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ANNEX

ANNEX

*to the*

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**on the adoption of the multiannual work programme for 2023 and 2024 for the  
implementation of veterinary programmes for animal diseases and zoonoses and  
phytosanitary programmes for plant pests**

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**ANNEX**  
**WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE YEARS 2023-2024 FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF**  
**VETERINARY AND PHYTOSANITARY PROGRAMMES**

**INTRODUCTION**

This work programme implements the specific objective of contributing to a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain and in related areas. The work programme is subject to a positive opinion by the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed established by Article 58(1) of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002.

On the basis of the objectives specified in the Article 3(2)(e) of the Single Market Programme, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for 2023-2024, as follows:

- 1) for grants (implemented under direct management) (point 2)

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Indicative amount for 2023</b>	<b>Indicative amount for 2024</b>
Grants	127 000 000	127 000 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>127 000 000</b>	<b>127 000 000</b>

**1.1. Legal basis**

Regulation (EU) No 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the Programme for single market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, and European statistics and repealing Regulations (EU) No 99/2013, (EU) No 1287/2013, (EU) No 254/2014, (EU) No 652/2014 (Single Market Programme) in particular Annex I thereof.

**1.2. Budget line**

03.0206

**1.3. Objectives pursued**

As laid down in Article (3)(2)(e) of the Single Market Programme, the general objective is to contribute to a high level of health for humans, animals and plants, and the safety of food and feed, including by preventing, detecting and eradicating animal diseases and plant pests, including by means of emergency measures in the event of large-scale crisis situations and unforeseeable events affecting animal or plant health, supporting the improvement of the welfare of animals, the fight against antimicrobial resistance and the development of sustainable food production and consumption as well as by stimulating the exchange of best practices between stakeholders in those fields.

**1.4. Expected results**

The results expected by the Commission, and covered by this work programme, are the correct implementation of the actions described in Annex I (2) and (3) of the Single Market Programme, namely:

- Implementation of veterinary and phytosanitary programmes, including activities for the control of pests in the outermost regions which are excluded from the territorial scope of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031

## 2. GRANTS

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is **EUR 127 000 000** for the year 2023 and **EUR 127 000 000** for the year 2024.

List of grants for 2023 and 2024:

Action	Indicative date of launch for	Indicative amount for 2023 (in EUR)	Indicative amount for 2024 (in EUR)
Implementation of veterinary programmes for 2023-2024.	1 <sup>st</sup> semester 2023	107 000 000	107 000 000
Implementation of Phytosanitary programmes for 2023-2024.	1 <sup>st</sup> semester 2023	20 000 000	20 000 000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>127 000 000</b>	<b>127 000 000</b>

### 2.1. Implementation of veterinary programmes for 2023-2024.

#### 2.1.1. *Type of applicants targeted by the direct award*

The grants shall be awarded to the Competent Authorities of the Member States or third countries. As provided for in Article 10(1)(g)(i) of the Single Market Programme, these authorities are considered to be designated beneficiaries within the meaning of Article 195(c) of the Financial Regulation.

Based on Article 9.6 (a) of the Single Market Programme, grants can be awarded to third countries<sup>1</sup>. The implementing authority should favour direct signature of grant agreements with the competent authorities of these countries, in order to, when possible, have one grant agreement per third country concerned.

#### 2.1.2. *Legal basis*

Regulation (EU) 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April (Single Market Programme), and in particular Annex I thereof.

#### 2.1.3. *Budget line*

03.0206

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<sup>1</sup> According to Article 9.6 SMP, third countries are only eligible for the following actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(e):

- (a) protection measures taken in the case of a direct threat to the status of health in the Union as a result of the occurrence or development, in the territory of a third country or a Member State, of one of the animal diseases and zoonoses listed in Annex III or plant pests listed in the work programme referred to in Article 16;
- (b) protection measures or other relevant activities, taken in support of the health status of plants in the Union.

