



**THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA  
MINISTRY FOR AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND WATER MANAGEMENT  
SECTOR FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(Managing Authority)**

**SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IPARD II PROGRAMME  
IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**

**The Seventh session of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee**

**Belgrade, September 2020**

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

AAS – Agricultural Advisory Services

AP – Autonomous Province

DAP – Directorate for Agrarian Payments

EC – European Commission

EU – European Union

IA – IPARD Agency

IPARD – Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance in Rural Development

MAFWM – Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management

RS – Republic of Serbia

## Summary

The semi-annual report on the implementation of the IPARD II Programme in the Republic of Serbia was prepared in order to report on the progress of the Programme implementation process, and it covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020.

This report was prepared by the Managing Authority, and is based on the data IPARD Agency has delivered in the form of Common Indicator Tables for Monitoring and Evaluation of IPA Rural Development Programmes 2014-2020. Results of eight announced and closed Public Calls for Measure 1 and Measure 3 are presented in the Report, shown cumulatively, since the beginning of Programme implementation. The results of Public Calls are presented per measures, eligible sectors, group and investment type, regions and administrative districts, as well as type of recipient. Additionally, the Report includes adopted legal documents in the observed period, training and projects, the progress made in the process of entrusting budget implementation tasks, as well as the presentation of implemented promotional activities.

## Introduction

The Republic of Serbia has been implementing the IPARD II Programme since December 2017. From the start of the implementation to September 2019, eight Public Calls were announced and closed, while the First Public Call for Measure 7 – Farm diversification and business development was announced in July 2020. Having regard to the fact that Republic of Serbia has been thoroughly and intensely working on the preparation and promotion of the IPARD II Programme, farmers have shown great interest, as evidenced by the fact that 1,437 applications have been submitted by now, and 170 recipients received Decisions on payments of IPARD support until the end of June 2020 and started to realize their investments. The strong political will of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, as well as a broad societal consensus on the importance of the IPARD support for further development and improvement of competitiveness in the sector of agriculture and rural development, are very important for the successful implementation of the IPARD II Programme.

This report covers the period starting with the Sixth session of the IPARD Monitoring Committee (November 2019), up until the end of June 2020. All the data in this Report have been presented cumulatively, since the beginning of Programme implementation, in the form of tables and graphs.

Under the IPARD II Programme, the following measures are currently entrusted:

- Measure 1: Investments in the physical assets of agricultural holdings;
- Measure 3: Investments in physical assets concerning the processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products;
- Measure 7: Farm Diversification and business development, and
- Measure 9: Technical Assistance.

As regards Measure 1, five Public Calls have been published so far:

- The First Public Call referred to investments into the physical assets of agricultural holdings for the purchase of new equipment and machinery - a total of 85 submitted applications;
- The Second Public Call referred to investments into the physical assets of agricultural holdings for the procurement of a new tractor - a total of 393 submitted applications;
- The Third Public Call referred to investments into the physical assets of agricultural holdings for the construction and equipping of facilities and the purchase of new equipment and machinery - a total of 151 submitted applications;
- The Fourth Public Call referred to investments into the physical assets of agricultural holdings for the procurement of a new tractor - a total of 437 submitted applications;
- The Fifth Public Call refers to investments into the physical assets of agricultural holdings for the purchase of new equipment and machinery - a total of 169 submitted applications;

For Measure 3, three Public Calls have been announced:

- The First Public Call referred to investments into the physical assets concerning the processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products - the purchase of new equipment - a total of 26 submitted applications;

- The Second Public Call under this Measure referred to investments into the construction and the purchase of new equipment - a total of 81 submitted applications;
- The Third Public Call under this Measure referred to investments into the investments into the construction and the purchase of new equipment – a total of 95 submitted applications.

Under Measure 7, one Public Call has been announced:

- The First Public Call for Measure 7 refers to the farm diversification and business development, and it has been announced in June 2020, with deadline for application submission from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

The Indicative Plan for Public Call was published in January 2020, and it envisaged the announcement of five Public Calls, two for Measure 1, and one Public Call each for Measure 3, Measure 7 and Measure 9. Allocated funds for all Public Calls in 2020, which include EU contribution, as well as the national contribution of RS, amount to 6.79 billion RSD. As regards the First Public Call for Measure 7, announced in June 2020, funds amounting to RSD 2.35 billion have been allocated. In accordance with the Indicative Public Call, funds amounting to RSD 620.12 million have been allocated for the procurement of a new tractor for the Sixth Public Call for Measure 1, while under the Seventh Public Call for Measure 1 and the construction and equipping of facilities, including the purchase of new equipment and other machinery excluding tractor, funds amounting to RSD 2.48 billion have been allocated. As regards the Fourth Public Call for Measure 3, RSD 2.54 billion has been allocated for construction and equipping. When it comes to Measure 9, the Indicative Plan of Public Calls in 2020, allocated budget amounting of RSD 53.63 million.

## **Entrustment of budget implementation tasks for Measure 7 and Measure 9**

On 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019, NAO submitted the request for the entrustment of budget implementation tasks for Measure 7 and Measure 9, with the accompanying documentation, to the EC. The NAO received Audit opinion with one condition and six recommendations from the European Commission (DG AGRI) on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2020. The EC Audit findings are not blocking, but they include the condition which have to be included in the Financial Agreement and it refers to the Action Plan implementation by which short-term decision on the appointment of all Assistant Directors in the IPARD Agency should be replaced with long-term or permanent decisions. The remaining findings are intermediate and minor findings.

The Rulebook for Measure 7 was published on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2020 and the First Public Call for this Measure was announced in June 2020. The deadline for submitting applications for project approval is from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

When it comes to Measure 9, the first terms of references are being prepared for public procurements that will be implemented throughout this Measure according to the PRAG rules.

## **The proposal for the IPARD II Programme modifications**

The Managing Authority has prepared a Proposal for the Fourth modification of the IPARD II Programme. This Programme modification includes changes in financial tables where the IPARD



funds are reallocated per measures and years. Funds are reallocated from non-entrusted measures to entrusted measures as follows:

- Financial funds for Measure 4 from the allocations for 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 have been reallocated to Measure 7 to allocations for 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020;
- Financial funds for Measure 5 from allocations for 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 have been reallocated to Measure 1 to allocations for 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020;
- Financial funds for Measure 9 from allocations for 2017 and 2018 have been reallocated to Measure 7 to allocations for 2017 and 2018;
- Financial funds for Measure 3 from the allocation for 2020 have been reallocated to Measure 1 and to allocation for 2020.

Beside to the modifications of financial tables, the Proposal for the Fourth IPARD II Programme modification also refer to the financial demarcation in order to prevent double financing of rural tourism through IPARD Measure 7 and national measure, as follows:

- The maximum amount of subsidies for the national measure is EUR 20,000;
- The minimum amount of subsidies for IPARD Measure 7 is EUR 20,000.

The Proposal for the Fourth IPARD II Programme modification will be presented on the Seventh session to the members of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee in order to be adopted.

## Adopted Legal Documents

In the period from the 6<sup>th</sup> session of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee to the end of June 2020 the following legal acts were prepared and adopted:

- 1) Amendments to the Rulebook on IPARD subsidies for the investments in physical assets concerning processing and marketing of agricultural products and fishery products (“Official Gazette of the RS”, No. 82/19 from 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019);
- 2) The Rulebook on IPARD subsidies for the farm diversification and business development (“Official Gazette of the RS”, No. 76/2020 from 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020);
- 3) The Rulebook on the conditions to be fulfilled by animal waste storage facilities and facilities for animal waste treatment processing (“Official Gazette of the RS”, No 94/17 and 94/19 from 27<sup>th</sup> December 2019);
- 4) The Protocol for cooperation between the Governmental Audit Office of EU Funds, the Managing Authority and IPARD Agency, signed on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020;
- 5) The Annual implementation report on the IPARD II Programme for the period 2018-2019, adopted in a written procedure on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020, by the IPARD II Monitoring Committee and submitted to the EC within the period prescribed by the Sectoral Agreement.

## Trainings and Projects

In cooperation with the IPA 2015 Technical Assistance project **“Capacity building for the alignment with the EU acquis in the area of agriculture, rural development, food safety,**

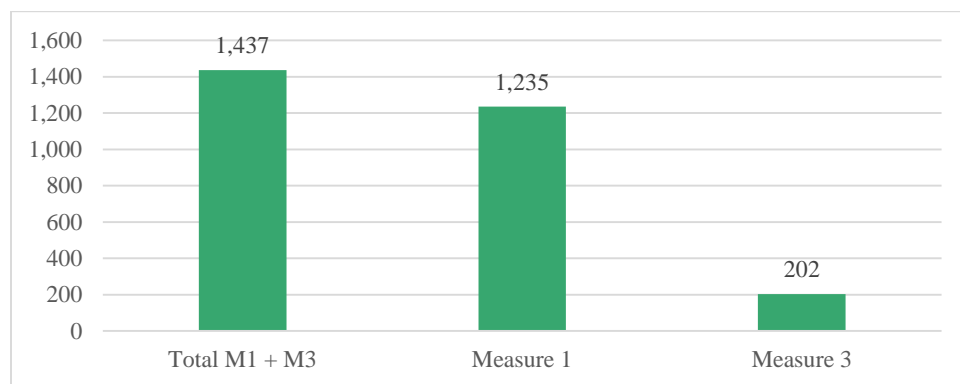
**veterinary and phytosanitary policy**”, an introductory workshop for the preparation of the Negotiation position for Chapter 11 was organized.

## Implementation of the IPARD II measures

Analytical data presented in this part of the Report are based on the data from Common Indicator Tables for Monitoring and Evaluation of the IPA Rural Development Programmes 2014-2020 (monitoring tables) which have been submitted to the Managing Authority by the IPARD Agency (DAP), with cut-off date 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020. During the preparation of this Report, data from the First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Public Call for Measure 1 have been used, as well as the First, Second, and Third Public Call for Measure 3. In the moment on the Report preparation, the First Public Call for Measure 7 is ongoing and the deadline for submitting the application for project approval is 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

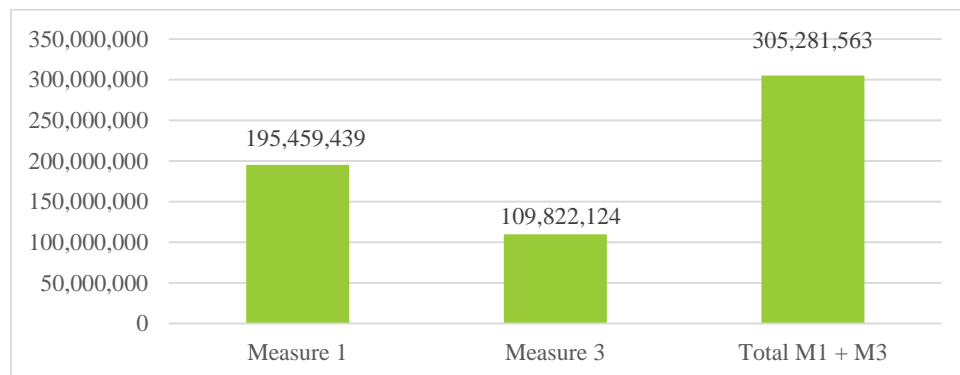
Based on the results of the eight closed Public Calls (five Public Calls for Measure 1 and three Public Calls for Measure 3), a total of 1,437 applications for project approval have been submitted, out of which 1,235 applications have been submitted for Measure 1 (86% of the total number of applications) and 202 applications (14%) for Measure 3 (Graph 1).

**Graph 1: The total number of submitted applications (Measure 1 and Measure 3)**



When it comes to the total requested expenditures for investments (Graph 2), the total requested expenditures for Measure 1 and Measure 3 amount to EUR 305,281,563, out of which EUR 195,459,439 (64%) is for Measure 1 and the total requested expenditures for Measure 3 amount to EUR 109,822,124 (36%).

**Graph 2: The total requested expenditures and expenditures per measures**



Out of the total number of submitted applications, a total of 30 applications are unclassified (2%), out of which 13 applications are in Measure 1 and 17 applications are unclassified within Measure 3.

In 42 submitted applications for project approval, the applicants did not specify the value of the investment, out of which 23 applications are under Measure 1 and 19 applications are under Measure 3.

When it comes to rejected applications, the IPARD Agency adopted 305 Decisions on project rejection by the end of the reporting period, whereby the total number of rejected applications includes rejected, as well as withdrawn applications due to the applicant's withdrawal. The two most common reasons for applications rejecting relate to unacceptability of investment criteria (101 applications were rejected on this basis) and the complementary documentation requested was not delivered (50 applications).

Within Measure 1, a total of 257 applications were rejected, with the total requested expenditures for investment amounting to EUR 36,705,184. Observed per calls, the largest number of rejected applications is under the Second Public Call for Measure 1 (155 applications). Analysed per sector, the largest number of adopted Decisions on project rejection was within the Other Crops sector (109 applications) and the Fruit and Vegetables sector (103 applications), while within the Meat sector 29 applications were rejected and within the Milk sector 16 Decisions on project rejection were adopted.

Regarding Measure 3, 48 applications were rejected with the total requested expenditures amounting to EUR 15,759,664 and the largest number of rejected applications was under the Second Public Call for this Measure, with the total requested expenditures amounting to EUR 10,544,491. Observed per sector, the largest number of rejected applications was within the Fruit and Vegetables sector (26 applications), while eight applications were rejected in the Meat sector and five applications were rejected within the Milk sector.

The IPARD Agency conducted 572 on-the-spot controls, out of which 378 on-the-spot controls is before project approval (323 on-the-spot controls for Measure 1 and 55 on-the-spot controls for Measure 3). Out of the total number of controlled projects, a total of 309 Decisions on project approval were adopted (257 under Measure 1 and 52 under Measure 3) with total approved eligible expenditures amounting to EUR 53,932,120 and the approved support amounting to EUR 29,860,898.

Out of the total number of approved applications, 257 applications were approved under Measure 1 with the total approved eligible expenditures amounting to EUR 25,197,503 and the approved support amounting to EUR 15,493,335, with the largest number of approved applications under the Second Public Call for Measure 1 (166 applications with total approved eligible expenditures amounting to EUR 7,315,143), while the largest amount of approved expenditures was within the Third Public Call (EUR 11,593,630 for 48 applications). Observed per sector, based on the processed applications, within Measure 1, the largest number of applications was approved in the Other Crops sector (56%), followed by the Fruit and Vegetables sector (26%), while a significantly lower number of approved applications was achieved in the Meat sector (10%) and the Milk sector (8%).

