Informative communication

It moves us to thank you especially for your compliments that came to us regarding “FVG Objective Europe” that have been sent to the editorial staff and its director in large numbers over the past few months. The idea, started as a gamble with a trial number last September, has already reached its fifth edition. The task of the communication plan for ROP ERDF 2007-2013 continues without let-up, and connected to it are a whole series of initiatives and operations with the clear purpose of informing and updating as best as possible the potential beneficiaries and all citizens regarding the opportunities that can be given by the structural Fund with which we are working. A not inconsiderable task that is bearing fruit and that we trust can reach as many as possible of the potential Fund recipients, ensuring that the ROP ERDF 2007-2013 slogan “Let’s invest in our future” can be truly feasible. (more pag. 3)

The editor-in-chief
Enzo Cattaruzzi

Regional Operating Programme of Friuli Venezia Giulia

ROP ERDF 2007-2013

With the decision of the European Commission C(2010) 5 of the 4th January 2010, a modification to R.O.P. 2007-2013 of the European Regional Development Fund for Friuli Venezia Giulia Region was approved. The Competitiveness Operating Programme is the planning instrument that Friuli Venezia Giulia Region has put in place (and that the European Commission has approved with a prescriptive act), that defines, within the reference economic and social framework of the European territory (Arts. 158 and 159 of the Treaty) the compass of regional territorial development that will benefit from contributions from the European Structural Funds, those of the State and those of the Region over the period between 2007 and 2013. Friuli Venezia Giulia, with the opportunity of the R.O.P., is promoting the fulfilment of innumerable projects within a line of development aimed at supporting the Regional economy to allow all of the territory to compete on the national and international scene. For the programme period 2007-2013 303,001,323 have been set aside, and the priority interventions of the Friuli Venezia Giulia R.O.P. have been identified under 6 Axes over which the financial resources have been spread: the first related to innovation, research, technology transfer and entrepreneurship is € 138,000,000 equal to 46% of the programme; the second related to environmental sustainability is € 34,850,000 equal to 11.5% of the programme; the third related to accessibility is € 138,000,000 equal to 13% of the programme; the fourth related to territorial development is € 40,000,000 equal to 13% of the programme; the fifth related to eco-sustainability and energy efficiency of the production system is € 40,000,000 equal to 13% of the programme; and that the European Commission defines, that is the grant of contributions for laboratory project initiatives, in other words projects that anticipate plant installation, enlargement or start-up of laboratories and research centres, but only if strictly aimed at fulfilling a research and development project.
Regional Operating Programme of Friuli Venezia Giulia

ROP ERDF 2007-2013

Also provided for are businesses (SMEs and large industries) for undertaking productive investments strictly tied to and complementary to industrialisation of research, development and innovation project results carried out by the grant-aided businesses. With reference to this assistance, at least 70% of the supplied resources will be allocated to assist SMEs. Another notable innovation concerns the setting up of a Guarantee Fund in order to facilitate access to credit on the part of small and medium businesses that now suffer temporary liquidity problems because of the current strict credit regime.

The introduction among the instruments in support of the productive fabric of a Guarantee Fund is consistent with the R.O.P. strategy followed on innovation and research. The positive effects of the investments must rest with the recipient businesses. The management bodies of the Fund are identified by a clear public procedure and chosen on the basis of specific abilities and long experience in the knowledge sector of the Regional production fabric.

The instrument works according to the prescriptions of the “Basle 2 Agreement” and subject to checking on the destination obligation for the pertinent innovative investments with regard to the single financial grant of the current activity. The Fund can guarantee the financial operations undertaken by authorised intermediaries in favour of the same SMEs for the following initiatives:

- the search for production investments tied to the industrialisation of the results of research, development and innovation projects carried out by the benefitting SME;
- the activity of industrial experimental research and development;
- the acquisition of external strategic consultancy services;
- the mechanisms for technology transfer;
- start-up support for innovative businesses having high growth potential;
- product, process and organisational innovation.

There remain excluded from Fund involvement businesses that are in a state of voluntary liquidation or in financial difficulties in the sense of Community direction on State aid for saving and restructuring of businesses that are in difficulty from exposure to competitive processes (Ref. 2004/C/244/02).

The beneficiaries of the intervention are SMEs and their groupings with a production unit located in the Regional territory, belonging to all production sectors, except for the possible limitations.

We can therefore conclude this report in the knowledge of how much the Region is working to give serious and concrete development opportunities both to the small and large Regional businesses in order to be able to compete much more with European partners.