Except in the case of animal diseases and plant pests that have a substantial impact on the Union, in principle, third countries that are not associated to the Programme should finance their own participation in the actions referred to in the first subparagraph.

#### 2.1.4. Description of the action

Programmes for the eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonoses ('veterinary programmes') have been co-financed by the Union for many years and have unequivocally contributed to the improvement of both animal and human health (as programmes against zoonoses are also covered) within the Union.

There is a need to ensure continuity in the implementation of the veterinary programmes, taking into account the important achievements resulting from the EU long-term engagement and legal obligations for the Member States in this area, the current and future challenges and the globalisation of threats.

In particular, there is a need:

- a) **To further focus on:** protection, surveillance, preparedness, and early reaction against animal diseases.
- b) **To maintain effort:**
  - to control the prevalence of an animal disease or zoonosis below a sanitary acceptable level/set target (e.g. *Salmonella* infection of poultry flocks), by implementing relevant measures,
  - to eradicate diseases in order to consolidate the results already achieved and capitalise the budget already spent in the past years to achieve the eradication, when feasible in short time (e.g. rabies, bovine brucellosis, sheep and goat brucellosis).

The following criteria have been taken into account for deciding the eligibility of veterinary programmes for EU co-funding:

- prevention of major epidemics (e.g. avian influenza and African swine fever ) or zoonoses (e.g. *Salmonella* infections and rabies),
- direct impact on human health,
- mandatory measures under EU legislation (Regulation (EU) 2016/429 on transmissible animal diseases),
- consolidation of the EU animal health situation.

The veterinary programmes to be implemented in 2023 and 2024 should be linked to the main actions and related measures described above and the concerned diseases prioritised accordingly.

#### **PRIORITIES FOR THE YEARS 2023-2024**

The list of animal diseases and zoonoses which qualify for EU financial contribution is set out in Annex III of the Single Market Programme. According to the above criteria, the current Union epidemiological situation and the most immediate risks, 11 diseases have been identified for which veterinary programmes may be co-funded for the years 2023 and 2024. Those diseases have been divided into 2 groups and are the following:

**Group 1: diseases with major impact on animal health, and/or human health, on trade and/or likely at risk to be introduced into the Union territory from third countries.**

- African swine fever;
- Avian influenza in poultry and wild birds;
- *Salmonella* infection of certain poultry populations;
- Rabies.

**Group 2: diseases with limited impact on animal health and/or human health and/or close to eradication, where possible:**

- transmissible spongiform encephalopathies;
- bovine brucellosis;
- ovine and caprine brucellosis ;
- classical swine fever;
- lumpy skin disease;
- peste des petits ruminants;
- sheep and goat pox.

In addition to the diseases mentioned in group 2 and as transitional measure, the bovine tuberculosis eradication actions may remain eligible for EU funding only for programmes already cofinanced before 2021. Such EU funding may not exceed 2023.

NB: veterinary programmes for aquaculture diseases may also be EU cofinanced but as for previous years, the management of these programmes would be split between DG SANTE (technical assessment) and DG MARE (financial aspects). These programmes will not have an impact on the budget available to DG SANTE for veterinary programmes.

**Budget prioritisation :**

All the diseases listed in the two groups are expected to be co-funded. However, taking into account the limited budget available for 2023 and 2024 , the following funding priorities will apply:

- the budget available will be allocated in priority to group 1 diseases.
- as regards group 2 diseases, the cofinancing rates will be decreased, and the phasing out of the funding of bovine tuberculosis programmes co-financed before 2021, initiated in 2018 will continue.

This will be reflected in the co financing rates defined below.

**ELIGIBLE COSTS**

The costs incurred by the Member States and Third Countries in implementing the veterinary programmes, and listed in point 2.2.1 of Annex I of the Single Market Programme may qualify for grants.

Priority should be granted to costs related to measures, compulsory according to the EU legislation, and limited to the quantity/number ensuring the implementation of EU minimum requirements (when available).

