

Measure 3 - “Investments in physical assets concerning processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products”

Expenditure linked to the following **activities** will be considered eligible:

- To increase the competitiveness of the agri-food sector.
- To improve the efficiency and sustainability of on-farm production.
- To provide a better response of the food sector to societal demands for healthy food, including safe, nutritious and sustainable food, by investments in physical infrastructure, in line with the relevant EU standards.
- To address the challenges of climate change, by promoting renewable energy and the circular economy.
- To reinforce the farmers position in the food chain, by encouraging them to cooperate in short supply chains and produce higher added value products.

The following **categories of project costs** should be considered eligible:

- (Re)construction, extension and modernisation of buildings/facilities for processing of (raw) agricultural products (including new equipment and electrical and water supply/plumbing facilities) for all sectors identified in the IPARD III programme, which contribute to the objectives of this measure, and especially for environmental objectives and the circular economy.
- (Re)construction, extension and modernisation of the administrative facilities of production capacities (offices, rest areas for workers, changing rooms and sanitary facilities, storage for cleaning, washing, disinfection and plant protection products).
- New machinery and equipment, for all sectors identified in the IPARD III programme, including computer hardware and software, that contribute to the objectives of this measure.
- New machinery and equipment needed for renewable energy.
- New machinery and equipment needed to fulfil the EU standards relevant for the project.
- Specialized vehicles for transportation of raw and final products, with or without a cooling system, excluding trucks, including specialized trailers or on-truck equipment.
- Architects', engineers' and other consultation fees, costs for establishment of collective projects, feasibility studies - eligible up to a ceiling of 10% of the investment costs.

NB! Costs connected with a leasing contract, such as lessor's margin, interest refinancing costs, overheads and insurance charges, shall **not** be eligible expenditure.