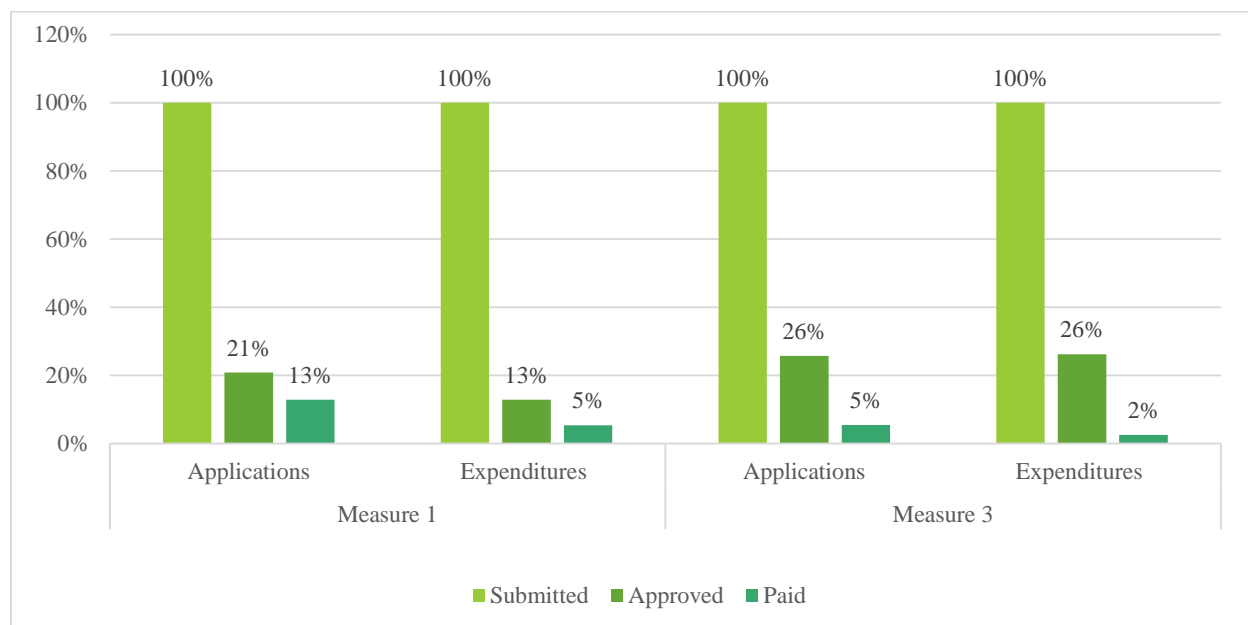
When it comes to the Measure 3, out of the total number of approved applications, 52 applications were approved under Measure 3 with total approved eligible expenditures amounting to EUR

28,734,617 and the approved support amounting to EUR 14,367,563, with the largest number of approved applications within the Second Public Call for Measure 3 (37 applications with total approved eligible expenditures amounting to EUR 24,268,589). Observed per sector, based on the processed applications, within Measure 3, the largest number of applications was approved in the Fruit and Vegetables sector (86%), while a significantly lower number of approved applications were achieved in the Meat sector (8%) and the Milk sector (6%).

Regarding realization, out of the total number of approved applications, the IPARD Agency adopted 170 Decisions on the payment of IPARD support with eligible expenditures for investment amounting to EUR 13,224,674 and the paid support amounting to EUR 7,993,841. Viewed by measures, 159 applications under Measure 1 were paid with eligible expenditures amounting to EUR 10,493,002 and paid support in the amount of EUR 6,629,802, while under Measure 3, 11 applications with eligible expenditures amounting to EUR 2,731,672 were paid, along with paid support amounting to EUR 1,364,039.

Out of the total number of submitted applications for Measure 1 (1,235 applications), 21% were approved and 13% were paid, while within Measure 3 (the first two public calls) 52 applications were approved, which is 26% out of the total number of submitted applications (202 applications), as presented in the Graph 3. When it comes to the payment dynamics for approved applications within Measure 1, 62% of the total number of approved applications was paid, with 42% of the eligible expenditures and 43% of the support. Under Measure 3, 21% of the total number of approved applications was paid, with 9% of the eligible expenditures and 9% of the support. It is evident that the share of approved eligible expenditures in the total requested expenditures under Measure 1 (13%) is significantly lower compared to this share under Measure 3 (26%), which can be explained by the fact that the projects under Measure 3 are projects of higher value.

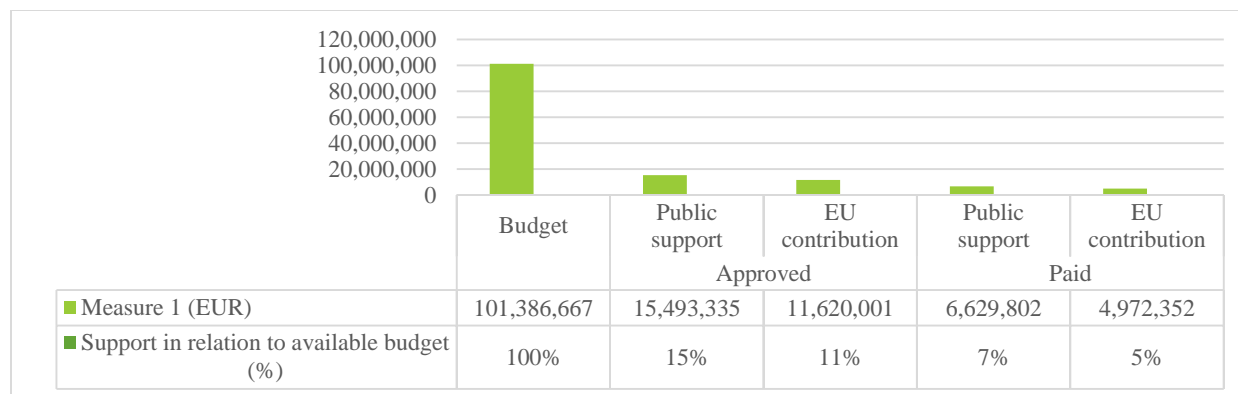
**Graph 3: Approved and paid applications in relation to submitted application for Measure 1 and Measure 3 (%)**



## Measure 1

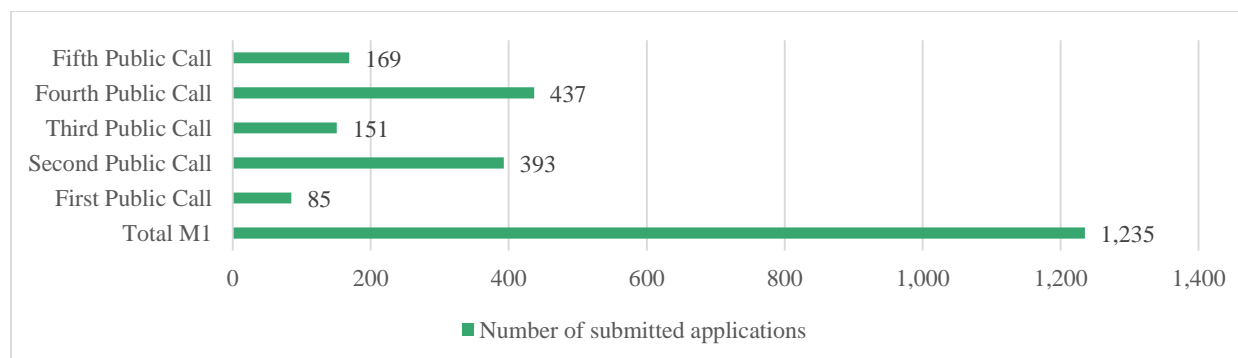
Based on the available data on the allocated budget for five public calls within Measure 1 and the amount of public support with 257 approved and 159 paid applications, with average intensity of aid of 61,5% (approved applications), it can be said that 15% of public support has been approved in relation to the total funds allocated for Measure 1 by the IPARD II Programme (EU contribution of 11%) and 7% of public support (EU contribution of 5%) out of the total budget for Measure 1 was paid (Graph 4)

**Graph 4: Support in relation with the allocated budget amount (%), Measure 1**



The Graph 5 presents the total number of submitted applications under Measure 1 for five public calls, as well as the number of submitted applications per calls for Measure 1. Under Measure 1, a total of 1,235 applications for project approval were submitted, out of which 85 applications within the First Public Call (7%), 393 applications within the Second Public Call (32%), 151 applications within the Third Public Call (12%), 437 applications within the Fourth Public Call (35%) and 169 applications within the Fifth Public Call (14%). Analyzing the number of submitted applications, it can be concluded that the greatest interest was expressed in the public calls related to the procurement of a new tractor.

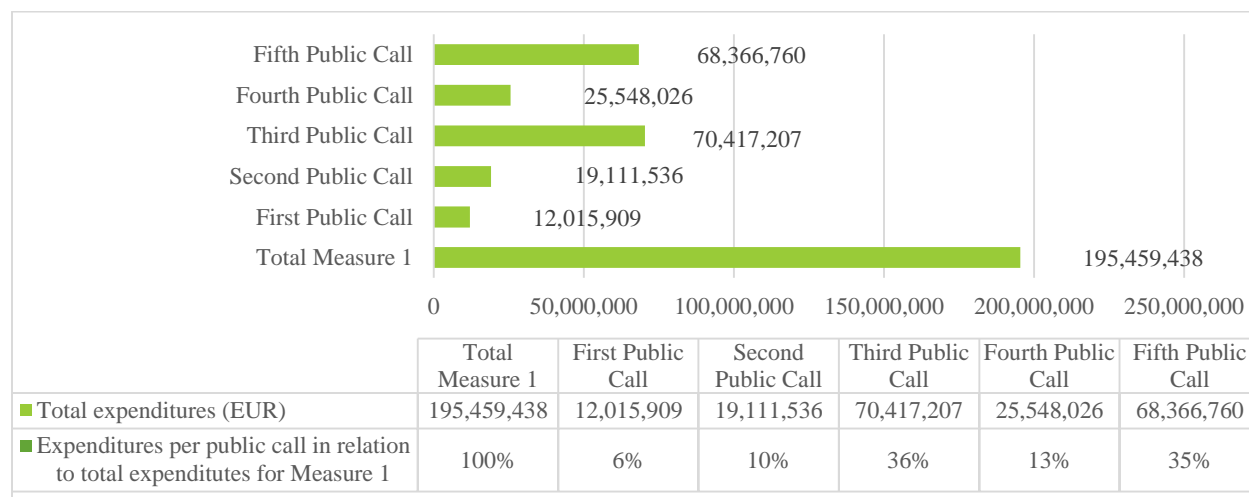
**Graph 5: The total number of submitted application for Measure 1 per calls**



As for the total requested expenditures, under Measure 1, the total requested expenditures amount to EUR 195,459,439. Observed per calls, the total requested expenditures for the First Public Call amount to EUR 12,015,909, for the Second Public Call amount to EUR 19,111,536, for the Third Public Call the expenditures amount to EUR 70,417,207, for the Fourth Public Call amount to EUR 25,548,026 and for the Fifth Public Call amount to EUR 68,366,760 (Graph 6).

The largest share of requested expenditures under Measure 1 was achieved under the Third and Fifth Public Calls, which can be explained by the fact that these two public calls, in addition to the procurement of a new tractor, also included investments related to construction, which usually have higher value.

**Graph 6: The total amount of expenditures and expenditures per calls for Measure 1 (EUR)**



Out of the total number of submitted applications for Measure 1, 257 applications were approved with the total approved eligible expenditures amounting to EUR 25,197,503, which represents 13% of the approved expenditures out of the total requested expenditures within the five public calls for Measure 1.

Observed per calls, within the **First Public Call**, 42 Decisions on project approval were adopted, which is 16% out of the total number of approved applications for Measure 1 (49% of submitted applications under the First Public Call for Measure 1). Eligible expenditures for approved applications under the First Public Call amount to EUR 6,234,202, i.e. 25% out of the total amount of approved eligible expenditures for Measure 1 (52% out of the total requested expenditures under the First Public Call for Measure 1). The total public support for approved applications amounts to EUR 3,784,815, while the EU contribution amounts to EUR 2,838,611.

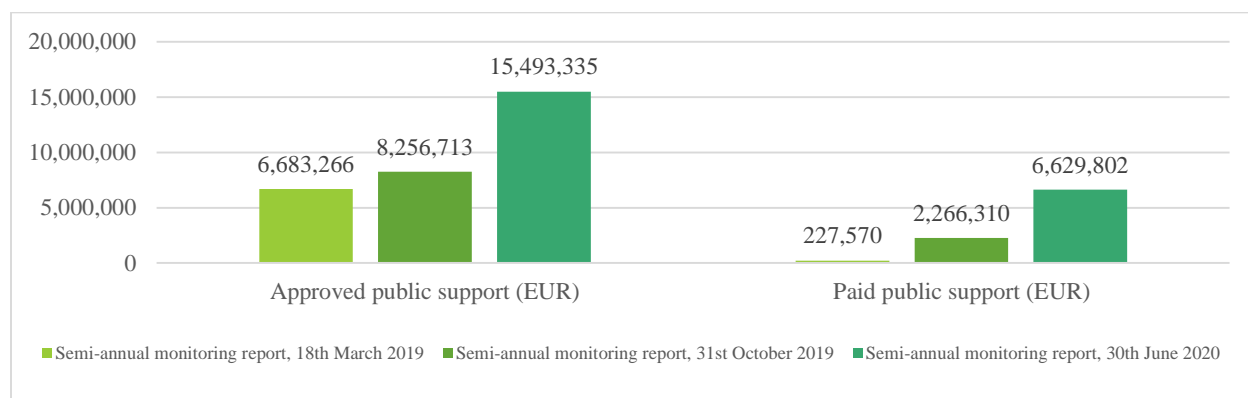
Within the **Second Public Call**, 166 applications were approved, which is 65% of the total number of approved applications for Measure 1 (42% of submitted applications under the Second Public Call for Measure 1). The total amount of eligible expenditures for approved applications is EUR 7,315,143, i.e. 29% of the total amount of approved eligible expenditures for Measure 1 (38% of the total requested expenditures within the Second Public Call for Measure 1). The total public support for approved applications amounts to EUR 4,678,527, while the EU contribution amounts to EUR 3,508,895.

Within the **Third Public Call**, 48 applications were approved, which is 19% of the total number of approved applications for Measure 1 (32% of submitted applications under the Third Public Call for Measure 1). The total amount of eligible expenditures for approved applications is EUR 11,593,630, i.e. 46% of the total amount of approved eligible expenditures for Measure 1 (16% of the total requested expenditures within the Third Public Call for Measure 1). The total public support for approved applications amounts to EUR 6,994,550, while the EU contribution amounts to EUR 5,245,913.

Within the **Fourth Public Call**, one application was approved with a total approved eligible expenditures amounting to EUR 54,528. The total public support for approved applications is EUR 35,443, while the EU contribution is EUR 26,582.

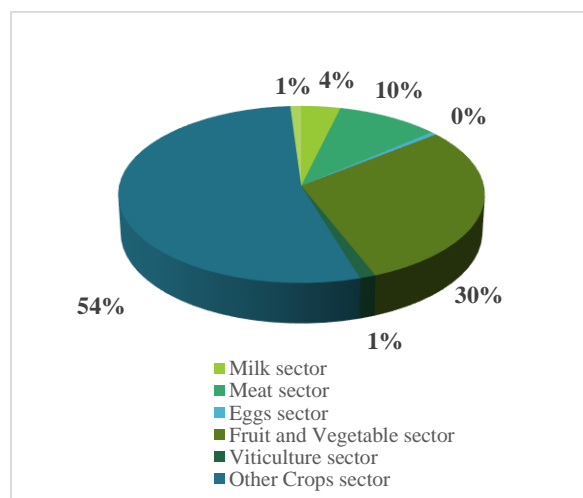
In the reporting period, there were no approved applications under the **Fifth Public Call** for Measure 1.

**Graph 7: Progress in relation to approved and paid public support for Measure 1**

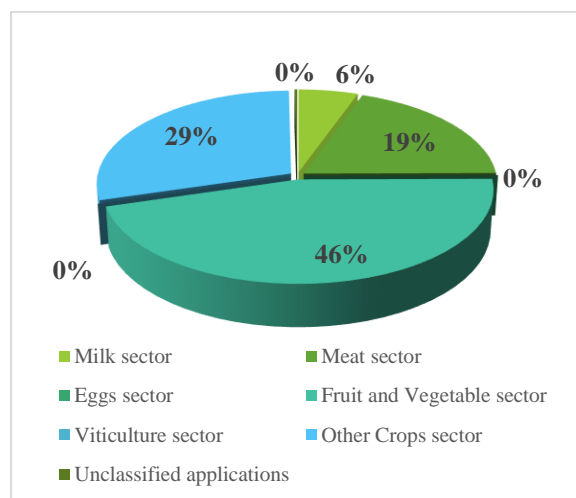


The period between the two reports observed an increase in the total approved public support for Measure 1 (by 88%). The total paid public support in relation to the previous reported period has a significant increase - from EUR 2,266,310 to EUR 6,629,802, or 93% (Graph 7).