*2.1.5. Objective*

Part of the objective described in Article 3 (2) (e) of the Single Market Programme Regulation is to contribute to a high level of health and safety for humans and animals, including by preventing, detecting and eradicating animal diseases. The implementation of the veterinary programmes by the Member States, and also in some third countries will contribute to achieve this objective.

The **operational** objectives are to contribute to:

- preventing the introduction or re-introduction of transboundary diseases in the Union ;

- enhancing surveillance, as appropriate for the early detection of disease outbreaks in order to control and eradicate them effectively without delay when feasible or, at least to contain them;
- controlling certain animal diseases and/or zoonosis, by implementing specific measures to reach or maintain their prevalence below an acceptable sanitary level or fixed target;
- for certain animal diseases, reducing steadily the key epidemiological indicators such as prevalence and incidence in the relevant animal populations and achieving disease eradication where feasible.

#### 2.1.6. *Expected results*

The results, as expected by the Commission by the end of 2024, are as follows:

- a) African swine fever, combined with emergency measures, when implemented:
  - prevention, where possible, of the spread of the disease in the Member States concerned and to Member States which are currently not infected and
  - reduction, where possible, or, at least, stabilisation of the number of outbreaks in domestic pigs within each of the affected Member States;
- b) avian influenza:
  - early detection of the virus in poultry and wild birds in the Union through surveillance programmes;
- c) zoonotic *Salmonella*:
  - increase of the number of Member States where *Salmonella* prevalence is below Union targets in all relevant poultry populations;
- d) rabies:
  - no cases in wild animals in the Union;
- e) transmissible spongiform encephalopathies:
  - maintaining the number of classical BSE cases in the Union at a very low level (below five cases per year for all EU Member States);
  - increase the number of Member States with a negligible BSE risk;
  - decrease the number of index cases of classical scrapie in sheep and goats in the EU;
- f) bovine, ovine and caprine brucellosis:
  - decrease of the herd prevalence and incidence in the Member States with a EU co-funded eradication programme and
  - increase of the number of Member States free from the disease.
- g) classical swine fever:
  - No cases of CSF in wild boar
  - No outbreaks in domestic pigs in the Union.
- h) lumpy skin disease, peste des petits ruminants, sheep and goat pox :
  - No outbreaks in the Union.

For bovine tuberculosis (results expected at the end of 2023):

- decrease of the herd prevalence and incidence in the Member States with an EU co-funded eradication programme and
- increase of the number of Member States and regions thereof free from the disease.

#### 2.1.7. *Implementation*

Implemented by HaDEA.

#### 2.1.8. *EU co-financing rate*

According to Article 12(5) of the Single Market Programme, the general rate for grants shall be 50% of the eligible costs and shall be increased to 75% of the eligible costs in respect of:

- a) Cross-border activities implemented together by two or more Member States in order to control, prevent or eradicate pests or animal diseases.

The potential application this point will depend on the programme submitted. How Member States will cooperate should be clearly described in the programme.

- b) Member States whose gross national income per inhabitant based on the latest Eurostat data is less than 90% of the Union average.

The rate shall be increased to 100% of the eligible costs where the activities benefitting from the Union contribution concern the prevention and control of serious human, plant and animal health risks for the Union, and:

- a) are designed to avoid human casualties or major economic disruptions for the Union as a whole;
- b) are implemented in third countries.

In accordance with Article 12(5)(c) of the Single Market Programme, where that is necessary on the grounds of budgetary unavailability, insufficient implementation of the programme, or the phasing-out of the co-financing of actions against animal diseases the co-financing rates shall be lower. The amount of the reduction in the co-financing rates shall reflect the significance of the grounds for a lower rate. The Commission shall adopt implementing acts establishing lower co-financing rates. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with Article 21(6) of the Single Market Programme.

