

Expedited procedures for strategic investment project in ICT zones

General info

Economy name

North Macedonia

ID

N31

Incentive name

Expedited procedures for strategic investment project in ICT zones

Brief description

Expedited procedures for strategic investment project in ICT zones

Legal reference

Legal reference name

Law on Strategic Investments in North Macedonia Official Gazette No.14/20 Nr. 08-437/1

Legal reference (Law section / article)

Article 5

The status of a strategic investment project could be determined according to the conditions and procedures determined by this Law for projects in the following areas:

10) Information-technological zones;

Incentive design

Incentive group

Non-financial

Incentive category

Expediated procedures

Economy-wide/Sector-specific

Sector-specific

Sector (Simplified)

ICT

Sector (NACE)

K TELECOMMUNICATION, COMPUTER PROGRAMMING, CONSULTING, COMPUTING INFRASTRUCTURE AND OTHER INFORMATION SERVICE ACTIVITIES (en)

Size of firm that can use incentive

All sizes of firms

Level at which incentive is available

Economy-wide

Ownership of firm that can use incentive

Any

Incentive location

General

Main objective of the incentive

Technological advancement

In case of grant, share of grant in investment (in %)

/

Access to information

Contact Info

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Weblink to Incentive information in English**Weblink to Incentive information in local language****Eligibility criteria**

Eligibility criteria (description)

Strategic investment project is a project that fulfills one or more aims from Article 2 of this Law, and which implements an investment in the amount of at least 100 million euros on the territory of at least two or more municipalities, at least 50 million euros in the municipalities based in the city, the municipalities in the City of Skopje and the City of Skopje and at least 30 million euros in municipalities based in the economy side.

As an exception to paragraph 1 of this Article, strategic investment projects are projects implemented within the framework of agreements between countries, projects implemented and financed in cooperation with the European Union, the Council of Ministers of the Energy Community (PECI - Project of Energy Community Interest; PMI - Project of Mutual Interest; PCI - Project of Common Interest), as well as, those with international financial institutions, where the bearer of the investment is a government body, public enterprises established by the state or municipalities, as well as, companies that are fully or owned by the state and the municipalities, the municipalities in the City of Skopje and the City of Skopje and other legal entities whose founder is North Macedonia or the municipalities.

Conditions for obtaining the status of a strategic investment project

Article 5

The implementation of strategic investment projects shall be in public interest.

The strategic investment project should cumulatively meet the following conditions:

- the proposed investments must comply with the environmental standards set out in the laws of North Macedonia,
- the proposed investments must not be contrary to the Constitution of North

Macedonia, the laws and obligations arising from international agreements ratified in accordance with

the Constitution,

- the public strategic projects must be in accordance with the strategic priorities of the Government of North Macedonia.

The status of a strategic investment project could be determined according to the conditions and procedures determined by this Law for projects in the following areas:

- 1) Energy with infrastructure;
- 2) Transport and telecommunications;
- 3) Tourism;
- 4) Manufacturing industry;
- 5) Agriculture, forestry and water economy;
- 6) Food industry;
- 7) Health;
- 8) Industrial and technology parks;
- 9) Wastewater and waste management;
- 10) Information-technological zones;
- 11) Sports;
- 12) Science and education;
- 13) Construction of large multifunctional construction complexes of buildings that have in their composition more than one area from the areas listed in this Article.

As an exception to paragraph 3 of this Article, projects in the areas not covered in paragraph 3 of this Article shall also have the status of strategic investment project, when the investment exceeds the amount of 150 million euros in denar equivalent.

Regulations

Article 6

The regulations in the areas of state aid, public financial management and public debt shall apply to the implementation of the strategic investment projects determined in accordance with this Law.

Issuance of state guarantees contrary to public finance and public debt regulations shall be prohibited.

Eligibility criteria (weblink)

Incentive administration

Awarding Authority (Name)

Government of North Macedonia

Application procedure + Weblink (where available)

The Government of North Macedonia (hereinafter: the Government) shall, no later than 31 January of the current year, announce a public call for applications for determining the status of a strategic investment project, which is published in the "Official Gazette of North Macedonia" and in at least three renowned international economic journals.

Interested applicants submit a request for a project to be declared as strategic investment, together with:

- An investment business plan or feasibility study for public strategic projects that include a risk analysis, an investment financial plan, a work program for implementation of the strategic investment project during the duration of the investment,
- Consent for loaning in terms of the Law on Public Debt for public strategic investment project,
- Micro and macro location conditions of the investment,
- An audit report on the investing entity for a certain time period and audit report on the company that owns the investing entity,
- A detailed portfolio of the investing entity, including its subsidiaries,
- A reference list of investor experiences in similar projects,
- A description of the manner and sources of project financing,
- Proof of financial ability for the implementation of the strategic investment project, which obligatorily contains an audited annual financial report for the year preceding the year in which the request is submitted, i.e. annual reports on prescribed forms for investors that are not subject to audit, business

reports for the quarter preceding the submission of the request, creditworthiness forms not older than 30 days,

- Consent of the strategic investor authorizing the Commission to make checks and controls on the data presented in the portfolio of the strategic investor,
- Annual accounts (balance sheet, income statement and cash flow statement) for the last three financial years of the strategic investor and the company that owns the strategic investor,
- A bank guarantee for realization of the strategic investment project in the amount of 3% of the value of the private investment,
- Confirmation that the investor has paid all due liabilities, liabilities for pension and health insurance and other public duties, not older than 30 days,
- Confirmation that no bankruptcy or liquidation procedure has been initiated.

Implementing Authority (Name)

Government of North Macedonia