**Graph 8: Structure of submitted applications for Measure 1 per sector**



**Graph 9: Structure of the total amount of eligible expenditures for Measure 1 per sector**



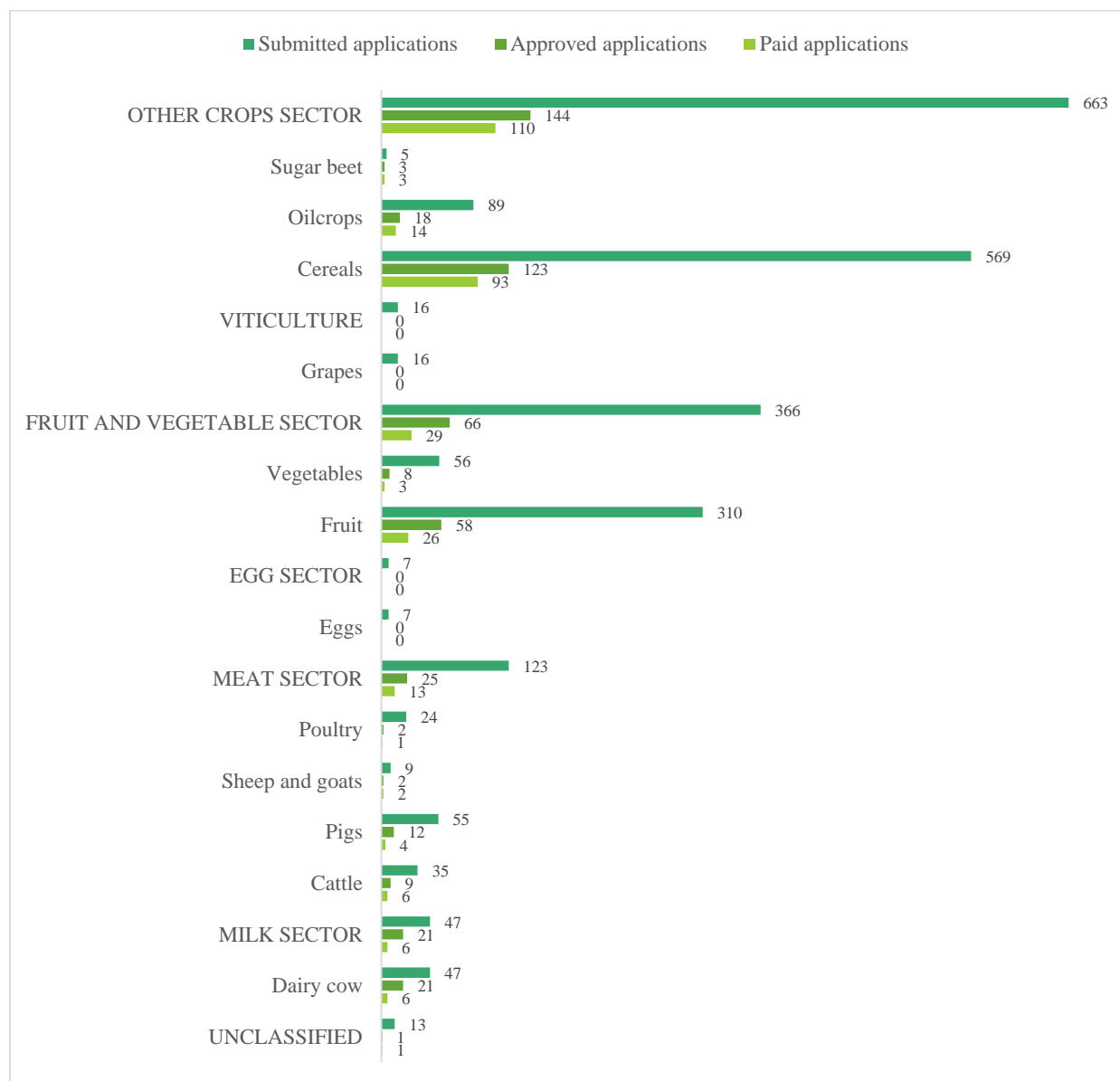
Under Measure 1, in the total number of submitted applications (1,235), the Other Crops sector (cereals, oilseeds, sugar beet) has the largest share of 54% (663 applications), followed by the Fruit and Vegetables sector 30% (out of a total of 366 submitted applications within Fruit and Vegetable sector, 310 of applications were submitted for fruit, while 56 applications were submitted for vegetables), the Meat sector participates with 10% (123 applications), the Milk sector participates with 4% (47 applications), the Viticulture sector and the Eggs sector participate



with 1% each (16 submitted applications within the Viticulture sector and seven submitted applications in the Eggs sector), while 13 submitted applications were unclassified (Graph 8).

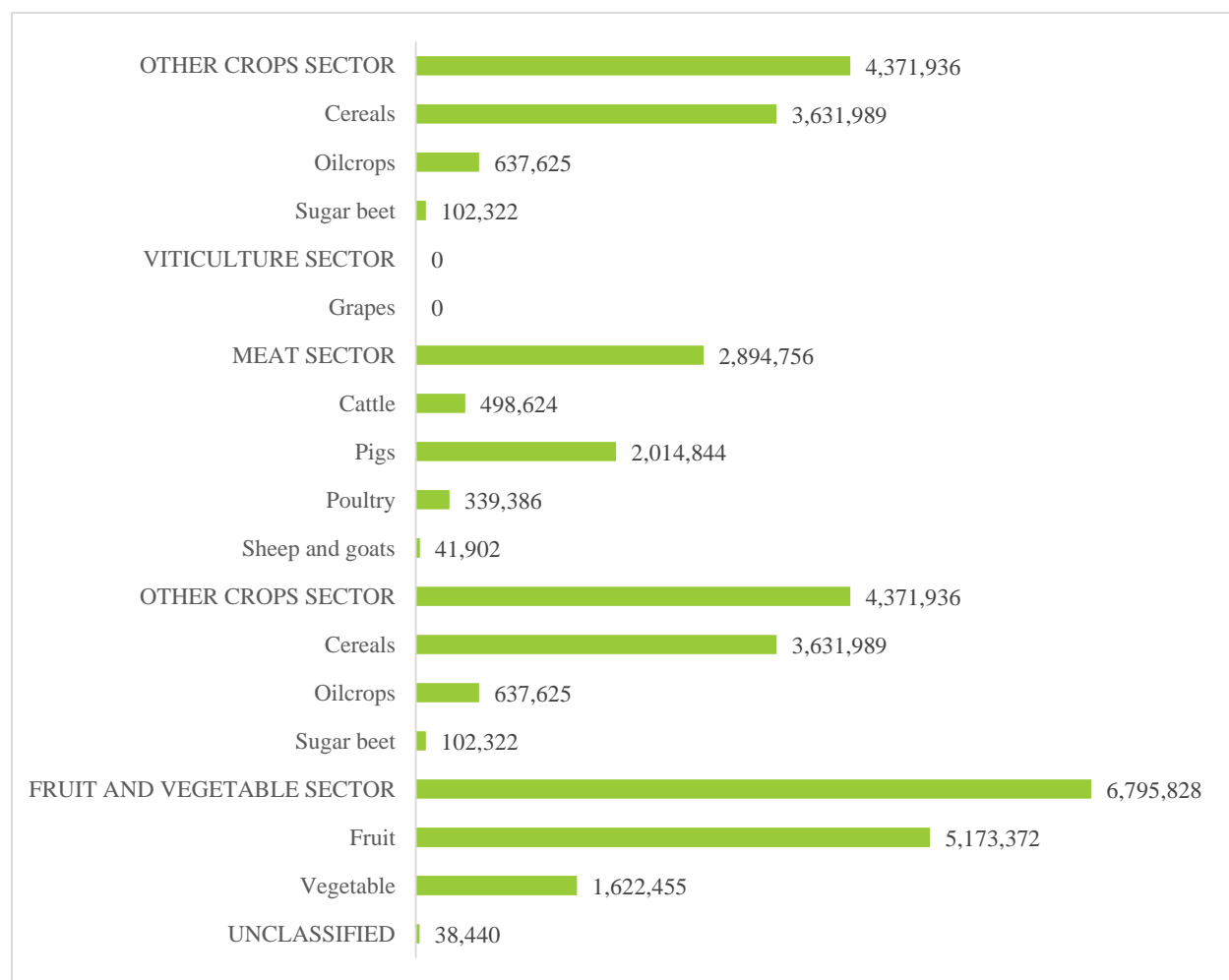
When it comes to the structure of total eligible expenditures for investments per sector under Measure 1 (Graph 9), the largest share in the total eligible expenditures for investment was achieved by the Fruit and Vegetables sector 46%, while the Other Crops sector achieved a share of 29%. The Meat sector has a share of 19%, while the Milk sector has a share of 6% in the total eligible expenditures for investment. **Note:** In this analysis, the total eligible expenditures based for approved applications were used as a basis.

**Graph 10: The number of submitted, approved and paid applications for Measure 1 per sector and sub-sector**



Observed **per sector**, the Graph 10 presents data on the number of submitted, approved and paid applications under Measure 1. In the total number of submitted applications for Measure 1, the dominant share belongs to Other Crops sector (663 applications), with the largest number of submitted applications in this sector is in the Cereals sub-sector (569 applications). Also, the Other Crops sector is dominant when it comes to the total number of approved (144 applications) and paid applications (110 applications), as well as in share of approved applications in the total number of submitted applications (22%). The Fruit and Vegetable sector, with a total of 366 submitted applications, is on the second position in terms of the total number of submitted applications, primarily due to the dominant share of the Fruit sub-sector in the total number of submitted applications within this sector. The Meat sector achieved a share of 10% in the total number of submitted applications for project approval for Measure 1, with the largest number of submitted applications in the Pig sub-sector. The Milk sectors, Viticulture and Eggs have a significantly lower number of submitted applications compared to other sectors. There were no approved and paid applications in the Viticulture Sector and the Egg Sector. Within the “Unclassified applications”, there was 13 applications, out of which six unclassified applications belonged to the Other Crops sector (without a submitted business plan or information referring to the type of production)

**Graph 11: The total eligible expenditures for Measure 1 per sector and sub-sector (000 EUR)**

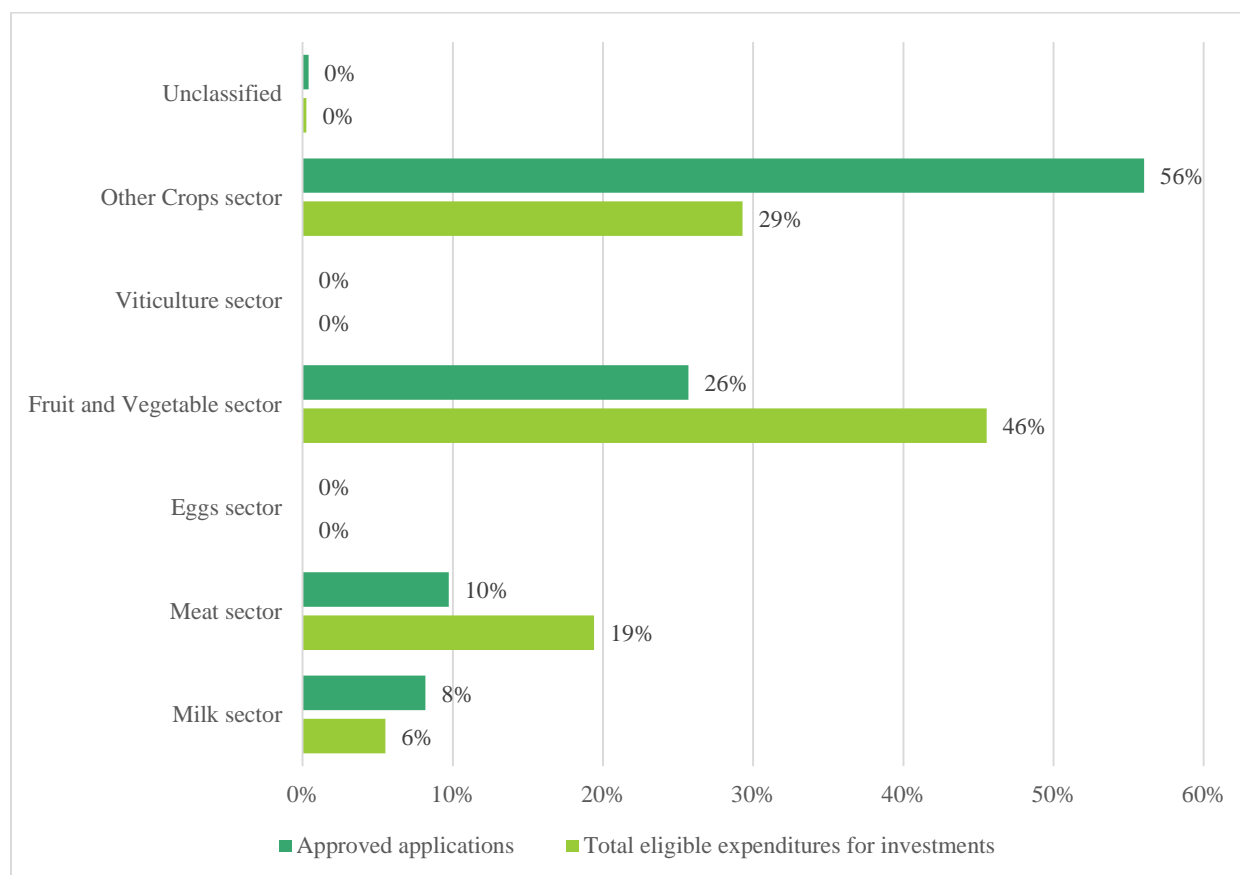


Observed per sector's share in the total eligible expenditures for investment, the first position belongs to the Fruit and Vegetable sector (EUR 6,795,828), with the dominant share of the Fruit sub-sector within this group (76%).

The total eligible expenditures within the Other Crops sector amount to EUR 4,371,935, with the dominant share of the Cereals sub-sector with the 83% out of the total eligible expenditures within the Other Crops sector.

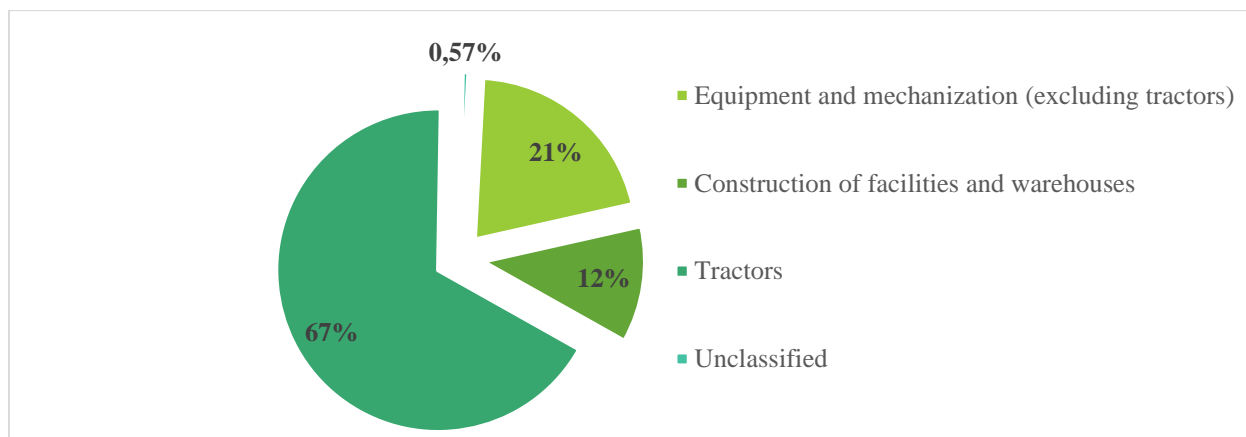
In the structure of total eligible expenditures for Measure 1, the Meat sector achieved 19%, while the lowest share of 6% belongs to the Milk sector.