Accordingly, and taking into account the limited budget available in 2023 and 2024, the budget available will be allocated in priority to group 1 diseases. Therefore, the co-financing rates for these diseases will remain at 50% or 75%. The cofinancing rates applied for the group 2 diseases will be decreased from 50%/75% to 30/45% except for bovine tuberculosis programmes already co-financed before 2021. The co-funding rate of these bovine tuberculosis programmes and for which a phasing out was initiated in 2018, is set at 10/15% in 2023.

If despite these cofinancing rates, the funding requests exceed the budget available, the co-financing rates for group 2 diseases will be reduced by the number of points necessary to fit with the total budget available (EUR 107 000 000).

Conversely, if the funding requests do not reach the available budget, an increase of the co-financing rate for group 2 diseases may apply, provided the maximum budget available is not exceeded and the co-financing rates do not exceed those of group 1 diseases i.e. 50% and 75%.

The adjustment of the cofinancing rates of group 2 diseases shall be initially performed at the time of the initial allocation, based on the requests of the Member States presented in their initial programme application, and then re evaluated based on the requests of the Member States formulated in their intermediate reports (as defined in the last paragraph of part 2.1 of Annex I to the Regulation (EU) 2021/690 (Single Market Programme Regulation)).



### 2.1.9. *Award and eligibility criteria*

Taking into account their specific nature, the programmes for the eradication, control and surveillance will be implemented under the sole responsibility of competent authorities of the Member States. As provided for in Article 10(1)(g) of the Single Market Programme, these authorities are considered to be designated beneficiaries within the meaning of Article 195(c) of the Financial Regulation. Therefore, the grants agreements will be awarded without prior publication of the call for proposal.

The Commission will inform Member States about the respective procedures, prior to the submission of programmes, reports and requests for payments. Rules, procedures and further guidelines as regards the practical modalities for the submission, assessment, award and payment of these activities will be made available on HADEA website.

#### a) Eligibility criteria for submitted programmes

- The programmes are submitted within the deadline set in part 2.1. of Annex I of the Single Market Programme i.e. by 31 May of the year preceding the planned implementation period;
- Programmes submitted target an animal disease or a zoonosis listed in Annex III of the Single Market Programme and which belong to group 1 or group 2 priority diseases as defined in part 2.1.4;
- Programmes submitted are compliant with part 2 of Annex I of the Single Market Programme;
- Programmes are submitted by the central competent authorities of the Member States that will also supervise and co-ordinate the implementation of these programmes. Only programmes for which the implementation is compulsory in the Member States will be co-funded;
- Programmes submitted shall comply with the Union veterinary legislation;

#### b) Award criteria for submitted programmes

Award criteria make it possible to approve all programmes that can guarantee compliance with Union objectives and priorities. To this end, each programme presented with a view to obtaining Union co-financing will be individually evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Relevance:
  - consistency of the submitted programmes with the objectives and expected results;
  - relevance of the planned activities in terms of type of measure proposed and quantities;
- Quality:
  - overall quality of the submitted programme;
  - compliance with recommendations from the Commission services following audit report or other advice;
  - Logical links between the identified problems, methodology for implementing the action, risks and risk management;
- Impact:
  - progress expected compared to the situation of the disease in previous years;
  - expected long term impact and results on targeted groups;
  - sustainability of results after EU funding ends.

## **2.2. Implementation of Phytosanitary programmes for 2023-2024.**

### *2.2.1. Type of applicants targeted by the direct award*

The grants shall be awarded to the competent authorities of the Member States. As provided for in Article 10(1)(g)(i) of the Single Market Programme these authorities are considered to be identified beneficiaries within the meaning of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation.

### *2.2.2. Legal basis*

Regulation (EU) 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April (Single Market Programme), and in particular Annex I thereof.

### *2.2.3. Budget line and retroactivity*

03.0206

### *2.2.4. Description of the action*

Two categories of measures may be co-funded:

- Category A: Surveys in the areas where the pest is not known to be present by the date of submission of the programmes (outside demarcated areas).
- Category B: Eradication or/and containment measures, including monitoring in the buffer zones and in the parts of the infested/infected zones adjacent to their buffer zones, if required by the EU legislation.

