

European Regional Development Fund 2021-2027 “Boosting and Attract investment”

Action I.1iii.4 Attraction and boost of Investment propensity

Call Opening: 5 October at 9.00 am

Call Closing: 28 June at 12.00 pm

Call A)

Objective

To boost and attract productive investment on the regional territory and incentivize the employment.

Eligible beneficiaries:

- SMEs (Annex I – Regulation (EU) No 651/2014)
- Small Mid Cap and Mid Cap (Regulation (EU) No 2015/1017) ¹ from now on “Mid Cap”)

Mandatory eligibility requirements

- Undertaking shall not be in difficulty according to the Regulation (EU) No 651/2014
- At least 2 years of enrollment to Companies Register and one financial statements approved;
- Recipient local branch in the Piedmont territory. The local branch should be registered by the date of the loan financing and activate by the grant payment date.
- Economic activity shall not be excluded (Annex 4 of the Call).
- Undertaking shall not be subject to insolvency proceedings or fulfils the criteria for being placed in insolvency proceedings under the domestic law.
- Undertaking shall not be in the condition of pay back to Finpiemonte or Regione Piemonte sums related to previously aids.
- Transparency: trustee companies and/or foreign companies as shareholders must provide all the information and documentation in accordance with transparency principle and for the purpose of the SMEs definition.

¹ Small mid cap: entities having up to 499 employees (AWU) that are not SMEs
Mid cap Entities: having up to 3 000 employees (AWU) that are not SMEs

Eligible projects

- Foreign undertakings that intend to realize an new economic activity in Piedmont;
- Re-shoring of undertakings that intend to realize an new economic activity in Piedmont;
- Local undertakings that intend to invest in new establishment, the extension of an existing establishment (meaning not only but also extension of the productive surface), diversification of the output of an establishment into new additional products.

“Do no significant harm’ and “climate proofing of infrastructure” principles are applied.

Mandatory minimum hiring (Annex I art. 5 – Regulation (EU) No 651/2014)

Micro undertaking	Small undertaking	Medium undertaking	Mid cap undertaking
+ 1 AWU	+ 2 AWU	+ 3 AWU	+ 5 AWU

Non-eligible projects

- R&D projects and activities;
- Mandatory investments according to the domestic law;
- export-related activities towards third countries or Member States, namely aid directly linked to the quantities exported, to the establishment and operation of a distribution network or to other current costs linked to the export activity;
- business relocation²;
- activities excluded by art. 258 TFEU;
- lack of respect of “do no significant harm’ and “climate proofing of infrastructure” principles;

Minimum investment:

- Micro and Small undertaking: 150.000,00 €
- Medium undertaking: 300.000,00 €
- Mid cap undertaking: 750.000,00 €

Incentive effect

Written application for the aid shall be submitted before work on the project or activity starts³.

Eligible costs

- 1 Purchase of material assets:** machineries, plant, equipment, software, hardware, green vehicles, zero emission vehicles. Solar panels are eligible in the limit 20% of total eligible costs.
- 2 Cost of installation of material assets** in the limit of 20% of eligible costs of voice 1.
- 3 Purchase of Intellectual property** in the limit of 10% of total eligible costs.
- 4 Cost of project planning and development** meaning technical external costs strictly related to the project implementation, in the limit of 20% of total eligible costs. Feasibilities studies can be activated previously the aid request and not beyond 7 October 2022.
- 5 Purchase of land meaning derelict sites and sites formerly in industrial use** which comprise buildings, in the limit of 15% of total eligible costs.
- 6 Purchase of buildings** with productive destination.

² In accordance with Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 651/2014

³ Definition 29 of the Regulation (UE) n. 651/2014

7 Costs for construction and building renovation.

The sum of costs 5,6,7 shall not exceed the limit of 50% of total eligible costs.

Non-eligible costs:

- VAT
- Smartphones, tablet, laptops
- Assets with individual costs lower than € 500
- In leasing or secondhand Assets
- Materials, supplies and similar products
- Work involving direct labour
- Work involving third parties in conflict of interest
- Costs for mandatory certifications
- Ordinary maintenance

Project duration: 24 months

Aid characteristics

Combination of financial instrument with grant in a single operation:

SMEs

Loan up to 100% of eligible costs: 70% 0 interest rate (public fund) 30% bank interest rate. Payment prior investment implementation.

Grant: residual amount of gross grant equivalent net of the loan aid.⁴ Payment after investment implementation.

Mid cap

Loan up to 100% of eligible costs: 70% 0 interest rate (public fund) 30% bank interest rate. Payment prior investment implementation.

Bonus for grant definition - Exclusively applicable to PMI

Grant amount can be increased by 1 or 2 point percent in case of possession of the following characteristics:

- Legality rating according to domestic law
- Gender equality certification
- Relevance of feminine/youth shareholders
- EMS certification
- ESG rating
- Recovery of derelict sites

⁴ (Maximum gross grant equivalent – gross grant equivalent of the loan) = grant available

Aid scheme

		Micro and small			Medium			Mid cap
Project	Reg. (UE) 651/2014	Max % G	Max% G + bonus	Max% aid (L+G)	Max % G	Max% G + bonus	Max% aid (L+G)	Max% L
Investment (out of assisted areas)	Art. 17	10%	12%	20%	5%	5%	10%	Under Regulation – de minimis
Investment in assisted areas 107.3.c	Art. 14	15%	17%	27%	10%	12%	22%	15%

How to submit the application

Online application : <https://servizi.regione.piemonte.it/catalogo/bandi-por-fesr-finanziamentidomande>

Mandatory annex to application:

- Technical- economical Report (Annex 6 of the Call)
- Quotations proving at least the 70% of total eligible costs
- Bank loan document
- Cadastral certificates (in case of purchase of lands and or buildings)

Non-mandatory annex to application

Documentation proving possession of bonus elements.

Evaluation process:

Eligibility check by Finpiemonte

Merit evaluation by Technical Committee (according to Annex 5 of the Call)

Main reporting aspects

Final reporting within 60 days the end of project implementation

Final reporting documents:

- Technical report;
- Expenses documentation according to the “guidelines PR FESR Piemonte 2021/2027”.

Invoices should contain the CUP (Unique Project Code) provided by Finpiemonte during the administrative process.

Call B

Objective

To support the employment resulting from the initiative financed by Call A.

Eligible beneficiaries:

SMEs (Annex I – Regulation (EU) No 651/2014) that have already submitted the application for Call A.

Eligible draft budget

In accordance with Call A, SMEs are requested to activate the following minimum hiring

Micro undertaking	Small undertaking	Medium
+ 1 AWU	+ 2 AWU	+ 3 AWU

Draft budget on hiring (annex 4 of Call B) shall report the minimum hiring and the prospective additional hiring.

Unit cost per AWU shall not exceed € 25.000

Total cost shall not exceed €200.000.

Project duration

Hiring must be finalized by the ending date of project financed by Call A

Aid characteristics

Grant up to 100% of total Cost, in accordance with available *de minimis* plafond

How to submit the application

Online application : <https://servizi.regione.piemonte.it/catalogo/bandi-por-fesr-finanziamentidomande>

Application shall be submitted within 7 working days from the application of Call A.

Mandatory annex:

- Draft budget

Evaluation process:

Eligibility check by Finpiemonte

Merit evaluation by a technical Committee.

Successful evaluation on Call A is a necessary but not sufficient condition for a positive evaluation on Call B.

Main reporting aspects

Final reporting within 60 days the end of project implementation

Final reporting documents:

- Employment contracts
- Technical report
- Documentation proving the AWU at the end of the project.