**Graph 12: The share of particular sectors in the total approved applications and eligible expenditures for Measure 1 (%)**



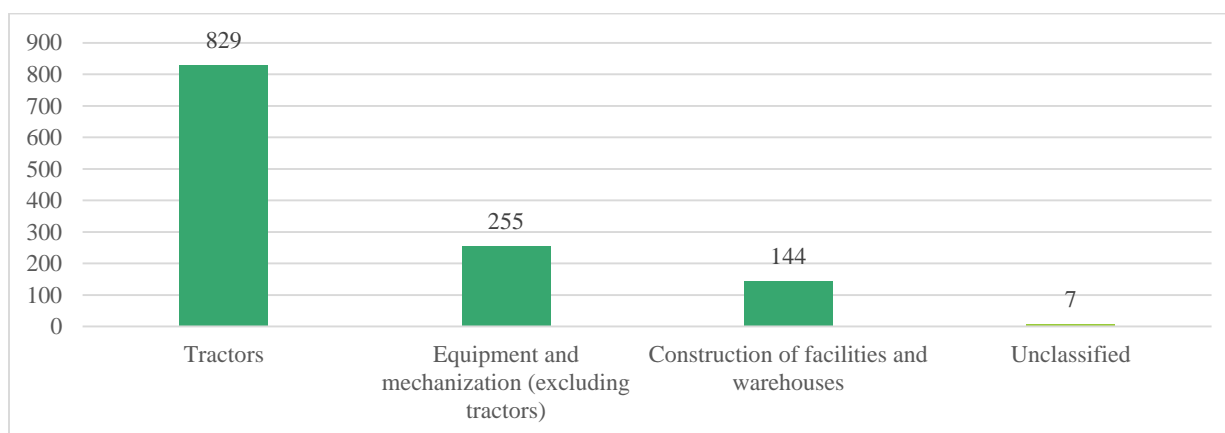
The largest share in the total number of approved applications for Measure 1 (56%), as well as in the total approved eligible expenditures (29%) belongs to the Other Crops sector. In the structure of approved applications for Measure 1, the Fruit and Vegetables sector has a share of 26%, while its share in the structure of approved eligible expenditures is 45%, which indicates that these are applications of higher value (Graph 12). The lowest share, both in the structure of approved applications and in the structure of approved eligible expenditures, is achieved by the Milk sector (8%, i.e. 5% respectively). In the Egg sector and the Viticulture sector, there were no approved applications, and therefore no expenditures, because investment in these two sectors was possible only starting with the Fourth and Fifth Public Call for Measure 1.

**Graph 13: The share of particular group of investments in the total number of submitted application for Measure 1**

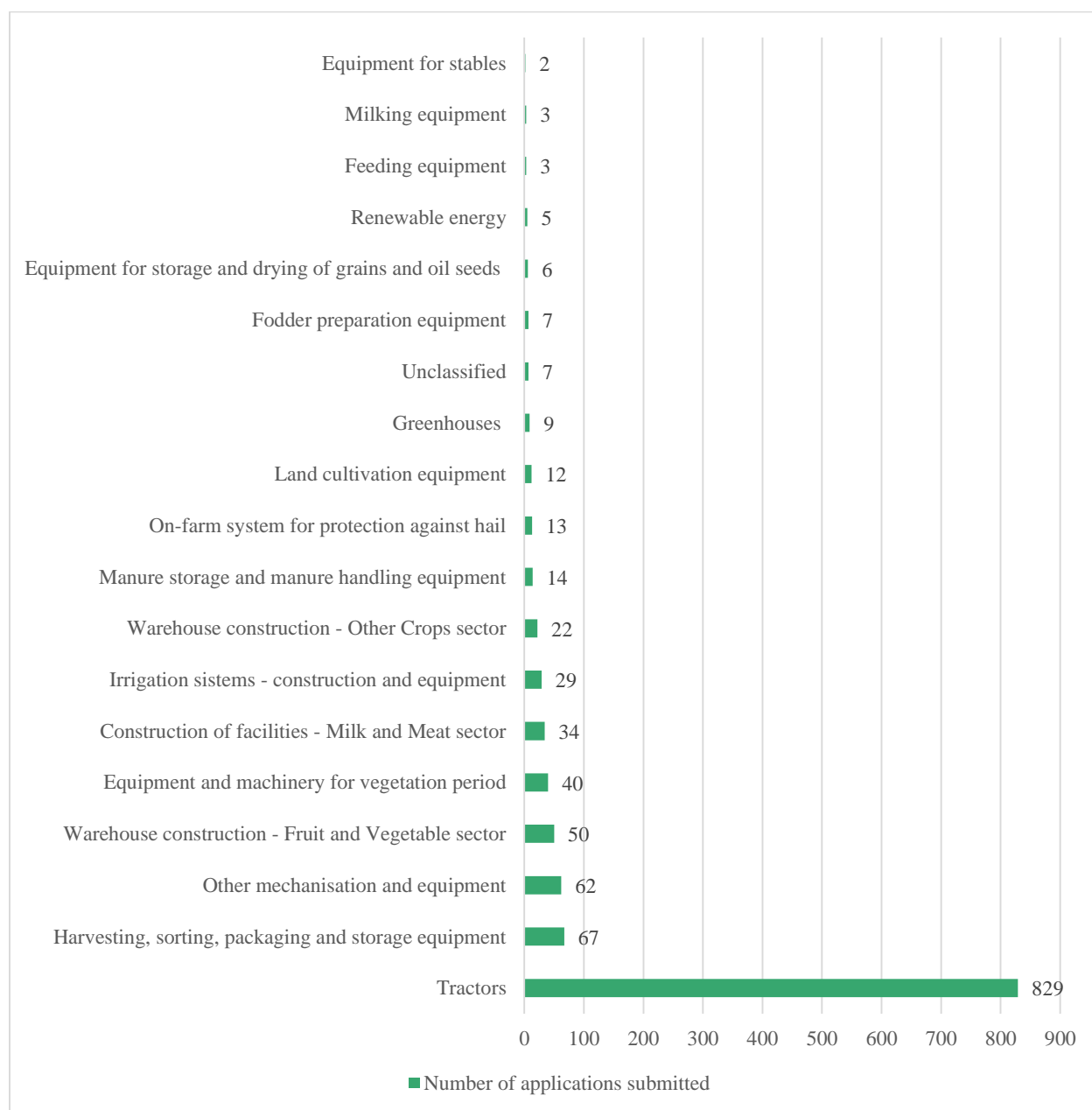


Observed per **group of investment**, within Measure 1, the dominant share in the total number of submitted applications represent the investment group related to the procurement of a new tractor, with a share of 67%, followed by submitted applications for equipment and machinery (excluding tractors) with a share in the total number of submitted applications of 21%, while the share of submitted applications for construction of facilities and warehouses is 12% (Graphs 13 and 14).

**Graph 14: The total number of submitted applications for Measure 1 per group of investment**



Viewed by **type of investment**, under Measure 1, the potential recipients expressed the greatest interest in the procurement of a new tractor, the purchase of new equipment for harvesting, sorting, packaging and storage (Fruit and Vegetables sector), other machinery and equipment, construction of new operational facilities and warehouses, as well as equipment and machinery for the vegetation period. The above mentioned types of investments have a share of 85% in the total number of submitted applications (whereby tractors have a share of 67% in the total number of submitted applications). Having in mind the structure of these investments, it can be stated that the largest number of requested investments is in the field of plant production. On the other hand, from the aspect of the submitted applications, potential IPARD recipients expressed the lowest interest in investments in livestock production: purchase of equipment for stables, milking and feeding (Graph 15).

**Graph 15: The total number of submitted applications for Measure 1 per type of investment**

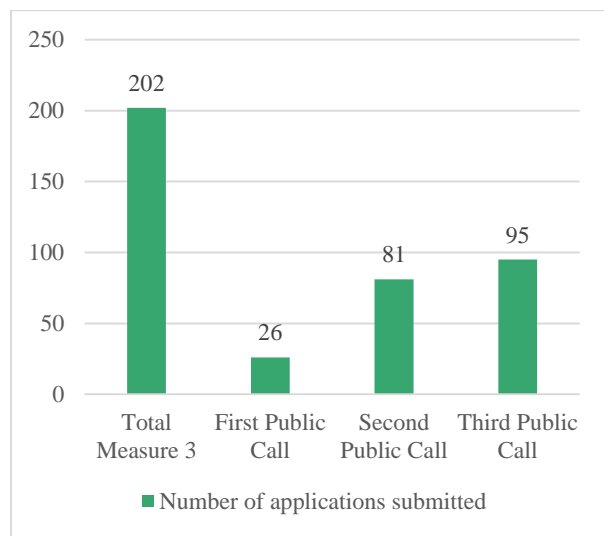
**Note:** In case the applicant submits an application for project approval for more than one investment, the dominant investment group is determined based on the financially dominant investment.

Within the group related to **equipment and machinery** (excluding tractors), the largest number of submitted applications was realized for the purchase of harvesting, sorting, packaging and storage equipment (67 applications). Within the group of **construction investments**, potential recipients expressed the greatest interest for the construction of new storage buildings in the field of plant production - a total of 77 applications: Fruit and Vegetables sector (50 applications) and Other Crops sector (22 applications). The construction of new buildings in the livestock production sector had 41 submitted applications (Meat sector - 34 applications and Milk sector - seven applications).

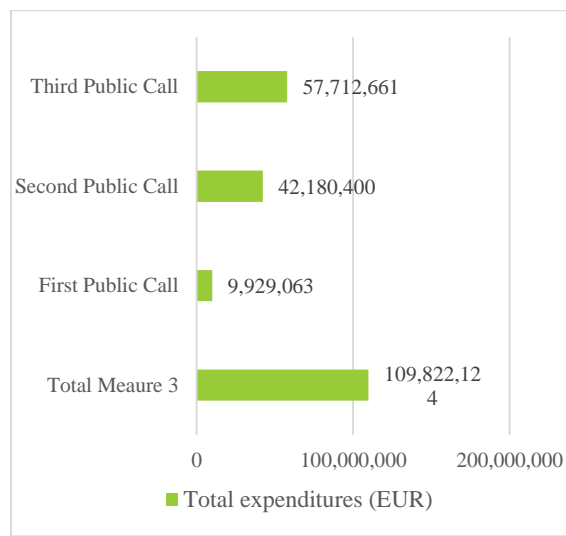
### Measure 3

When it comes to Measure 3, under the three Public Calls, 202 applications for project approval were submitted, with the total requested expenditures amounting to EUR 109,822,124 (Graphs 16 and 17).

**Graph 16: The total number of submitted applications for Measure 3**

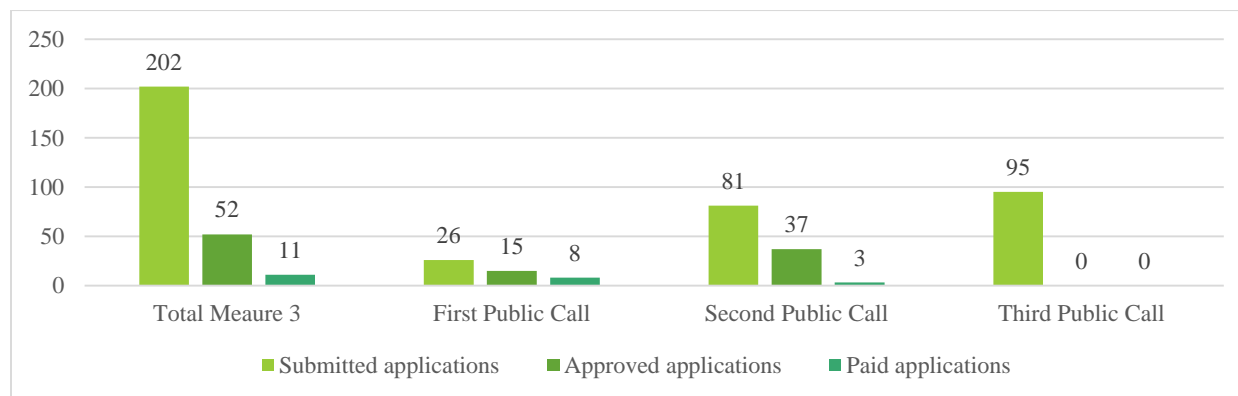


**Graph 17: Total expenditures and expenditures per Public Call for Measure 3**



In the total number of submitted applications for Measure 3, potential IPARD recipients submitted 26 applications (13%) within the First Public Call, 81 applications (40%) within the Second Public Call and 95 applications (47%) within the Third Public Call. For 202 submitted applications for project approval, the total amount of requested expenditures is EUR 109,822,124, out of which EUR 9,929,063 (9%) refers to the First Public Call, EUR 42,180,400 (38%) to the Second Public Call and EUR 57,712,661 to the Third Public Call (53%). The stated ratio of total requested expenditures per call is expected, having in mind that within the Second and Third Public Calls, in addition to submitting applications for the procurement of equipment, it was also possible to submit applications for investments related to construction.

**Graph 18: The total number of submitted, approved and paid applications for Measure 3**



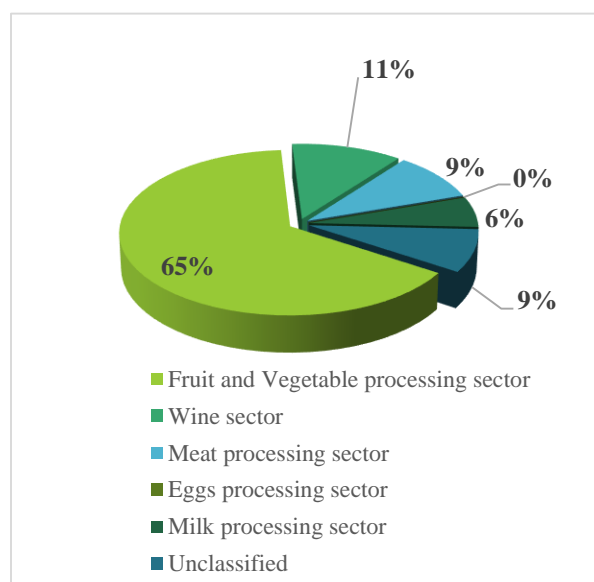
Out of the total number of submitted applications under Measure 3, 52 applications were approved, with approved eligible expenditures amounting to EUR 28,734,617 and the amount of support of EUR 14,367,563. Viewed per calls, within the First Public Call, 15 applications were approved with a total amount of eligible expenditures of EUR 4,466,028 and total public support amounting to EUR 2,233,014, while within the Second Public Call, 37 applications were approved with eligible expenditures amounting to EUR 24,268,589 and the support of EUR 12,134,549. In relation to the total number of submitted applications, for the 26% of applications the Decision on project approval was adopted. The largest number of Decisions on Project Approval is in the Fruit and Vegetable Processing sector (45 applications).

