



4th Meeting

Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds on the Programming Period 2014-2021

MINUTES

16 March 2023

The 4th Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds 2014 – 2021 in Cyprus was held on the 16th of March 2023, in Nicosia. The participants at the meeting were:

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| 1. | Ms Bryndis Kjartansdottir | Embassy of Iceland in Sweden |
| 2. | Mr. Christian Grotnes Halvorsen | Norwegian Embassy in Athens |
| 3. | Ms Maria Fola | Norwegian Embassy in Athens |
| 4. | Ms Katrine Steinfeld | Financial Mechanism Office - FMO |
| 5. | Ms Lina Marcinkutė | Financial Mechanism Office - FMO |
| 6. | Mr. George Panteli | DG Growth, Ministry of Finance |
| 7. | Ms Ioanna Kleanthous | DG Growth, Ministry of Finance |
| 8. | Ms Leda Skordelli | DG Growth, Ministry of Finance |
| 9. | Ms Myranda Toumazou | DG Growth, Ministry of Finance |
| 10. | Mr. Kyriacos Xylaris | DG Growth, Ministry of Finance |
| 11. | Ms Christa Liassi | Ministry of Foreign Affairs |

1. Main topics of the agenda

- Presentation of the status update on the pre-defined bilateral initiatives.
- Discussion on any other issues raised.

2. Status update on the pre-defined bilateral initiatives

(a) Completed bilateral initiatives

Four out of the 8 approved bilateral initiatives have been completed, namely:

- (i) “How to best implement the UNSCR 1325 in Cyprus”, with a total cost of €1.747,75.
- (ii) “Assessment of climate change effects on pollution transport in Cyprus, ACCEPT, with a total cost of €14.000.
- (iii) The Green Pivot: Cyprus and the regional energy market. An overview of the parameters placing Cyprus at the heart of national and regional interconnected market, with a total cost of €70.000.
- (iv) Support of Ukrainian Refugees, with a total cost of €48.987.

The completion of all four initiatives was registered in Grace.

(b) On-going Bilateral Initiatives

Four other approved bilateral initiatives are either on-going or they are about to start their activities. An update on their progress was presented at the JCBF (the presentation is attached as **ANNEX 1**). These are:

- (i) “Epidemiology of asbestos cancer in Cyprus and biomarker discovery” (Budget: €20.000) – to be completed in May 2023.
- (ii) “New infrastructure for diagnosis and treatment of patients” (Budget: €20.000) – to be completed in May 2023.
- (iii) Development of an Information & Collaboration Centre for Young and Female Entrepreneurs (Budget: €35.400) – It will start by May 2023.
- (iv) Multidisciplinary management through mutual training and study visits for Domestic Violence (Budget: €20.000) – the reply from the bilateral partner is awaited to set the plan for the cooperation.

3. Main conclusions

- All funds have been committed.
- Four out of the 8 approved bilateral initiatives have been completed by 2022.
- Two initiatives are expected to be completed by May 2023.
- One initiative is planned to start by May 2023.
- One initiative is awaiting a reply from a bilateral partner to set the plan for the cooperation.
- If there will be any savings from the bilateral initiatives, these could be used for the Ukrainian refugees in line with the discussions at the 3rd JCBF meeting (15 March 2022). A written procedure will be used to obtain the JCBF member’s approval.