E. C.
The task of the communication plan for ROP ERDF 2007-2013 continues without let-up, and connected to it are a whole series of initiatives and operations with the clear purpose of informing and updating as best as possible the potential beneficiaries and all citizens regarding the opportunities that can be given by the structural Fund with which we are working.

It moves us to thank you especially for your compliments that came to us regarding “FVG Objective Europe” that have been sent to the editorial staff and its director in large numbers over the past few months.

The idea, started as a gamble with a trial number last September, has already reached its fifth edition.

In these editions we have followed the statements by political organisations, but above all statements and articles carried out directly by the various Regional Directorates that themselves wanted to make their point about the announcements or statements closely followed by their offices.

The cycle of meetings started on the 2nd of December last with the “Business and research, let’s raise our competitiveness” conference centred on the presentation of the grant announcements relating to Home Automation, Molecular Biomedicine and Shipbuilding and Pleasure Boating. The topics that were covered, for their importance and the impact that they could have on the Regional economy, witnessed the attendance of an attentive and numerous public which undoubtedly served to encourage further meetings and debates on the structural Funds. In fact, following this on the 9th February, again in the auditorium of the Regional offices in Via Sabbadini in Udine, the conference “New ERDF Grants – new investments for mountain areas” was held.

The theme for the day was the presentation of the grant announcements approved the previous December by the Regional Council regarding assistance for a re-launching of the mountains in Friuli Venezia Giulia. To underline the importance of the conference, the President of the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region, Renzo Tondo, was present as he wanted to give the opening greetings to the members of the public that were present, underlining the importance of the release of European funds to confront this moment of crisis.

So the calendar will then saw in the next month of March the holding of a very important meeting centred on presenting some much awaited announcements on production activities that were published in the Official Gazette of the Region o 10th February 2010.

In this meeting, which was attended by a large gathering of the public because of its importance, the above-mentioned announcements that concern incentives for industry, artisans, tourism and commercial sectors and Regional services were discussed.

To promote these events, it has been decided to act in all available ways, using the main current information channels; entries in the main regional newspapers have already been planned, and more. We wanted to increase the communication channels, not only through the use of the web portal of ROP ERDF 2007-2013, but also by using local radio in such a way as to cover the whole Regional territory with the information.

A not inconsiderable task that is bearing fruit and that we trust can reach as many as possible of the potential Fund recipients, ensuring that the ROP ERDF 2007-2013 slogan “Let’s invest in our future” can be truly feasible.
# European regional development fund