Out of the total number of submitted applications, 48 applications were rejected, out of which 11 applications were withdrawn due to the withdrawal of the applicants. The most common reason for rejecting an application under Measure 3, was the complementary documentation requested was not delivered (18 applications). Viewed per sectors, the largest number of the Decisions on project rejection was in the Fruit and Vegetable processing sector (26 applications, out of which 21 applications were rejected, while five were rejected due to the applicant's withdrawal).

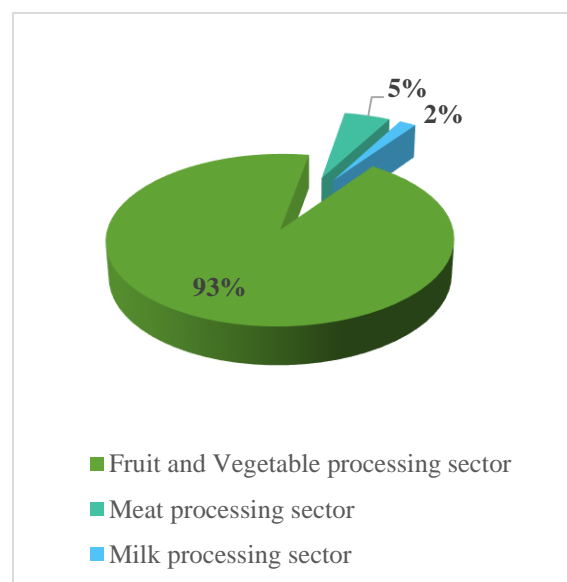
Regarding the paid applications, within Measure 3, 11 applications were paid with eligible expenditures in the amount of EUR 2,731,672, and EUR 1,364,039 for support. Viewed per calls, within the First Public Call for Measure 3, eight applications were paid with eligible expenditures amounting to EUR 2,108,937 and EUR 1,050,243 for support, while within the Second Public Call, three applications were paid with eligible expenditures in the amount of EUR 622,735 and EUR 313,796 for support. No applications have been approved and paid within the Third Public Call. The largest number of paid applications under Measure 3 was in the Fruit and Vegetable processing sector (eight applications).

In the reporting period, under Measure 3, 52 on-the-spot controls were carried out before the project approval within which the one application was approved.

**Graph 19: The structure of submitted applications for Measure 3 per sector**



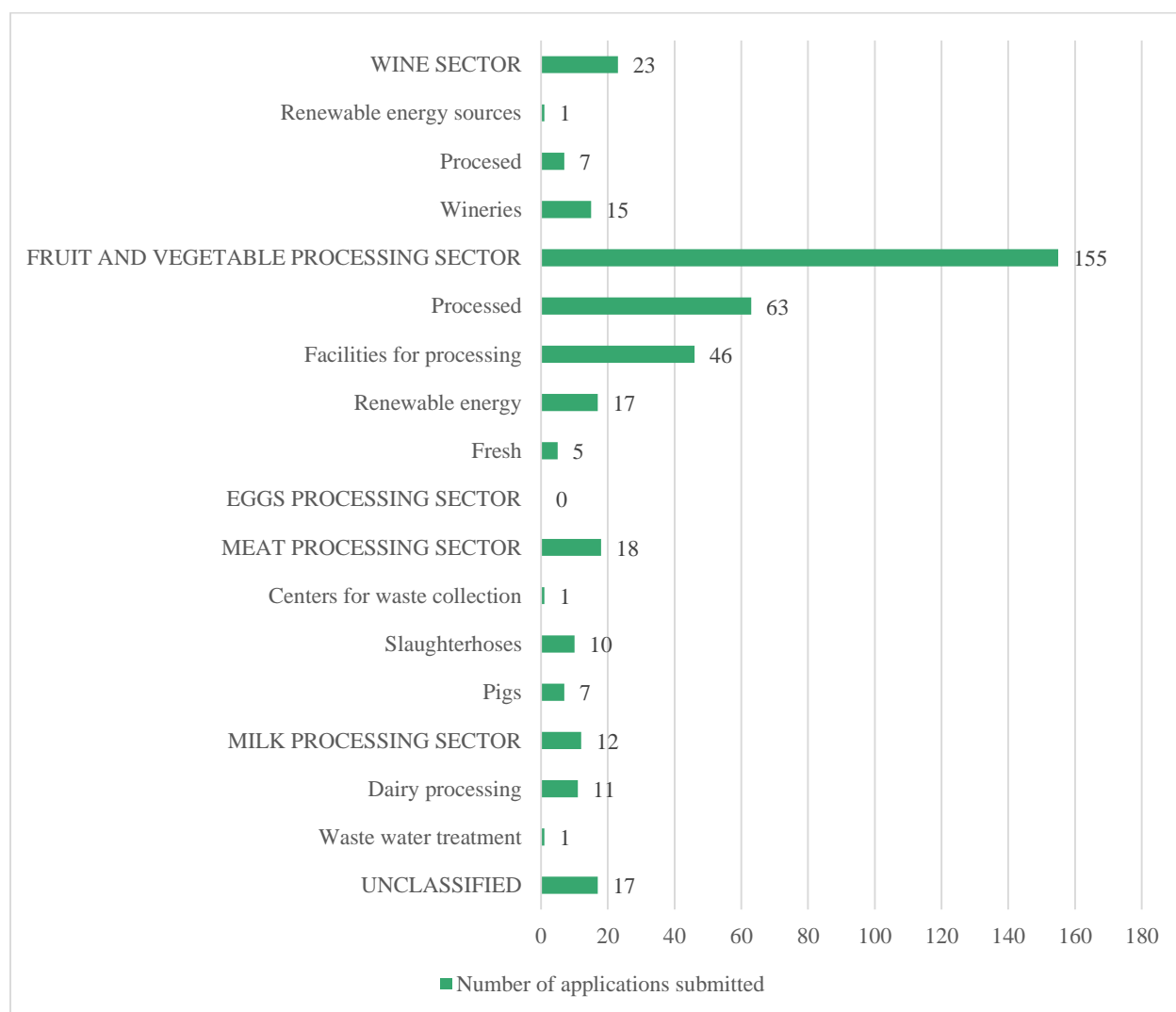
**Graph 20: The structure of eligible expenditures for approved applications for Measure 3 per sector**



Under Measure 3, the share of the Fruit and Vegetable processing sector is dominant in the total number of submitted applications (65%), followed by Wine sector with 23 submitted applications and a share of 11%, and while the Meat processing sector has a share of 9% in the total number of submitted applications under Measure 3. Due to not specifying a sub-sector, 17 applications were unclassified, out of which 13 applications do not specify either a sector or a sub-sector (Graph 19).

Observed per eligible expenditures for investment for approved applications, the Fruit and Vegetable processing sector achieved a share of 93% in the total requested expenditures under Measure 3. The Meat processing sector has a share of 5% in the total approved eligible expenditures for investment, while the Milk processing sector participates with 2% (Graph 20).

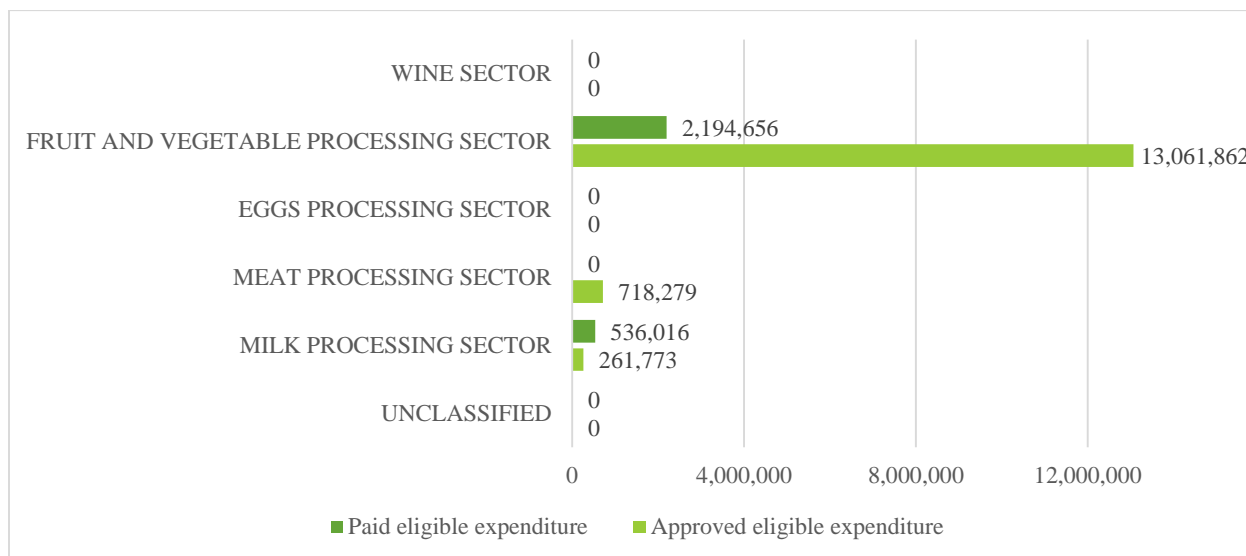
**Graph 21: The number of submitted applications for Measure 3 per sector and sub-sector**



Under Measure 3, the Fruit and Vegetable processing sector also dominates in terms of total approved eligible expenditures for investments per sector and sub-sector (EUR 13,061,862, with a share in the total approved eligible expenditures of 93%), while the Meat and Milk processing sectors within Measures 3 from the aspect of total approved eligible expenditures for investments have a significantly lower share - 5% and 2%, respectively (Graphs 22 and 23).

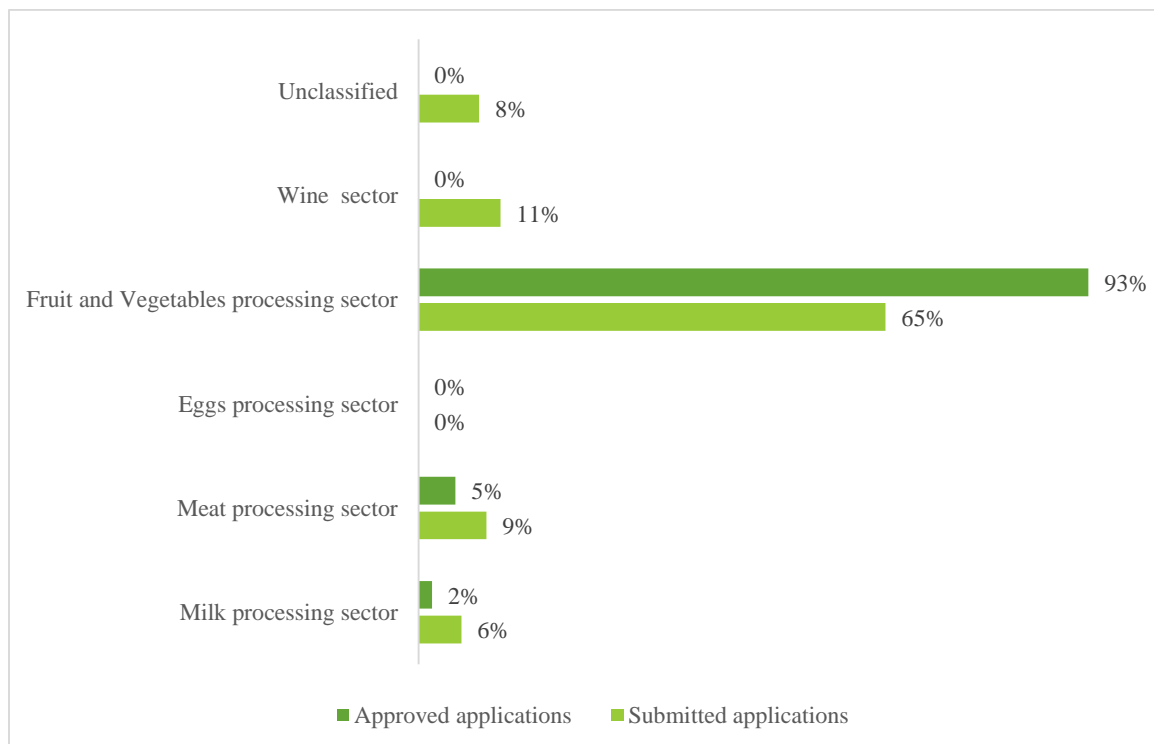


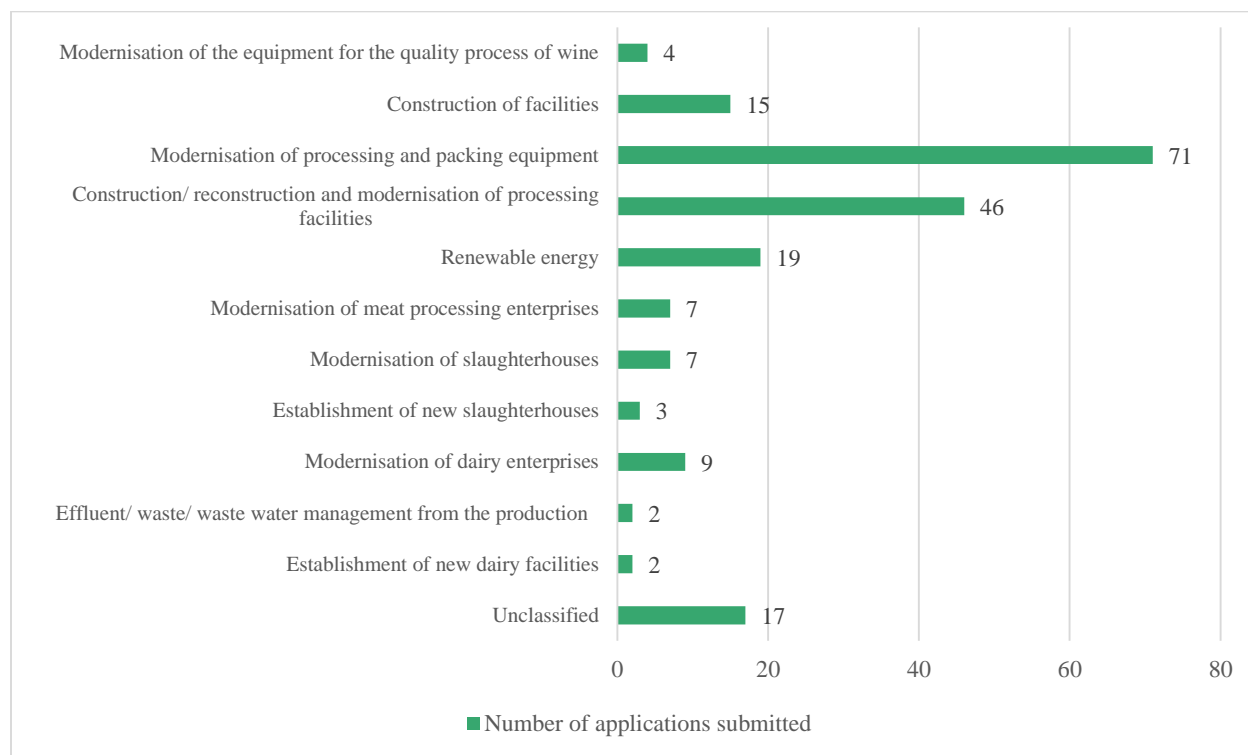
**Graph 22: The total amount of eligible expenditures for approved and paid applications for Measure 3 per sector (000 EUR)**



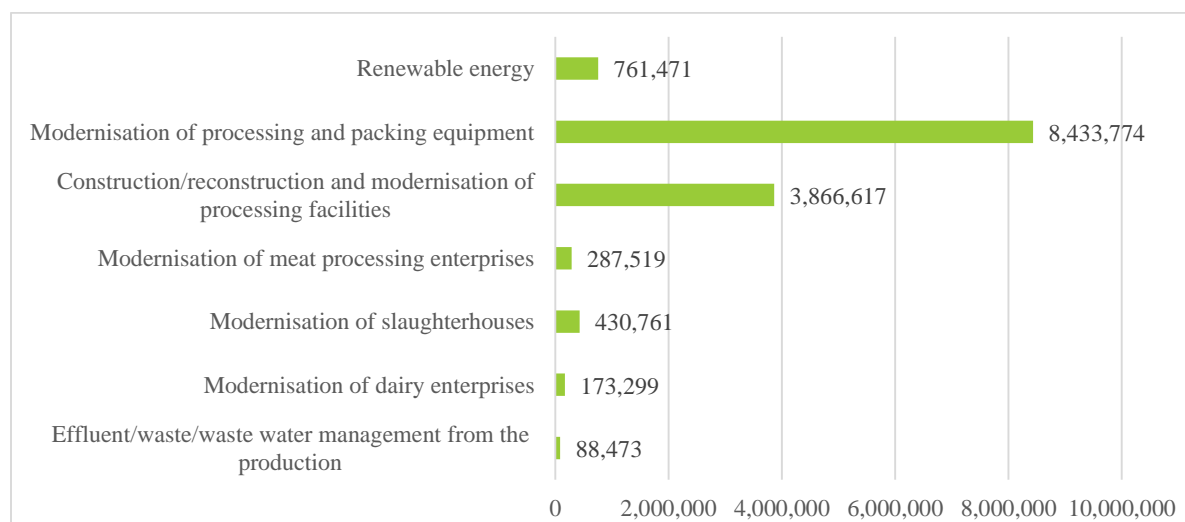
The Graph 23 presents the leading share of the Fruit and Vegetable processing sector, both in terms of submitted applications (65%) and in terms of total approved eligible expenditures for investment (93%).

