



Ministry of Economy and Energy



Implementation of Operational program “Development of the Competitiveness of the Bulgarian Economy”

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Operational Programs in Bulgaria

- Ø Regional Development (Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works);
- Ø Competitiveness (Ministry of Economy and Energy);
- Ø Environment (Ministry of Environment and Waters);
- Ø Transport (Ministry of Transport);
- Ø Human Resources Development (Ministry of Labor and Social Policy);
- Ø Administrative Capacity (Ministry of State Administration and Administrative Reform);
- Ø Technical Assistance (Ministry of Finance).

OP “Competitiveness”

Main objective:

- Ø Development of dynamic economy competitive on the European and international market

Specific objectives:

- Ø Encouragement of innovations and increasing the efficiency of enterprises
- Ø Improvement of business environment

Operational program “Competitiveness”

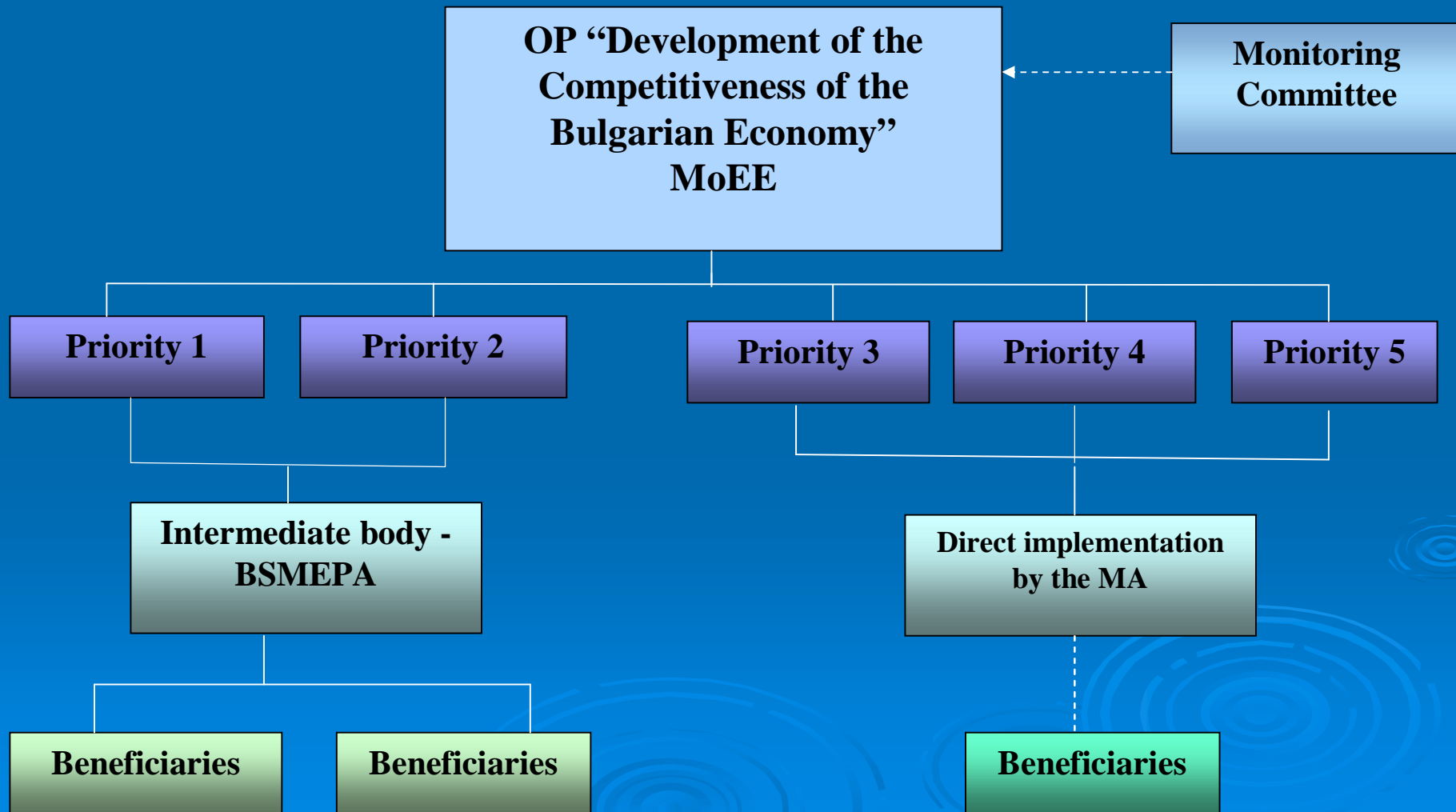
Priority Axis and Financial Plan

1. Development of a knowledge-based economy and innovation activities (246 mln. euro, 21%)
2. Increasing efficiency of enterprises and promoting supportive business environment (593 mln. euro, 51%)
3. Financial resources for developing enterprises (200 mln. euro, 17%)
4. Strengthening the international market positions of Bulgarian economy (87 mln. euro, 7.5%)
5. Technical assistance (34 mln.euro, 3%)

Total budget: 1 162 215 551 euro

Operational program “Competitiveness”

Institutional framework



Priority Axis 1 – Development of a knowledge-based economy and innovation activities

Area of Intervention 1 - Support for innovation activities in enterprises:

- Ø Support for creation and development of innovative start-up companies;
- Ø Support for creation and commercialization of innovations by enterprises;
- Ø Support for increase of the share of R&D personnel in enterprises;
- Ø Support for protection of the industrial property rights.