The budget available shall be divided between the two categories, where 50% will be allocated for Category A and 50% will be allocated to Category B. In each category, the budget will be sub-divided between the following different priority groups:

**Priority 1** - Priority pests listed in the Annex of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/1702. In demarcated areas under containment, the co-funding is limited to the measures taken in the buffer zones and to the parts of the infected/infested zones adjacent to their buffer zones, if required by the EU legislation

- *Agrilus anxius* Gory [AGRLAX]
- *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire [AGRLPL]
- *Anastrepha ludens* (Loew) [ANSTLU]
- *Anoplophora chinensis* (Thomson) [ANOLCN]
- *Anoplophora glabripennis* (Motschulsky) [ANOLGL]
- *Anthonomus eugenii* Cano [ANTHEU]
- *Aromia bungii* (Faldermann) [AROMBU]
- *Bactericera cockerelli* (Sulc.) [PARZCO]
- *Bactrocera dorsalis* (Hendel) [DACUDO]
- *Bactrocera zonata* (Saunders) [DACUZO]
- *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus* (Steiner et Bühner) Nickle et al. [BURSXY]
- *Candidatus Liberibacter* spp., causal agent of Huanglongbing disease of citrus/citrus greening [LIBEG], [LIBEAF], [LIBEAM], [LIBEAS]
- *Conotrachelus nenuphar* (Herbst) [CONHNE]
- *Dendrolimus sibiricus* Tschetverikov [DENDSI]

- *Phyllosticta citricarpa* (McAlpine) Van der Aa [GUIGCI]
- *Popillia japonica* Newman [POPIJA]
- *Rhagoletis pomonella* Walsh [RHAGPO]
- *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Smith) [LAPHFR]
- *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* (Meyrick) [ARGPLE]
- *Xylella fastidiosa* (Wells et al.) [XYLEFA]

Budget distribution for Priority 1 groups:

- 1) Category A Surveys in the areas where the pest is not known to be present (outside demarcated areas) - 20% of the total budget
- 2) Category B Eradication/containment measures - 40% of the total budget

**Priority 2** - Pests subject to Union measures or pests listed in part B of Annex II of Regulation (EU) 2019/2072, excluding activities in demarcated areas under containment:

- *Aleurocanthus spiniferus* (Quaintance) [ALECSN]
- *Ceratocystis platani* (J. M. Walter) Engelbr. & T. C. Harr [CERAFFP]
- *Clavibacter sepedonicus* (Spieckermann and Kottho) Nouiou et al. [CORBSE]
- *Epitrix cucumeris* (Harris) [EPIXCU], *E. papa* Orlova-Bienkowskaja [EPIXPP], *E. subcrinita* (Lec.) [EPIXSU] and *E. tuberis* (Gentner) [EPIXTU]
- *Fusarium circinatum* Nirenberg & O'Donnell [GIBBCI]
- *Geosmithia morbida* Kolarík, Freeland, Utley & Tisserat [GEOHMO]
- *Globodera pallida* (Stone) Behrens [HETDPA] and *Globodera rostochiensis* (Wollenweber) Behrens [HETDRO]
- Grapevine flavescence doree phytoplasma [PHYP64] and its vector *Scaphoideus titanus* Ball [SCAPLI]
- *Meloidogyne chitwoodi* Golden et al. [MELGCH] and *Meloidogyne fallax* Karssen [MELGFA]
- *Meloidogyne graminicola* Golden & Birchfield [MELGGC]
- *Pityophthorus juglandis* Blackman [PITOUJ]
- *Pomacea* Perry [1POMAG]
- *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Smith) Yabuuchi et al. emend. Safni et al. [RALSSL]
- Rose Rosette Virus [RRV000] and its vector *Phyllocoptes fructiphilus* Keifer [PHYCFR]
- *Synchytrium endobioticum* (Schilb.) Perc. [SYNCEN]
- Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus [TOBRFV]
- Tomato Leaf Curl New Delhi Virus [TOLCND]
- *Toxoptera citricida* (Kirkaldy) [TOXOCI]
- *Trioza erytrae* Del Guercio [TRIZER]

