

## InvestEU Call for Expression of Interest

### **Information Note on availability of additional resources and applicability of additional terms and conditions for the SME Competitiveness Guarantee Product stemming from InvestEU Member State Compartment in Malta**

*All capitalised terms and expressions not defined in this Information Note shall have the meaning given to those terms in the InvestEU Call for Expression of Interest.*

This Information Note was published on 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2023.

The present Information Note anticipates the additional exclusion criteria, applicable state aid regime and increased guarantee capacity with regards to [the SME Competitiveness Portfolio Guarantee](#) Product described in the [InvestEU Call for Expression of Interest](#) to be implemented as part of the Member State Compartment in Malta.

The resources utilized to increase the guarantee capacity in respect of the aforementioned guarantee product in Malta come from Malta's European Regional and Development Fund resources ("ERDF") made as well as national budget.

These resources will be made available to the market after the following two step process has been accomplished. The first step has already been completed and consists of the signature of the Contribution Agreement to the InvestEU's Member State Compartment between the European Commission and the Republic of Malta, which took place on 14 January 2023. The second step consists of the signature of an amendment to the InvestEU Guarantee Agreement between the European Commission and the EIF introducing the Member State Compartment in Malta.

**Without prejudice to the foregoing, under [InvestEU Call for Expression of Interest](#) EIF may already start pre-selecting applicants for the increased guarantee capacity under the Member State Compartment in Malta as of the publication date of this Information Note.**

**Applications of potential financial intermediaries based in Malta under the InvestEU Call for Expression of Interest for the SME Competitiveness Portfolio Guarantee will be assessed simultaneously for the additional resources to be made available under the Member State Compartment in Malta.**

However, the final selection and subsequent signatures of individual guarantee agreements with financial intermediaries utilizing the guarantee capacity of the Member State Compartment in Malta shall be subject to the aforementioned amendment of the InvestEU Guarantee Agreement to be signed between the European Commission and the EIF, in accordance with the modalities set out in such agreement.

### **Indicative Terms and conditions**

The InvestEU Call for Expression of Interest [Direct Guarantee](#) and [Counter-Guarantee](#) in respect of the EU Compartment as well as the SME Competitiveness Portfolio Guarantee term-sheets (including the relevant eligibility criteria) are applicable to the Member State Compartment for Malta.

In addition to the instruments under the InvestEU EU Compartment, as a result of the additional resources made available by the Republic of Malta, the SME Competitiveness Portfolio Guarantee (for Higher risk 1 and Higher risk 2 categories) shall be offered in the form of uncapped guarantees, in each case exclusively on the territory of the country.