Area of Intervention 2 – Improvement of pro-innovative infrastructure:

- Ø Creation of new and development of existing pro-innovative infrastructure;
- Ø Support for modernization of applied research equipment;
- Ø Creation of national innovation network.

Priority Axis 2 – Increasing efficiency of enterprises and promoting supportive business environment

Area of Intervention 1 – Improvement of technologies and management in enterprises:

- ∅ Upgrade of technologies in enterprises;
- ∅ Achieving compliance with internationally recognized standards.

Area of Intervention 2 – Creation of business support infrastructure:

- ∅ Creation of Business Support Organizations (BSOs) network;
- ∅ Creation of regional business incubators.

Area of Intervention 3 – Introduction of energy-saving technologies and renewable energy sources:

- ∅ Introducing energy-saving sources in enterprises;
- ∅ Introduction of renewable energy sources satisfying the needs of the enterprise (RES).

Area of Intervention 4 – Promotion of business networking and clustering:

- ∅ Promotion of business networking and clustering.

Priority Axis 3 – Financial Resources for developing enterprises (FREDE)

Area of Intervention 1 – Improvement of access to finance for SMEs through instruments of financial engineering:

- Ø Support for guarantee funds;
- Ø Support for micro-loan funds;
- Ø Support for seed & venture capital funds investing in SMEs.

Priority Axis 4 – Strengthening the international market positions of Bulgarian economy

Area of Intervention 1 – Promoting the investors' advantages of Bulgaria:

- ∅ Providing analytical information of the investment trends in Bulgaria and abroad;
- ∅ Pilot marketing campaigns for attracting investors in target sectors;
- ∅ Diversification and standardization of IBA services.

Area of Intervention 2 – Promoting the internationalization of the Bulgarian enterprises:

- ∅ Providing more abundant and better quality information of foreign markets to Bulgarian enterprises;
- ∅ Encouraging SME participation in international specialized fairs, exhibitions and trade missions;
- ∅ Improvement of the image (branding) and the export potential of Bulgaria.

Area of Intervention 3 – Improvement of the national quality infrastructure (NQI):

- ∅ Information and awareness campaigns for businesses;
- ∅ Upgrade of calibration and testing laboratories, conformity assessment bodies (CABs);
- ∅ Offering more and better services to business.

Priority Axis 5 – Technical Assistance

Area of Intervention 1 – Support for the management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Operational program:

- Ø Costs related to the preparation, selection, appraisal, monitoring and control;
- Ø Costs for meetings of the Monitoring Committee;
- Ø Audit expenses;
- Ø Costs for the provision of services relating to the preparation and implementation of an operation provided by a public authority.

Area of Intervention 2 – Other activities for the implementation of the OP:

- Ø Program management;
- Ø Staff training;
- Ø Preparation of researches for the needs of the OP;
- Ø Assistance to evaluation of projects;
- Ø Information campaigns and promotion activities.

Grant Schemes in 2007

Grant scheme „Support for creation and development of innovative start-ups”:

- Ø Priority Axis 1;
- Ø Launch of call for project proposals: 17, October 2007;
- Ø Grant budget: 8,5 mln. EUR;
- Ø Open procedure.

Grant scheme „ Achieving compliance with internationally recognized standards“:

- Ø Priority Axis 2;
- Ø Launch of call for projects proposals: 17 October, 2007;
- Ø Deadline for project proposals submission: 15 January, 2008;
- Ø Grant Budget: 5 mln. EUR.

Grant scheme „ Upgrade of technologies in enterprises”:

- Ø Priority Axis 2;
- Ø Launch of call for projects proposals: 17 October, 2007;
- Ø Deadline for project proposals submission: 22 January, 2008;
- Ø Grant budget: 25 mln. EUR.

Total Grant Budget: 38, 5 mln. EUR

Priority Axis 1 - Grant Schemes in 2008

Grant scheme “Support for creation and commercialization of innovations by enterprises”:

- ∅ Total Budget: 14,5 mln. EUR;
- ∅ Launch of call for project proposals: 10 October, 2008;
- ∅ Deadline for project proposals submission: 16:00, 07, January, 2009.

Priority Axis 2 - Grant Schemes in 2008

Grant scheme “Upgrade of technologies in large enterprises”:

- ∅ Total Budget: 35 mln EUR;
- ∅ Launch of call for project proposals: 15 October, 2008;
- ∅ Deadline for project proposals submission: 16:00, 12, January, 2009.

Grant scheme “Upgrade of technologies in SMEs”:

- ∅ Total Budget: 35 mln EUR;
- ∅ Launch of call for project proposals: 15 October, 2008
- ∅ Deadline for project proposals submission: 16:00, 12, January, 2009.

Grant scheme” Achieving compliance with internationally recognized standards”:

- ∅ Total Budget: 10 mln. EUR;
- ∅ Launch of call for project proposals: 6 October, 2008;
- ∅ Deadline for project proposals submission: 16:00, 06, January, 2009.

Thank you!

Contacts:

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