Budget distribution for Priority 2 group:

- 1) Category A Surveys in the areas where the pest is not known to be present (outside demarcated areas) - 15% of the total budget
- 2) Category B Eradication measures - 7% of the total budget

**Priority 3** – Other Union quarantine pests, listed in Part A of Annex II of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 not listed above, included by each Member

State in their multiannual surveillance programmes in line with EU legal obligations of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031. This priority group should not exceed more than 30 pests per Member State.

Budget distribution for Priority 3 group:

1) Category A Surveys in the areas where the pest is not known to be present (outside demarcated areas) - 15% of the total budget

2) Category B Eradication measures - 3% of the total budget

The budget will be allocated to each category and each priority as described in Table 1.

Table 1: Budget distribution per category (e.g. for a total amount of 20 000 000 EUR)

	<b>Category A: Surveys in areas where the pest is not known to be present</b>		<b>Category B: Measures, including surveys, in the demarcated areas<sup>2</sup></b>	
	<b>% of the budget</b>	<b>Euros</b>	<b>% of the budget</b>	<b>Euros</b>
Priority 1: Priority pests	20%	4,000,000	40%	8,000,000
Priority 2: Pest subject to EU measures and pests present in the EU	15%	3,000,000	7%	1,400,000
Priority 3: Any other quarantine pest	15%	3,000,000	3%	600,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>10,000,000</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>10,000,000</b>

Union funding may also be awarded to Member States for implementing phytosanitary programmes for the control of pests in the outermost regions of the Union as referred to in point 3 of Annex I of the Single Market Programme Regulation.

#### 2.2.5. Objective

The **general** objective is to contribute to a high level of health for plants along the food chain and in related areas, by preventing, eradicating pests or, where agreed that eradication is no longer possible, by containing, and by ensuring a high level of protection for consumers and the environment, while enhancing the competitiveness of the Union food and feed industry and favouring the creation of jobs.

The **specific** objective is to contribute to the timely detection, eradication or where agreed that eradication is no longer possible, containment, of pests in the Union territory.

The **operational** objectives shall be the following:

1. to timely identify and detect emerging risks for the EU territory;
2. to enable the early and appropriate action against the presence of pests in the EU territory;
3. to enable long-term actions to contain certain pests for which it has been

<sup>2</sup> For priority 1- in demarcated areas under containment, the co-funding is limited to the measures taken in the buffer zones and to the parts of the infected/infested zones adjacent to their buffer zones, only if required by the EU legislation;

For priority 2 – the co-funding is limited to measures in the demarcated areas under eradication;

For priority - 3 the co-funding is limited to measures in the demarcated areas under eradication.

agreed that eradication in the EU territory is no longer possible;

4. to improve the functioning of the Union plant health legislation by monitoring the risks of pests listed in Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 and pests included in Priority 2 which are subject to emergency measures but not yet listed in Regulation (EU) 2019/2072.

#### 2.2.6. *Expected results*

The expected results of the phytosanitary programmes shall be the following:

- a) An inventory, including aggregated data (e.g. maps), of the pests status of Union quarantine pests and pests subject to emergency measures and included in the phytosanitary programme;
- b) Effective eradication of Union quarantine pests;
- c) Where eradication is no longer possible, an active containment of the Union quarantine pests as agreed at EU level.

#### 2.2.7. *Implementation*

Implemented by HaDEA.

#### 2.2.8. *EU co-financing rate*

According to Article 12(5) of the Single Market Programme, the general rate for grants shall be **50%** of the eligible costs and shall be increased to **75%** of the eligible costs in respect of:

- a) Cross-border activities implemented together by two or more Member States in order to control, prevent or eradicate pests.

The potential application of point (a) will depend on the programme submitted. How Member States will cooperate should be clearly described in the programme.

