

Equipment and Machinery SME Grant Scheme

Business success is dependent on the ability of the enterprise to focus **investment** towards **expansion and innovation**. Such investment can be aimed at expanding, diversifying, and/or innovating the operations, and by supporting initial investments.



The **Equipment and Machinery SME Grant Scheme** seeks to support Undertakings through the provision of assistance in the form of **nonrepayable Grants** to part-finance **investment in equipment and machinery** aimed at directly improving the productivity of the enterprise.

This Scheme is demand driven and managed through an open rolling call which opens on **1st February 2023**.

Maximum Grant and Aid Intensity

This scheme is funded through the European Regional Development Fund and will part-finance **50%** of the eligible costs with a **minimum** funding amount of **€10,000** and **maximum** funding amount of **€120,000** per operation. Investments in **Gozo** will benefit from an **additional 10%** aid intensity.

The aid value for the identified eligible expenditure shall be reimbursed through the application of actual cost incurred and paid and capped at the value of the cheapest quotation submitted with the application or the invoice amount, whichever is the lowest. The Grant amount that a single Undertaking may receive shall depend on the application for and receipt of **de minimis aid** by the single undertaking over any period of three fiscal years.

Implementation

Operations should be concluded within **3 months** from the **Grant Agreement**. The board may consider extensions up to the closing date of the Scheme, upon the express request of the Beneficiary, when justified.

Eligible Actions and Expenditure

This Grant Scheme seeks to support SMEs in undertaking investment in equipment and machinery. Such investment will only be considered as eligible if it is considered as directly **contributing to improving the productivity of the enterprise**. Exclusions shall be in line with the ERDF regulation and applicable state aid regulations.

This article reflects the guidelines published by Measures and Support Division, Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs as at 26 January 2023.

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