The financial grants of the regional operating programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>€ 303.001.323,00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ERDF</strong></td>
<td>€ 74.069.674,00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STATE</strong></td>
<td>€ 159.241.249,00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REGION</strong></td>
<td>€ 69.690.400,00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## STRUCTURE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRIORITY</th>
<th>TOTAL PUBLIC EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE INCIDENCE</th>
<th>BENEFICIARIES</th>
<th>COMPETENT DIRECTORATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Innovation, research, technological transfer and entrepreneurship</td>
<td>138.000.000,00</td>
<td>45,54%</td>
<td>SMEs &amp; large industries, scientific and technology parks, management bodies, university research bodies, innovation centres</td>
<td>CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES (1.1.a, 1.1.b, 1.2.a, 1.2.b, 1.2.c); CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR WORK, UNIVERSITY EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (1.1.c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Environmental sustainability</td>
<td>34.850.000,00</td>
<td>11,50%</td>
<td>The Region &amp; management bodies for nature areas, territorial public bodies, Public consortia, port authorities, Consortiums for industrial development, Businesses</td>
<td>CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES &amp; CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR CULTURAL INSTRUCTION (2.1.a); CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT &amp; PUBLIC WORKS (2.1.a); CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES; CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT &amp; PUBLIC WORKS &amp; CIVIL DEFENCE (2.1.c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Accessibility</td>
<td>40.000.000,00</td>
<td>13,20%</td>
<td>Public bodies for infrastructure management, Italian railway network, Local bodies, the Region, (Insel as In-house), public and private bodies, touristic businesses, sector associations, not-for-profit organisations</td>
<td>CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR TERRITORIAL PLANNING, ENERGY, TRANSPORT AND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE (3.1.a, 3.1.b, 3.2.a); CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES (3.2.b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Territorial development</td>
<td>40.000.000,00</td>
<td>13,20%</td>
<td>Public &amp; private organisations &amp; bodies, SMEs, businesses, public and private subjects</td>
<td>CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES (+ CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS &amp; LOCAL AUTONOMIES, CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT &amp; PUBLIC WORKS, ANY OTHER DIRECTORATES) (4.1.a); CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES (+ CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES, CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR EDUCATION &amp; CULTURE, ANY OTHER DIRECTORATES) (4.2.a, 4.2.b); CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES (4.3.a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Eco-sustainability and energy efficiency of production systems</td>
<td>38.031.269,00</td>
<td>12,55%</td>
<td>SMEs &amp; large industries, local bodies and the Region</td>
<td>CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES (5.1.a, 5.1.c); CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES (5.1.b);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Technical assistance</td>
<td>12.120.054,00</td>
<td>4,00%</td>
<td>The Region</td>
<td>CENTRAL DIRECTORATE FOR INTERNATIONAL AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS</td>
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*FVG Obiettivo Europa*
On the 9th February there was the start and official presentation to the press in Alba Iulia in Romania of the ACT (Azione per la Territorial Cooperazione) cooperation project that witnessed the participation of the Provincial Council of the County of Alba in Romania, of Friuli Venezia Giulia Region and in particular the Community Policy Service of the Central Directorate for International Relations and the Community and Informest. This project, that is aimed at promoting the transfer of know-how from Friuli Venezia Giulia Region to the County of Alba regarding the method of planning and managing local development strategies and the use of European Funds, constitutes the first concrete cooperation activity in the sphere of the protocol agreement initialled in December 2007 between Friuli Venezia Giulia Region and the Romanian County of Alba. The protocol agreement is formulated on drawing up and carrying out common projects and programmes collaborating between public and private initiatives and also directed towards the development of economic operators of the Regions. To pursue the prearranged purposes, the parties will collaborate on the organisation of programmes and training periods for businesses and officials of the local and Regional Administrations. The activity of Friuli Region will take shape above all with the planning and implementation, over a period of two years, of training courses specifically aimed at public employees from the project area, around 74 municipalities, and at starting up technical assistance for the creation of public-private partnerships in the territory in tourism, rural development, transport and services to businesses. ACT, besides creating the assumptions for the combined planning between the two involved territorial set-ups to be of use in European financing, will enable the establishment of privileged relations with the local administrations and with the Romania stakeholders, also to the benefit of the numerous Friulian businesses that intend to develop internationalisation programmes. During the press conference to present the project, the Director of the Community Policy Service, learned Francesco Forte, underlined several times how the ACT project, financed by the European Social Fund and by the Romanian Ministry of the Interior and Administrative Reform for a total of 372,000 Euros, has the potential to transform itself from a pilot project to “good practice” to be transferred to other counties of Romania, in the first place those of Timis and Brasov with whom the Region has signed another two protocol agreements, laying the foundations for the start of a truly transnational network for the accomplishment of development programmes.

Project coordinator
Luciana Zanier
Friuli Venezia Giulia region alongside businesses
New resources from ROP ERDF 2007-2013 to invest in business competitiveness

The grant announcements for the Region’s artisan businesses, industry, commerce, tourism and the tertiary sector have been approved and published in the Official Regional Gazette SO No. 5 of February 2010. They deal with incentive measures by way of unsecured funds aimed at strengthening the competitiveness of businesses in the territory through support for the development of the scientific and technological bases of the entrepreneurial fabric, industrialization of research results, and the development of the tourism sector. These incentives have been aimed at giving tangible applications and results to the outcomes from the research activities and investment carried out by small, mid-sized, or large enterprises within the Friuli Venezia Giulia region.

Object and purpose
The invitation to tender below governs the criteria and the terms for accessing the funds provided for by the Regional operational plan (POR) for the Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia, co-funded by the Regional Development European Fund (FESR), having the objective of regional competition and employment, plans for 2007-2013 – Phase 1 “Innovation, research, technology transfer and business” – Activity 1.1.1 “Incentives for industrial research, Development and Innovation of businesses” – HANDICRAFT SECTOR (Activity 1.1.a), INDUSTRIAL SECTOR (activity 1.1.a.2) AND THE COMMERCIAL AND TOURISM SECTOR (Activities 1.1.a.3 and 4).

The funds are aimed at making companies in Friuli Venezia Giulia more competitive by supporting the growth and development of scientific and technological foundations of regional businesses.

