildings; the acquisition of tangible assets (new technical installations, machines and equipment); the acquisition of intangible assets (patents, licenses, know-how or other intellectual property rights).

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State aid scheme to support investments that promote regional development -  
budget: 450 million lei annually

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I. Objective: Granting state aid in the form of grants for regional development, through investments that create new jobs

II. Scope and beneficiaries: enterprises in all sectors of activity except those provided for in Regulation (EU) No 182/2011. 651/2014 (steel sector, coal sector, shipbuilding sector, synthetic fibers sector, etc.)

III. Duration of the scheme: 2014 - 2020 for the issuance of financing agreements (in sessions), until 2025 for the payment of state aid based on the issued agreements.

IV. The budget of the scheme: annually 450 million lei

V. Estimated number of beneficiaries: 1,700 enterprises / 35,000 jobs

VI. Method of granting: Non-reimbursable amounts, from the MFF budget, paid after the creation of jobs and the realization of eligible expenses within the maximum level of state aid and the maximum allowable intensity, as follows:

Regiunea	2014-2017		2018-2020	
	Nivelul maxim al ajutorului de stat	Intensitate maxim admisă	Nivelul maxim al ajutorului de stat	Intensitate maxim admisă
București	11,25 milioane euro	15%	7,5 milioane euro	10%
Regiunea Vest și Ilfov	26,25 milioane euro	35%	26,25 milioane euro	35%
Regiunile Nord-Vest, Centru, Nord-Est, Sud-Est, Sud-Muntenia, Sud-Vest Oltenia	37,5 milioane euro	50%	37,5 milioane euro	50%