**Graph 23: The share of particular sectors in the total number of submitted applications and approved expenditures for investment for Measure 3 (%)**



**Graph 24: The total number of submitted applications for Measure 3 per type of investment**

Observed from the aspect of submitted applications per type of investment, under Measure 3, the greatest interest of potential IPARD recipients were for investments in the modernization of processing and packaging equipment (Fruit and Vegetable processing sector), where 68 applications were submitted, as well as investments in construction/reconstruction and modernization of processing buildings (46 applications). Other types of investments have a lower share in the total number of submitted applications (Graph 24).

**Graph 25: The total approved eligible expenditures for Measure 3 per type of investment**

Regarding the total approved expenditures for investments under Measure 3, the largest amount of approved eligible expenditures is in the Fruit and Vegetable processing sector for the modernization of processing and packaging equipment, amounting to EUR 8,433,774 (for 27 approved applications, out of 68 submitted applications). The next group of investments in relation of total approved eligible expenditures for investment refers to the construction/reconstruction and modernization of processing facilities (EUR 3,866,617), also in the Fruit and Vegetable processing sector (15 approved out of 46 submitted applications). In the Meat processing sector, the number of submitted and approved applications, as well as the amount of approved expenditures, the most significant type of investment refers to the modernization of slaughterhouses (EUR 430,761, with seven submitted and three approved applications until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020). The next type of investment in the Meat processing sector in terms of the number of submitted applications and the total amount of approved eligible expenditures refers to investments in the modernization of meat processing companies, with seven submitted applications, and one approved application with the total eligible expenditures for investment of EUR 287,519.

Regarding the approved eligible expenditures in the Milk processing sector, out of the nine submitted applications for the modernization of dairy enterprises, two Decisions on project approval were adopted with the total amount of eligible expenditures for investment of EUR 173,299; as well as two Decisions on payment of IPARD support amounting to EUR 181,621, while for investments in waste water management and treatment, one request was paid in the total amount of EUR 77,491, based on the previously approved amount of eligible expenditures of EUR 88,473 (Graph 25).

## Regions and administrative districts

This part of the Report presents data related to the implementation of Measure 1 and Measure 3 per regions, as well as per administrative districts.

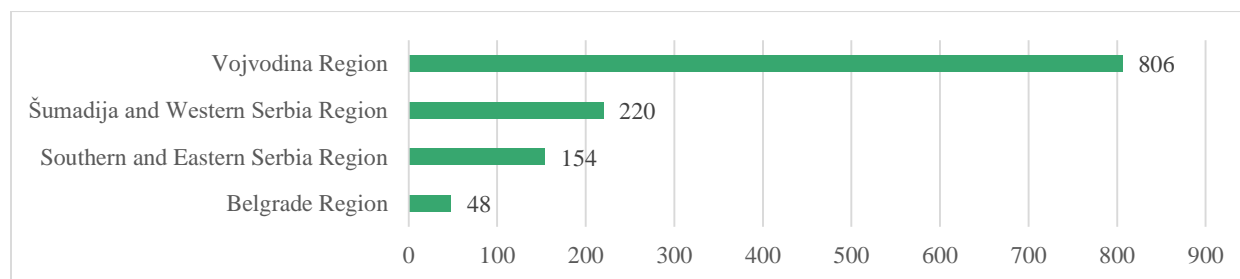
The analysis related to regions and administrative districts does not include those applications that did not specify location for an investment in the application form (eight applications under Measure 1 and two applications under Measure 3).

### Measure 1

Observing per regions, within Measure 1, the Vojvodina Region has the largest share in the number of submitted applications, as well as in the total amount of requested expenditures. The share of Vojvodina Region in the total number of submitted applications within Measure 1 is 66% (806 applications), while the share of this region in the total expenditures is 68% (Graphs 26 and 27).

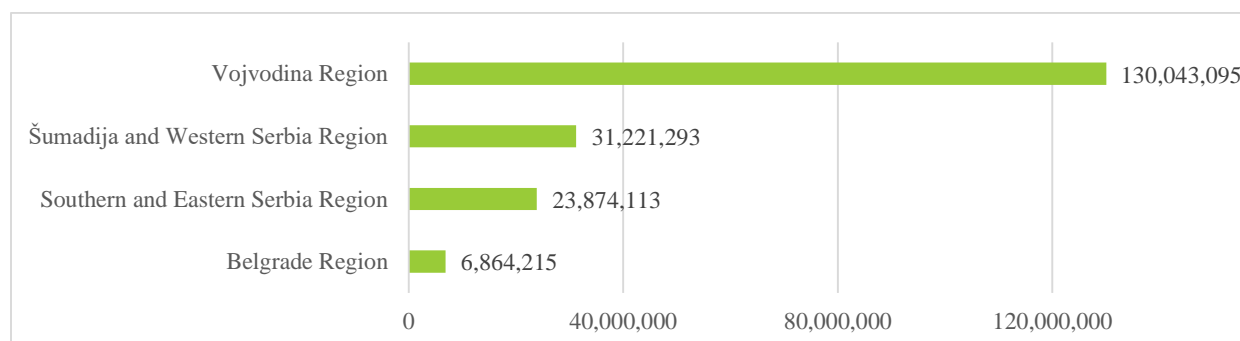
The Šumadija and Western Serbia Region has a share of 18% in the total number of applications and in the total expenditures a share of 16%. The lowest number of submitted applications for project for approval is in the Belgrade region (48 applications).

**Graph 26: The total number of submitted applications for Measure 1 per region**



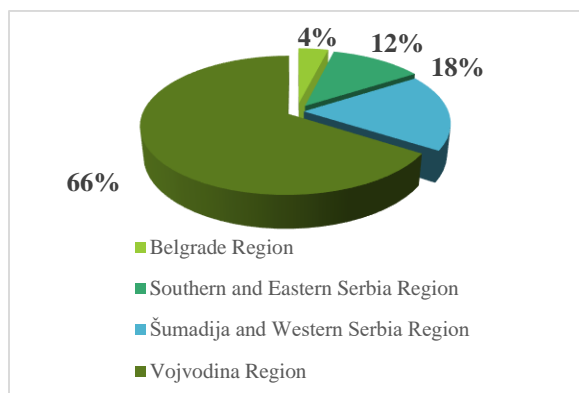
Within Measure 1, the share of the Vojvodina Region is dominant in the structure of total requested expenditures - 68% (EUR 130,043,905), which is twice the amount of the requested expenditures compared to the requested expenditures from other regions. The Šumadija and Western Serbia Region has a share of 16% in the total requested expenditures (EUR 31,221,293). The Southern and Eastern Serbia Region with the requested expenditures of EUR 23,874,113 has a share of 12% in the total expenditures, while the Belgrade region with the requested expenditures amounting to EUR 6,864,215 has a share of 4% in the total requested expenditures for Measure 1 (Graph 27).

**Graph 27: The total amount of expenditures for Measure 1 per region (EUR)**

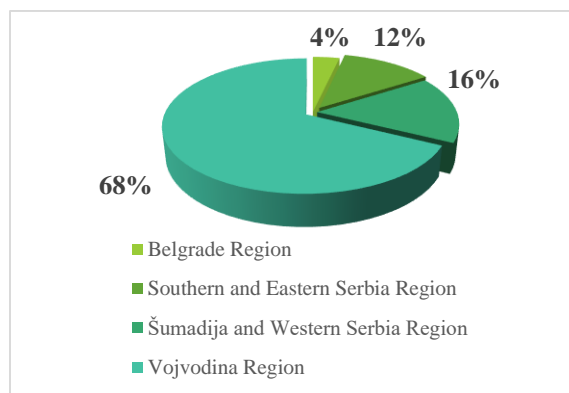


The structure of submitted applications per region is similar to the structure of total requested expenditures per region. The Vojvodina Region has the largest share, both in the structure of submitted applications - 66%, and in the structure of total requested expenditures - 68%. The Šumadija and Western Serbia Region, the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region and the Belgrade region have a significantly lower share in the mentioned indicators within Measure 1 (Graphs 28 and 29).

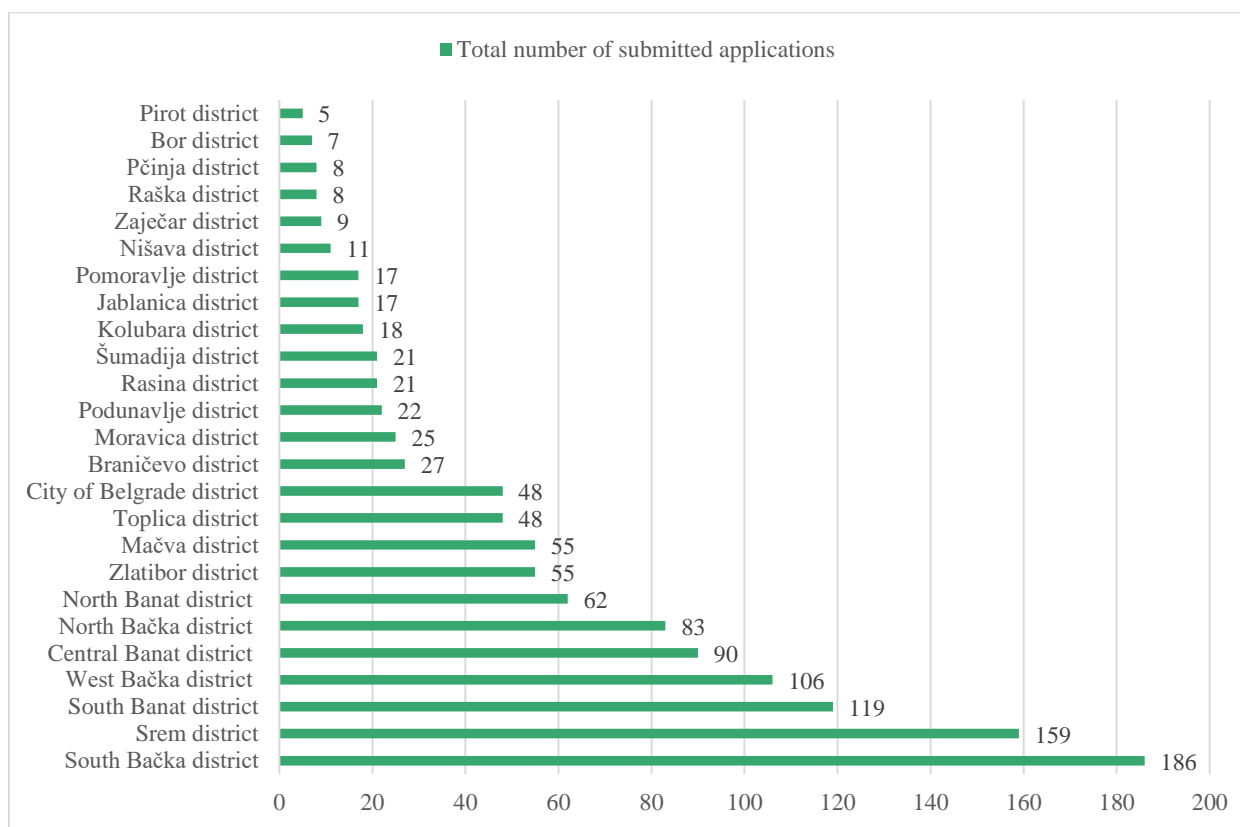
**Graph 28: The structure of submitted applications for Measure 1 per region (%)**



**Graph 29: The structure of total expenditures for Measure 1 per region (%)**



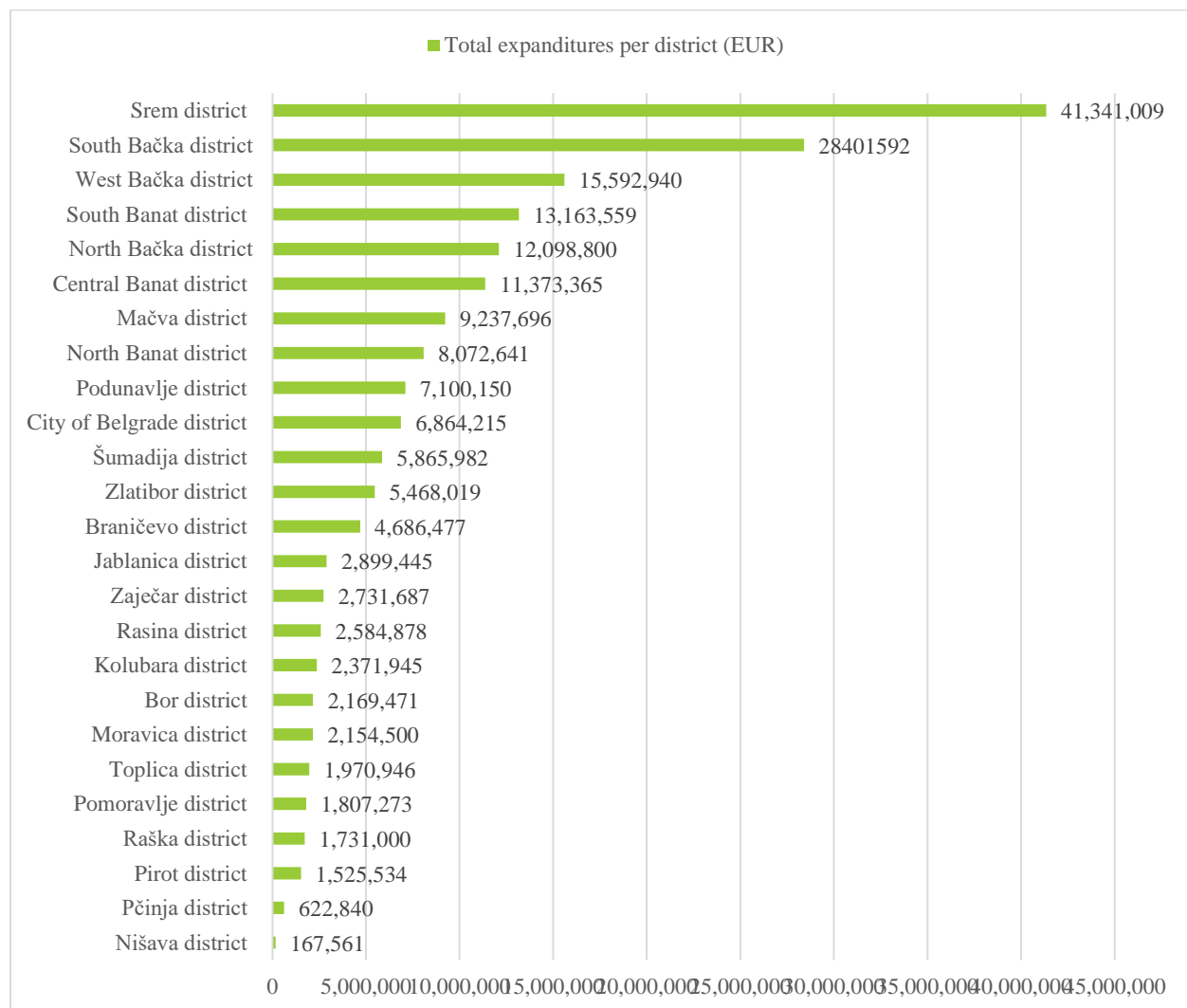
**Graph 30: The total number of submitted applications for Measure 1 per administrative district**



Viewed per administrative district, in the structure of submitted project applications, the first five administrative districts with the largest number of submitted applications are from the Vojvodina Region and cover more than half of the total number of submitted applications under Measure 1, for which the location for investment is specified (54%): South Bačka district 15%, Srem district 13%, South Banat district 10%, West Bačka district 9% and Central Banat district 7% (Graph 30).