Available funds
The available funds for granting the loans payable under this bid amount to Euro 7,000,000.00, of which Euro 1,715,000.00 as FESR, Euro 3,675,000.00 as a government portion and Euro 1,610,000.00 of which is regional.

Expiry
The request which confirms that the requirements have been met specified by the Department for Production Activities – support and promotion for handicraft sector or the Technical Assistance Centre to handicraft companies set up and authorised pursuant to Regional Law 12/2007 (DPReg.) and the consortium is part of the dimensions of the small mid-sized companies.

Incentives

- • Euro 10,000 for micro-enterprises
- Maximum limit of funds that may be granted to each company: Euro 1 million.

Beneficiaries
Micro-enterprises, small and mid sized companies, consortiums and co-operations registered with the provincial Register for handicraft companies (AIA) in accordance with articles 12 and 13 of Regional Law 12/2002.

Projects subject to funding
Pursuant to article 53bis(1) of regional law 12/2002 in accordance with EU regulation 800/2008, the following projects may be subject to funds provided they are strictly related to the handicraft activities carried out:
- Industrial research projects which are referred to hereunder as research projects;
- Experimental development projects, which are hereinafter referred to as development projects;
- The acquisition of advisory services relating to innovation and support services aimed at achieving innovation, hereinafter called innovation projects;
- Industrialisation projects on research results, hereinafter called industrialisation projects.
- Any industrialisation project is submitted alongside research, development and innovation projects to which it is strictly connected.
- Patenting of its products;
- Acquiring trade marks or patents or the rights to use new technology or licenses or unpatented technical know-how, aimed at introducing innovation into the production cycle or products, the company organisation, the distribution or marketing of products or services, including sales or after-sales services to customers, hereinafter called the acquisition of trade marks, patents and licenses.

Each company may submit up to two applications for funds as part of this invitation to bid.

Extent of contribution
- • For research and development projects, the funds comprise a non-reimbursable amount up to:
  a) 70% of the costs deemed to be admissible for research projects for small companies and 60% for mid-sized companies;
  b) 45% of the costs deemed to be admissible for development projects for small companies and 33% for mid sized companies.
- The maximum amount of the funds for research and development projects cannot in any case exceed 80% of the admissible costs
- For innovation projects, the funds comprise a non-reimbursable amount of up to 75% of the admissible costs up to a maximum of 200,000 per beneficiary for a period of three years.
- For patenting projects, the funds comprise a non-reimbursable amount of up to 45% of the admissible costs for small companies and 35% for mid sized companies.
- For industrialisation projects and the acquisition of trade marks, patents and licenses, the funds comprise a non-reimbursable amount of up to 20% for small companies and 10% for mid sized companies.

Limitations on expenses and funding
For research projects:
- Euro 15,000 for the small mid sized companies;
- Euro 10,000 for micro-enterprises
For innovation projects:
- Euro 10,000 for the small mid sized companies;
- Euro 5,000 for micro-enterprises
For experimental projects:
- Euro 15,000 for the small mid sized companies;
- Euro 10,000 for micro-enterprises

Incentives for carrying out research, development and innovation projects by industrial companies in Friuli Venezia Giulia

Beneficiaries
1. The beneficiaries of funds for research and development projects are listed below:
   a) Industrial companies;
   b) Consortiums or co-operations which are created by industrial companies;
   c) Industrial research and technology transfer centres with autonomous legal personality if an industrial nature, and which is not any of the entities identified by article 23 of regional law 26/2005 and clause 3 of the implementing regulations, enacted with Presidential Decree no. 120/2007 (DPReg.);
   d) Consortiums comprising industrial companies and other private and public companies provided that the financial stake held by the industrial companies is over 50%.

2. The beneficiaries of funds for joint innovation projects are listed below:
   a) The companies indicated under point 1, as small mid-sized enterprises when collaborating with other small mid-sized companies, or on the terms indicated under point b) when they collaborate with large enterprises;
   b) The companies indicated under point 1 with large enterprises, only if they collaborate with the entities under point 1 with the dimensions of a small mid sized company which cover at least 30% of the admissible costs.

3. The beneficiaries of funds for research and development mandates are listed below:
   a) Industrial small mid-sized companies in any form whatsoever whether individual or associated;
   b) Consortiums between industrial small mid-sized companies and other private or public entities provided that the stake held by the industrial small mid-sized companies is over 50% and the consortium is part of the dimensions of the small mid-sized companies.