- b) Member States whose gross national income per inhabitant based on the latest Eurostat data is less than 90% of the Union average.

The rate shall be increased to **100%** of the eligible costs where the activities benefitting from the Union contribution concern the prevention and control of serious human, plant and animal health risks for the Union, and are designed to avoid human casualties or major economic disruptions for the Union as a whole.

In accordance with Article 12(5)(c) of the Single Market Programme, where that is necessary on the grounds of budgetary unavailability, insufficient implementation of the programme or the emergency measure, or the phasing-out of the co-financing of actions against plant pests the co-financing rates shall be lower. The amount of the reduction in the co-financing rates shall reflect the significance of the grounds for a lower rate. The Commission shall adopt implementing acts establishing lower co-financing rates. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with Article 21(6) of the Single Market Programme.

Where the co-funding requests exceed the budget available and no budget remains from the other priority groups in the same category or from the other category, the co-funding rates will be reduced by the number of points necessary to fit with the budget allocated for each priority group.

Where the applications for a given priority group and category are lower than the available budget, the remaining budget will be redistributed with priority within the same

category, following the order of the priorities therein and starting from the first priority group and then within the other category, starting from the first priority group.

If total requests do not exceed the available budget, no maximum budget limits per priority group will be applied.

#### *2.2.9. Award and eligibility criteria*

The phytosanitary programmes shall be implemented under the sole responsibility of the competent authorities of the Member States. The respective grants shall be awarded without a call for proposals.

The Commission will inform Member States about the respective procedures, prior to the submission of programmes, reports and requests for payments. Rules, procedures and further guidelines as regards the practical modalities for the submission, assessment, award and payment of these activities will be made available on HADEA website.

##### **a) Eligibility criteria for submitted programmes**

The phytosanitary programmes shall be submitted to the Commission:

- by the competent authority referred to in Article 2(6) of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031, which shall also be responsible for supervising and coordinating their implementation.
- within the deadline set in part 2.1 of Annex I of the Single Market Programme Regulation
- The programmes shall comply with part 2 of Annex I of the Single Market Programme, Articles 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 28 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031, any other specific measures taken in accordance with Article 28 of that Regulation and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1231;
- There is no other source of financing for the cost of the survey, eradication or containment activities included in the Phytosanitary programmes;
- In case of use of new and innovative technologies for surveillance, eradication and containment, their readiness level should be at least equal to 9 (actual system proven in operational environment)<sup>3</sup>.
- The phytosanitary programmes should include only eradication and containment measures for the outbreaks after their first year of occurrence. Any new outbreak detected in 2023 and 2024, respectively, are be eligible for co-funding under the emergency measures activities.

##### **b) Award criteria**

Award criteria make it possible to approve programmes that can guarantee compliance with Union objectives and priorities. To this end, each programme presented with a view to obtain Union co-funding shall be individually evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Relevance:
  - The consistency of the phytosanitary programme with the objectives listed in Section 2.2.5. and expected results of Section 2.2.6., in line with the EU legislation and recommendations of the audit(s) carried out by the Directorate Health and Food Audits and Analysis of DG SANTE for the pests concerned;

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<sup>3</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2014\\_2015/annexes/h2020-wp1415-annex-g-trl\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2014_2015/annexes/h2020-wp1415-annex-g-trl_en.pdf)

- Relevance of the planned activities in terms of type of measure proposed and quantities.
- Quality:
  - Overall quality of the phytosanitary programme, namely, the adequation of the planned activities with the specific situation at national level and the guidance published by EFSA (pest survey cards and statistically survey guidelines, as applicable by the EU law);
  - Measures described in an analytical way for the achievement of early detection, eradication or containment of the pests and the description of the geographical and administrative regions, including maps, where measures are taken;
  - Logical links between the identified problems;
  - Methodology for implementing the action;
  - Risks and risk management.

Impact :

- Progress expected compared to the situation of the pests in previous years;
- Expected long term impact and results on targeted groups
- Sustainability of results after EU funding ends