Administrative districts with less than ten submitted applications for project approval under Measure 1 make up 3% of the total number of submitted applications and belong to the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region (Zaječar district nine applications, Pčinja district eight applications, Bor district seven applications and Pirot district five applications) and Šumadija and Western Serbia Region (Raška district with eight submitted applications).

**Graph 31: The total amount of expenditures for Measure 1 per administrative district (EUR)**



The Graph 31 presents the total requested expenditures where the dominant share of the Srem district in the total requested expenditures for submitted applications under Measure 1 (22%) in the amount of EUR 41,341,009. Administrative districts with higher requested expenditures for investment are also from the Vojvodina Region: South Bačka district with 15%, West Bačka

district 8%, South Banat district with 7%, North Bačka and Central Banat district with share of 6% in the total requested expenditures for Measure 1 each.

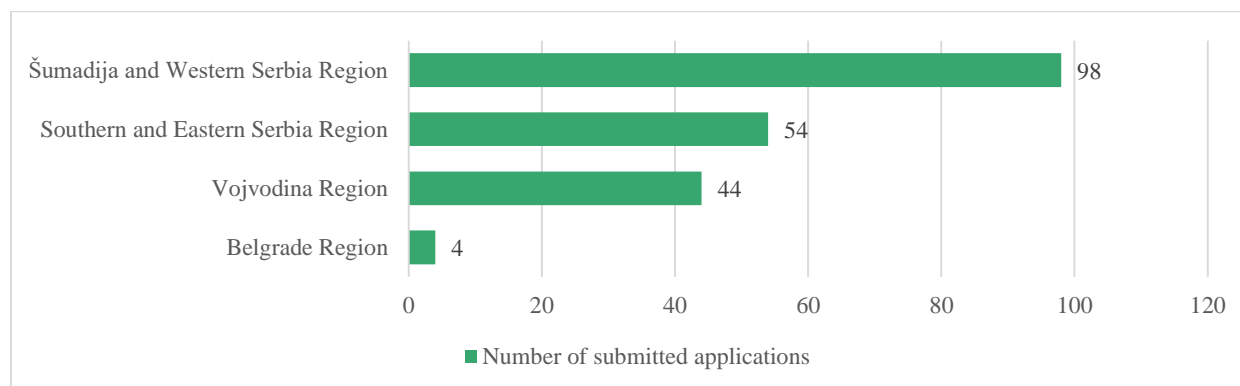
Out of the other administrative districts, the most significant share in the total requested expenditures belong to: Mačva district with 5% of the share, North Banat district, Podunavlje district and the City of Belgrade district with 4% share in the total requested expenditures each. Administrative districts whose requested value of investments is less than EUR two million, which is 4% of the total requested expenditures under Measure 1, are as follows: Toplica district (EUR 1,970,946), Pomoravlje district (EUR 1,807,273), Raška district (EUR 1,731,000), Pirot district (EUR 1,525,534), Pčinja district (EUR 622,840) and Nišava district (EUR 167,561).

### Measure 3

Viewed per regions within Measure 3, the Šumadija and Western Serbia Region has the largest share both in the total number of submitted applications (49%) and in the total amount of requested expenditures - 41% (98 applications with requested expenditures in the amount of EUR 44,519,514). Compared to Measure 1, where the Vojvodina Region achieved a dominant share, both in the structure of submitted applications and in the structure of requested expenditures, within Measure 3, this region achieves a share of 22% with 44 submitted applications.

Compared to the previous reporting, the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region has made progress with a 43% increase in terms of the number of submitted applications, i.e. 54 applications were submitted in the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region, which is 27% out of the total number of submitted applications for Measure 3. The Belgrade Region achieved a share of 2% in the total number of submitted applications for Measure 3 (Graph 32).

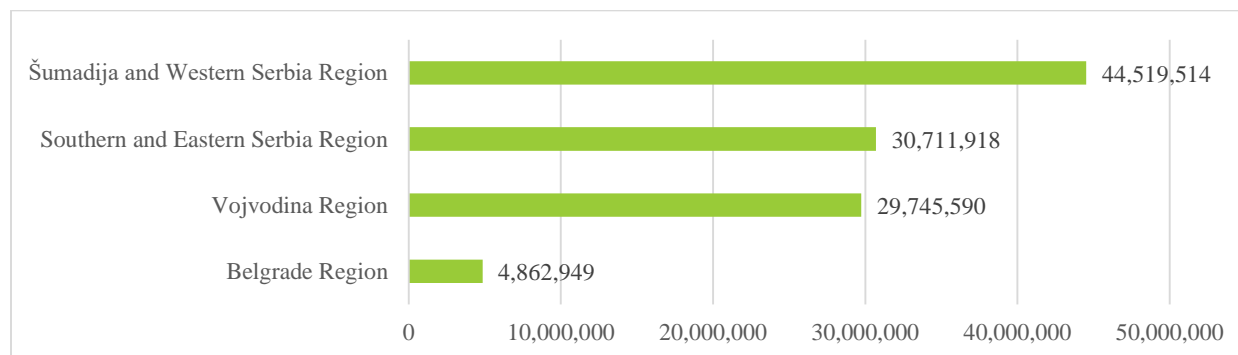
**Graph 32: The total number of submitted applications for Measure 3 per region**



In the analysis of the total requested expenditures under Measure 3 per region, it was noticed that the largest amount of requested expenditures (EUR 44,519,514) refers to the Šumadija and Western Serbia Region, i.e. the share of this region in the total requested expenditures is 41%. The Southern and Eastern Serbia Region with the requested expenditures in the amount of EUR 30,711,918 has a share of 28% in the total expenditures. The Vojvodina Region has a share of 27% in the total requested expenditures, where the amount of expenditures of EUR 29,745,590 was requested for 44 submitted applications. The lowest amount of total requested expenditures under Measure 3 refers to the Belgrade Region, where the amount of requested expenditures is EUR 4,862,949, i.e. the share in the structure of total expenditures is 4% (Graph 33).

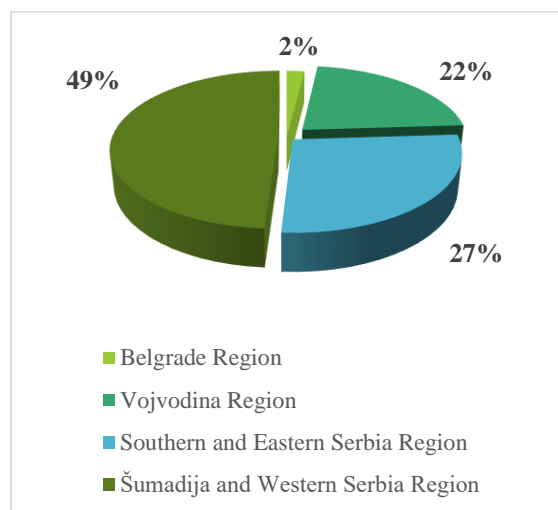
Compared to the previous report, the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region made a progress of 33% in terms of the amount of requested expenditures, other than the number of applications submitted, while the Šumadija and Western Serbia Region and the Vojvodina Region made progress with an increase of 45% and 49 % respectively between two reports. The increase in the amount of requested expenditures in the Belgrade Region is 7%.

**Graph 33: The total amount of expenditures for Measure 3 per region (EUR)**

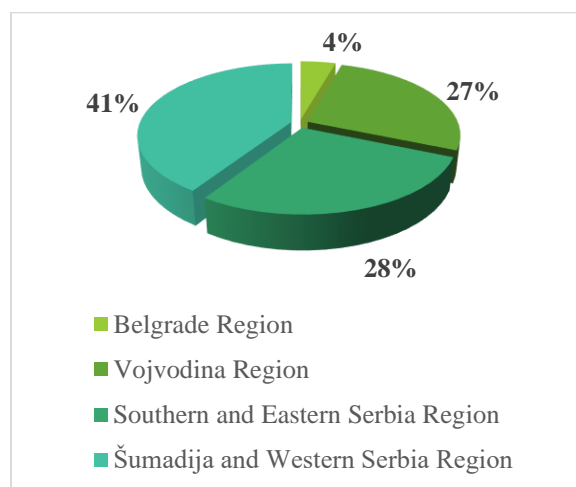


When it comes to the structure of the region from the aspect of the number of submitted applications and the structure of the total requested expenditures, the situation is identical. The Šumadija and Western Serbia Region has the largest share both in the number of submitted applications (49%) and in the amount of total requested expenditures (41%). The Southern and Eastern Serbia Region (27% of the total number of submitted applications and 28% out of the total amount of requested expenditures), Vojvodina Region (22% of the total number of submitted applications and 27% out of the total amount of requested expenditures) and Belgrade Region (2% of the total number of submitted applications and 4% of the total amount of requested expenditures) achieve a significantly lower share in these two indicators under Measure 3 (Graphs 34 and 35).

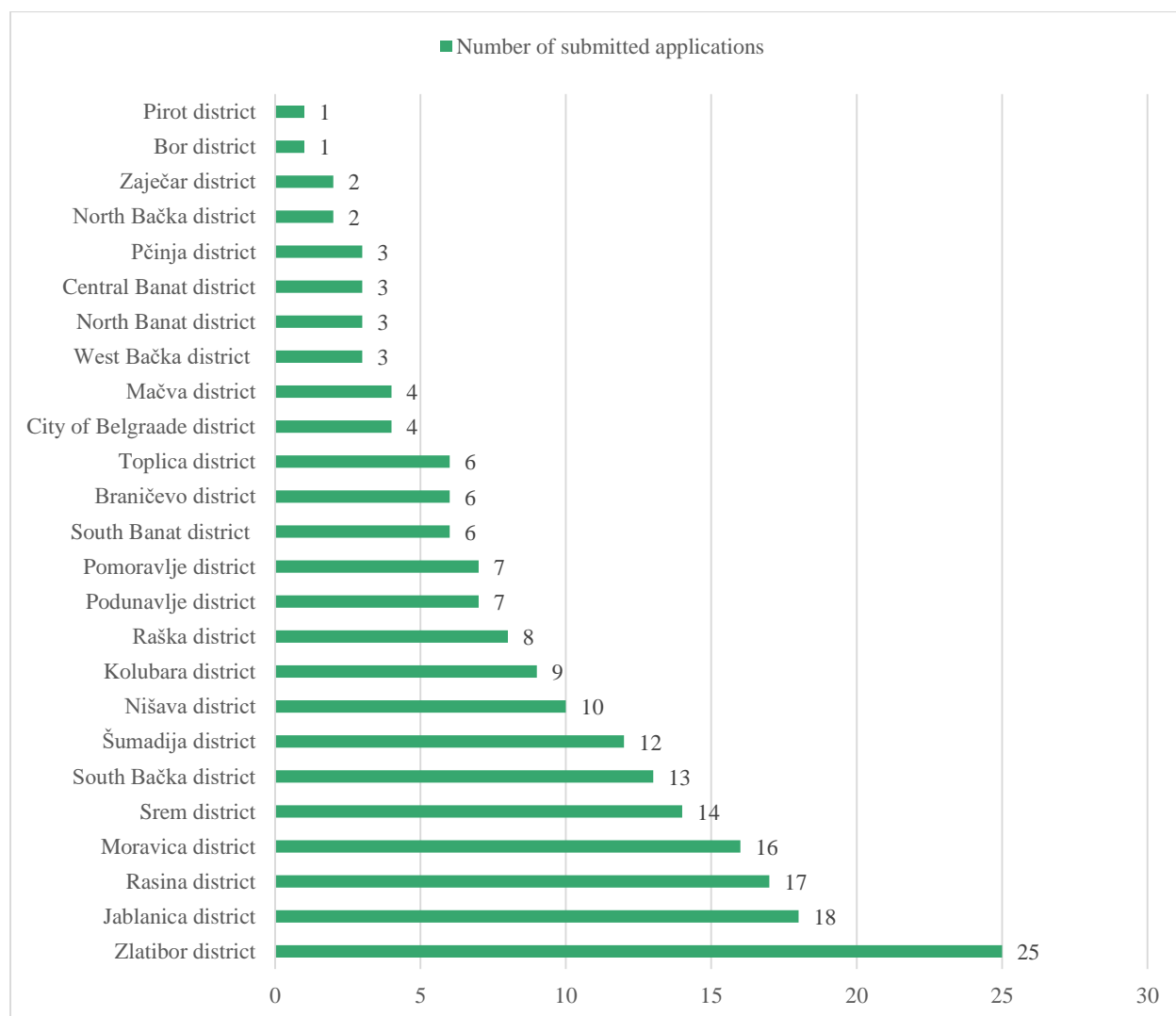
**Graph 34: The structure of submitted applications for Measure 3 per region (%)**