4. The beneficiaries of funds for industrialisation projects are listed below:
   a) All the entities indicated under point 1 with small mid-sized company dimensions;
   b) All the entities indicated under point 1 with large company dimensions if carried out within
the area 87.3.c, as listed within the bid.

5. The beneficiaries of funds for expense certification are those listed in point 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this paragraph.

Projects subject to funding
Pursuant to article 10 of DPReg 260/2007, the following projects are eligible for funding:

a) Industrial research and experimental development projects, hereinafter referred to as “research projects” or “development projects” or if referred to collectively as “research and development projects”, aimed at identifying new products, production processes or services or significantly improving existing products, production processes or services. The research and development projects may entail setting up or extending a laboratory or a research centre, which would be part of the overall project;

b) Projects aimed at the innovation of processes and companies organisation in terms of its services, carried out jointly called “innovation project on processes” and “organisation innovation project” or if referred to collectively “innovation projects”. A project may comprise an innovation project on processes and an organisation innovation project which is an overall project;

c) Industrial research and experimental development mandates, which are referred to as “research mandates” and “development mandates”, or collectively, “research and development mandates”, by small mid-sized companies to highly specialised subjects.

Pursuant to article 13 and 15 of the EU regulation 800/2008, projects relating to industrialisation of research results may be funded, called “industrialisation projects”. Industrialisation projects must be submitted together with the research, development and innovation project to which it is strictly connected. Industrialisation projects relating to research and development mandates will not be accepted, neither will autonomous industrialisation projects in respect of the projects.

Extent of contribution
The contribution will be granted as a form of non-reimbursable aid and calculated as a percentage of the admissible expenses within the limits provided for by article 16 of DPReg 260/2007 which for the sake of transparency and completeness are summarised below, and in more detail in Annex D, together with the provisions relating to further funding as part of the POR FESR 2007-2013.

For projects and research and development mandates and innovation projects, the maximum funding applicable is:

- 50% for research projects and research mandates;
- 25% for development projects and development mandates;
- 15% for innovation projects.

For research and development projects and mandates and for innovation projects submitted by small mid-sized companies, the maximum funding available is:

- 20% for small businesses;
- 10% for mid-sized companies.

For industrialisation projects, the maximum funding applicable is:

- In the areas 87.3c: 15% for large companies;
- 25% for mid-sized companies;
- 35% for small companies.

Outside the areas 87.3c for projects conducted by small mid-sized companies:

- 20% for small companies;
- 10% for mid-sized companies.

With respect to the expenses relating to the certification of the expenses, the extent of the funding is up to 100% in the form of de minimis aid.

Limitations on expenses and funding
The minimum limit on admissible expenses varies according to the size of the company as follows:

- Euro 20,000 for small companies;
- Euro 150,000 for mid-sized companies;
- Euro 300,000 for large companies.

The maximum limit for available funding for each company is Euro 2 million.

The maximum limit for available funding for costs relating to the certification of expenses is Euro 2,500.

Available funds
The available funds for granting the loans payable under this bid amount to Euro 40,000,000.00, of which Euro 9,800,000.04 as FESR, Euro 20,999,999.96 as a government portion and Euro 9,200,000.00 of which is regional.

Expiry
The request which confirms that the requirements have been met specified by the Department for Production Activities – support and promotion for the industrial sector; must be submitted, from 10 February 2010 and within the mandatory term of 30 April 2010. Applications sent within 15 days after the expiry will be deemed to have been sent in time provided that they are sent by registered post with advice of delivery by 30 April 2010; the postal date shall be used for the purpose of verifying such date.

Incentives for carrying out research, development and innovation projects by companies in the commercial, tourism and services sector in Friuli Venezia Giulia

Beneficiaries
1. The beneficiaries of funds for research and development projects are listed below:
   a) Companies in the commercial, tourism and services sector and individuals;
   b) Consortiums or co-operations created by the companies indicated in letter a);
   c) Consortiums from among the subjects indicated in letter a) and other public or private subjects.

2. The beneficiaries of funds for innovation projects are listed below:
   a) The subjects indicated in point 1. being small mid-sized companies either individually or collaborating with other small mid-sized companies or on the terms of letter b), when collaborating with large companies;
   b) The subjects indicated in point 1., being large companies, provided that they collaborate with the subjects indicated in point 1., being small mid-sized companies and the latter assume at least 30% of the admissible costs.

Projects subject to funding
Pursuant to article 9 of DPReg 0723/Pres./2007 the following projects are subject to funding:

• Industrial research and experimental research projects, respectively referred to as “research projects” and “development projects” or globally as “research and development projects”, aimed at identifying new products, production processes or services or significantly improving existing products, production processes or services. The research and development projects may entail research and development activities, which are part of an overall project;

• Projects aimed at the innovation of processes and company organisation in terms of its services, carried out jointly, called “innovation project on processes” and “organisation innovation project” or if referred to collectively, “innovation projects”. A project may comprise an innovation project on processes and an organisation innovation project which is an overall project;

• Projects, as per to article 13 and 15 of EU regulation 800/2008, projects relating to industrialisation of research results may be funded, called “industrialisation projects”. Industrialisation projects must be submitted together with the research, development and innovation project to which it is strictly connected.

Extent of contribution
For research and development projects and innovation projects, the maximum funding available is:

• 50% for research projects;
• 25% for development projects;
• 15% for innovation projects.

For research and development projects and innovation projects submitted by small mid-sized companies, the maximum funding available is:

• 20% for small companies;
• 10% for mid-sized companies.

For industrialisation projects, the maximum funding applicable is:

• In the areas 87.3c: 15% for large companies;
• 25% for mid-sized companies;
• 35% for small companies.

Outside the areas 87.3c for projects conducted by small mid-sized companies:

• 20% for small companies;
• 10% for mid-sized companies.

For industrialisation projects, the maximum funding applicable is:

• In the 87.3c areas:
  • 15% for large companies;
  • 25% for mid-sized companies;
  • 35% for small companies.

Outside 87.3c areas and projects conducted by small mid-sized companies:

• 20% for small companies;
• 10% for mid-sized companies.

For expenses relating to the certification of expenses, the extent of available funding is 100% in the form of de minimis aid.

Limitations on expenses and funding
The minimum limit on admissible expenses varies according to the size of the company as follows:

• Euro 20,000 for micro-enterprises;
• Euro 50,000 for small companies;
• Euro 150,000 for mid-sized companies;
• Euro 300,000 for large companies.

The maximum limit for available funding for each company is Euro 1 million.

The maximum limit for available funding for costs relating to the certification of expenses is Euro 2,500.

Available funds
The available funds for granting the loans payable under this bid amount to Euro 9,000,000.00, of which Euro 5,500,000 is allocated to the commercial and services sector and Euro 3,500,000 for the tourism sector.

Expiry
The request which confirms that the requirements have been met specified by the Department for Production Activities – support and promotion for the commercial and services sector or the regional tourism development department according to the activity code (ATECOC) for the project, must be submitted from 10 February 2010 and within the mandatory term of 30 April 2010. Applications sent after the expiry will be deemed to have been sent in time provided that they are sent by registered post with advice of delivery by 30 April 2010; the postal date shall be used for the purpose of verifying such date.
Tuesday 10th March 2010, in the auditorium of the Regional offices in Via Sabbadini, 31 in Udine at 9.00am.

The topics for the meeting will relate to the new resources for ROP ERDF 2007-2013 for business investment in competitiveness! Specifically, this meeting will present the grant announcements published in the Official Regional Gazette, BUR SO no.5, of the 10th February 2010 regarding incentives available for artisan businesses, industries, and enterprises in the commercial, tourism and tertiary sectors for carrying out research, development and innovation projects. The allocated resources available for artisan businesses amount to 7 million Euros; for the industrial sector 40 million Euros are set aside and for businesses in the commercial, tertiary and tourism sectors 9 million Euros. The Region is supporting the competitive re-launching of companies with 56 million Euros. Research, innovation, investment to make tangible the results attained and seize new opportunities: these are the projects that are supported by funds brought into action by the new ROP ERDF 2007-2013 grants, new levers for re-launching the competitiveness of businesses in Friuli Venezia Giulia.

AT THE MEETING THERE WILL BE:

LUCA CIRIANI - The Vice-President of the FVG Region and Spokesperson for production activities
FEDERICA SEGANTI - The Regional Spokesperson for territorial planning, local autonomies and security, international and Community relations
GIUSEPPE NAPOLI - The Vice-Director of the Central Directorate for international and Community relations
FRANCESCO FORTE - Services Director – Community Policy Service
ANTONELLA MANCA - Central Director of the Central Directorate for production activities
ENZO CATTARUZZI - Head of the communication plan for ROP ERDF 2007-2013