**Graph 35: The structure of the total amount of expenditures for Measure 3 per region (%)**

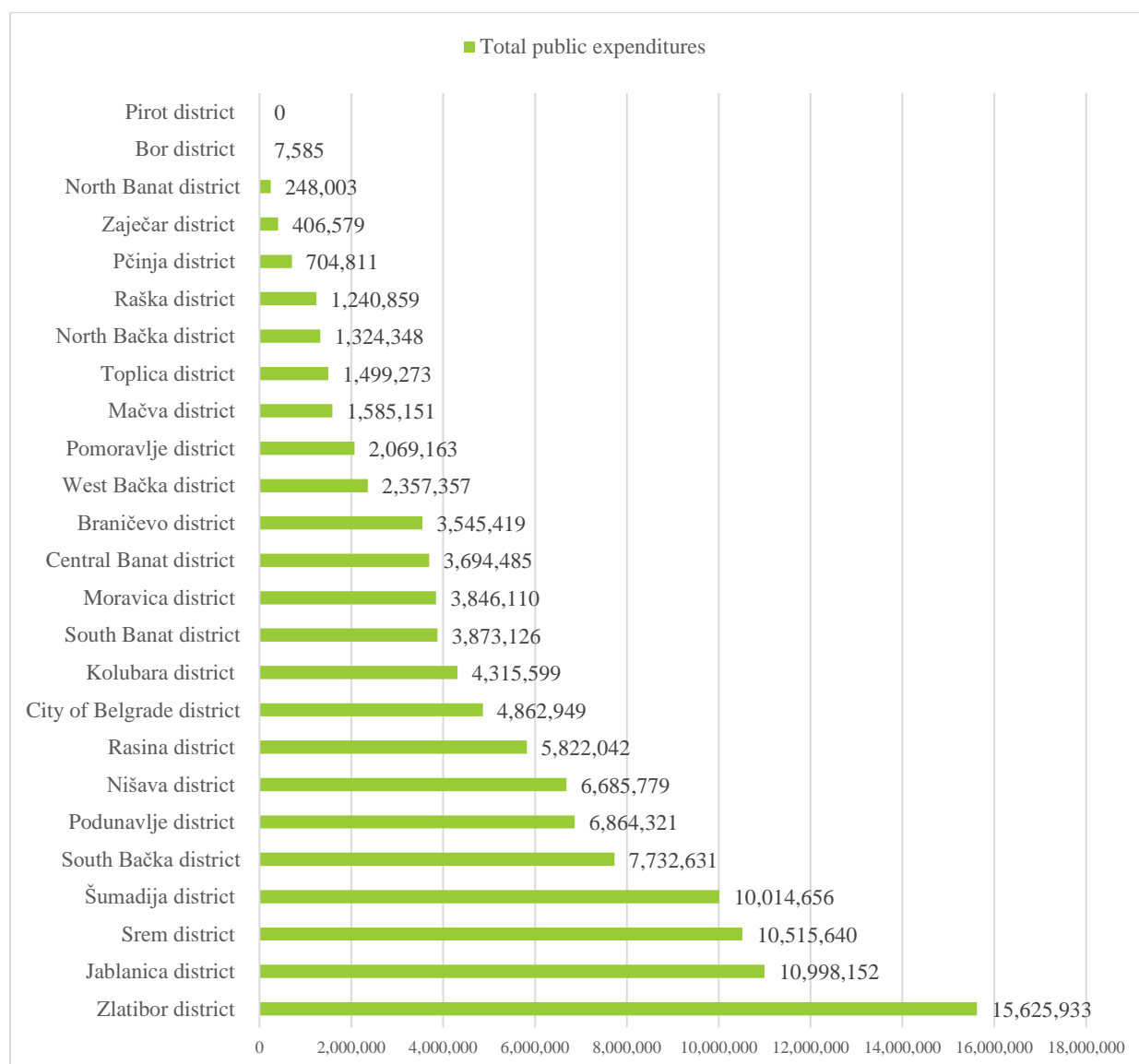




**Graph 36: The total number of submitted applications for Measure 3 per administrative district**

According to the administrative district, the largest number of submitted applications within the Šumadija and Western Serbia Region is in Zlatibor district (25 applications), Rasina district (17 applications) and Moravica district (16 applications). Regarding the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region, the largest number of submitted applications is in the Jablanica district (18 applications), while in the Vojvodina Region, the Srem district is dominant in terms of the number of submitted applications (14 applications). These five administrative districts have a share of 46% out of the total number of submitted applications for Measure 3, as follow: Zlatibor district with 13%, Jablanica and Rasina district with 9% each, Moravica district with 8% and Srem district with 7% (Graph 36).

The administrative districts with the lowest number of submitted applications for project approval under Measure 3 make up 5% of the total number of submitted applications and belong to the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region (Pčinja district three applications, Zaječar district two applications, Bor and Pirot district one application each) and the Vojvodina Region (North Bačka district with two submitted applications).

**Graph 37: The total amount of expenditures for Measure 3 per administrative district (EUR)**

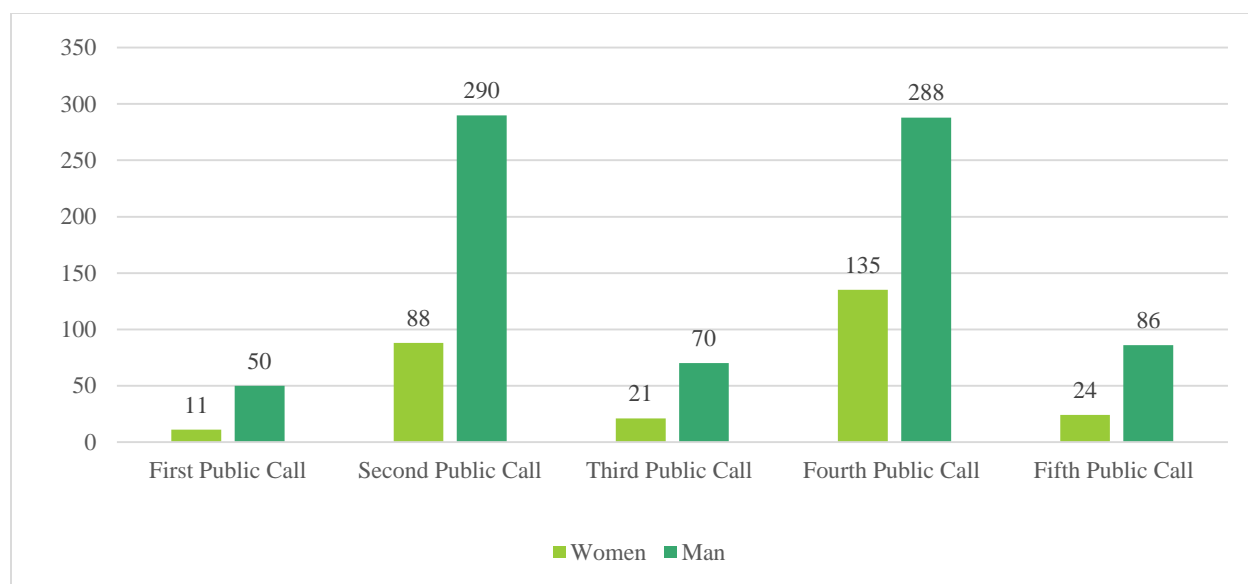
The Graph 37 presents the total requested expenditures where the dominant share in the total requested expenditures for submitted applications under Measure 3 is in the Zlatibor district (14%) with amount of EUR 15,625,933. The administrative districts with higher requested expenditures for investment are Jablanica district and Srem district with 10% each, Šumadija district with 9% and South Bačka with 7% share in the total requested expenditures for Measure 3. Out of the other districts, the following have a significant share: Podunavlje district and Nišava district with 6% each and Rasina district with 5%. Although the city of Belgrade district is a district with a small number of submitted applications (4 applications), it has a share of 4% in the structure of total requested expenditures.

Administrative districts whose requested investment value amounts to less than EUR 1 million, which is 1% out of the total requested expenditures under Measure 3, are as follows: Pčinja district (EUR 704,811), Zaječar district (EUR 406,579), North Banat district (EUR 248,003) and Bor district (EUR 7,585).

## The structure of submitted applications per gender, type and age of applicants

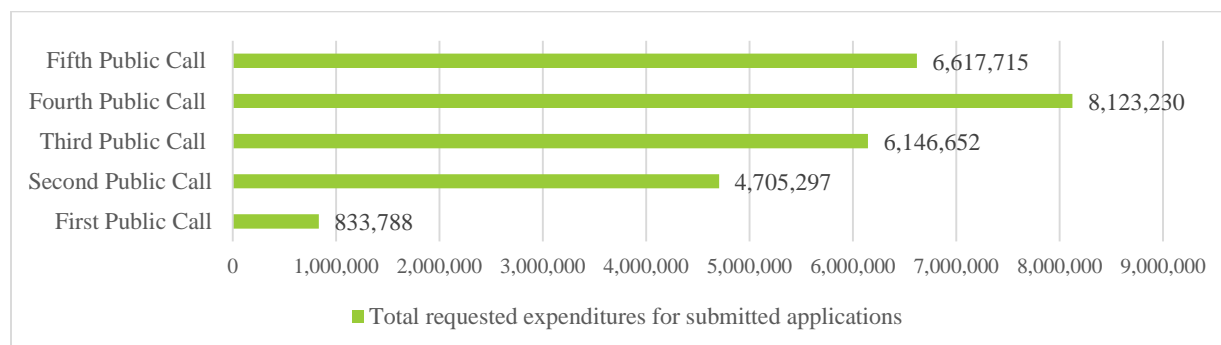
The total number of submitted applications by women - holders of commercial family agricultural holdings, potential recipients of IPARD support for Measure 1 is 279 applications (23%), with the requested expenditures in the amount of EUR 26,426,682 (14%), out of which 65 Decisions on project approval were adopted (23% out of the total number of submitted applications by women, i.e. 5% out of the total number of submitted applications under Measure 1), with the expenditures in the amount of EUR 4,008,319 EUR (15% out of the total amount of requested expenditures by women, i.e. 16% of the total amount of approved expenditures for Measure 1) and rejected and withdrawn by the Decision of 55 applications (20% of the total number of submitted applications by women and 4% out of the total number of submitted applications for Measure 1), with the expenditures in the amount of EUR 6,746,516 EUR (26% out of the total amount of requested eligible expenditures by women and 18% of the total rejected expenditures for Measure 1). In the reporting period, 42 applications where applicant were women is paid with the support in the amount of EUR 1,386,202, which represents 21% out of the total paid support.

**Graph 38: The number of the submitted applications per gender and public calls**



Under Measure 1 observed per public calls, women achieve the largest share in the number of submitted applications (31%) and in the total requested expenditures (32%) within the Fourth Public Call, where the amount of total requested expenditures is EUR 8,123,230 for 135 submitted applications. Women have the lowest share, both in terms of the number of submitted applications and in terms of requested expenditures within the First Public Call (Graphs 38 and 39).

**Graph 39: The total amount of requested expenditures for Measure 1 per gender (EUR)**



The Graph 40 presents data related to the share of women per public calls, in the total number of applications submitted by women for Measure 1, the share of approved applications in the total number of applications submitted by women per public calls, as well as the share of rejected applications in the total number of applications submitted by women per public calls.

**Note:** The rejected applications include applications rejected by the Decision, as well as withdrawn applications due to the applicant's withdrawal.

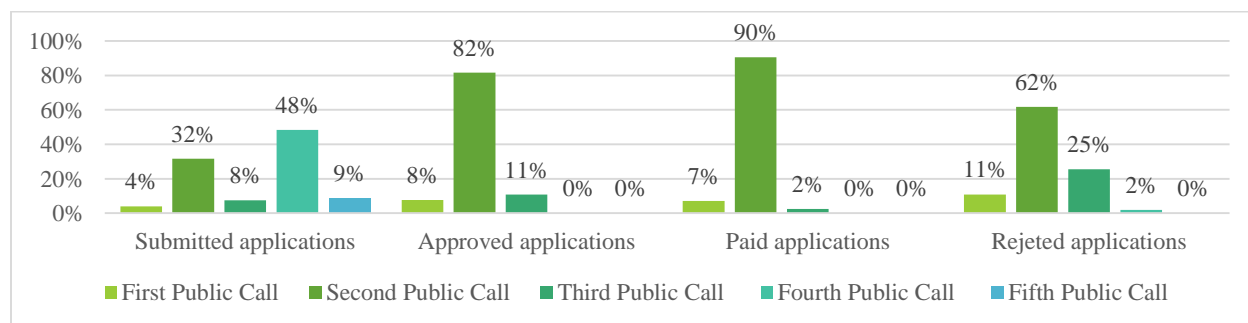
By analysing the applications submitted by women, it can be noticed that women showed the greatest interest in the public calls related to the procurement of a new tractor (Second and Fourth Public Call), which represents 80% out of the total number of applications submitted by women.

Out of the total number of Decisions on project approval within the First Public Call, women have a share of 8%, while in the Second Public Call it's 82%, in the Third Public Call 11%, while in the reporting period within the Fourth and Fifth Public Call there were no approved applications submitted by women - holders of agricultural holdings.

In the reporting period, 42 applications where applicant were women is paid with the support in the amount of EUR 1,386,202. All paid applications is refer to Measure 1, out of which the largest volume of payments was within the Second Public Call (EUR 1,214,456, or 88% for 38 paid applications). Out of the total number of approved applications submitted by women, 65% is paid.

In the structure of rejected applications, within the First Public Call, six applications submitted by women were rejected, 34 applications were rejected within the Second Public Call, in the Third Public Call 14 applications were rejected, in the Fourth Public Call one application was rejected, while within the Fifth Public Call there were no rejected applications where woman was applicant.

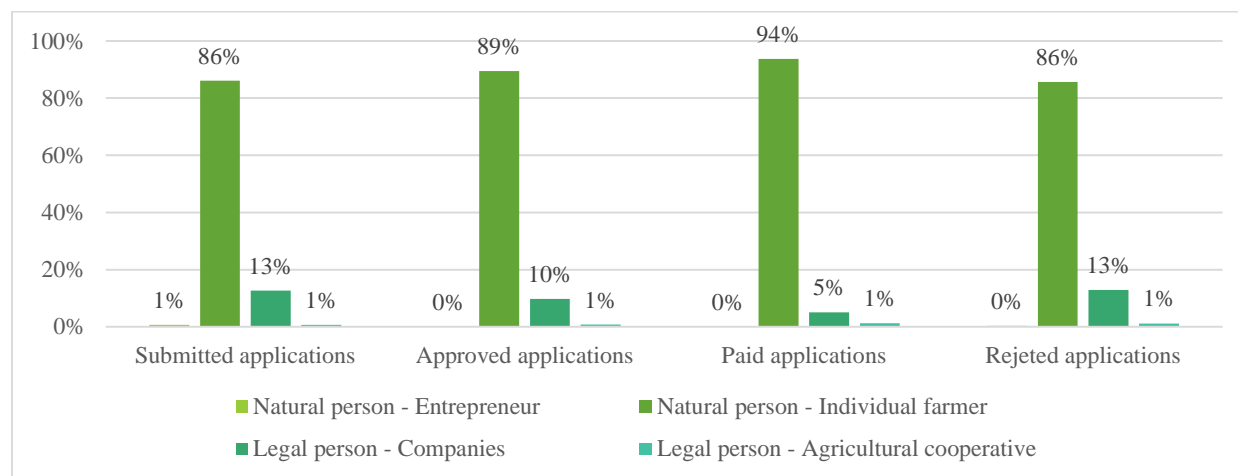
**Graph 40: Submitted, approved, rejected and paid applications by women for Measure 1**



According to the **type of recipients**, in the total number of submitted applications for Measure 1 and Measure 3, natural persons (individual farmers and entrepreneurs) submitted 1,092 applications and achieved a share of 76% in the total number of submitted applications, while legal entities (companies and agricultural cooperatives) submitted 345 applications and achieved a share of 24% in the total number of submitted applications.

Under Measure 1, a total of 1,071 applications were submitted by natural persons (87%), while legal entities submitted 164 applications (13%). The largest number of submitted applications was achieved by natural persons within the Fourth Public Call (34%), than in the Second Public Call (31%), while the lower number of submitted applications were within the First Public Call (5%). In the structure of applications submitted by natural persons, the individual farmers has dominant position (1,063 applications), while in the structure of legal entities, companies has a dominant participation, with a share of 13% in the total number of submitted applications. When it comes to approved applications, 230 applications were approved to natural persons, while 27 applications were approved to legal entities. Out of the total number of paid applications, 149 applications refer to natural persons (94%) – individual farmers and 10 applications refer to legal entities. Out of the total number of rejected and withdrawn applications for Measure 1, 221 applications submitted by natural persons were rejected, while 36 applications submitted by legal entities were rejected (Graph 41).

**Graph 41: Submitted, approved, paid and rejected applications for Measure 1 per type of recipients (%)**

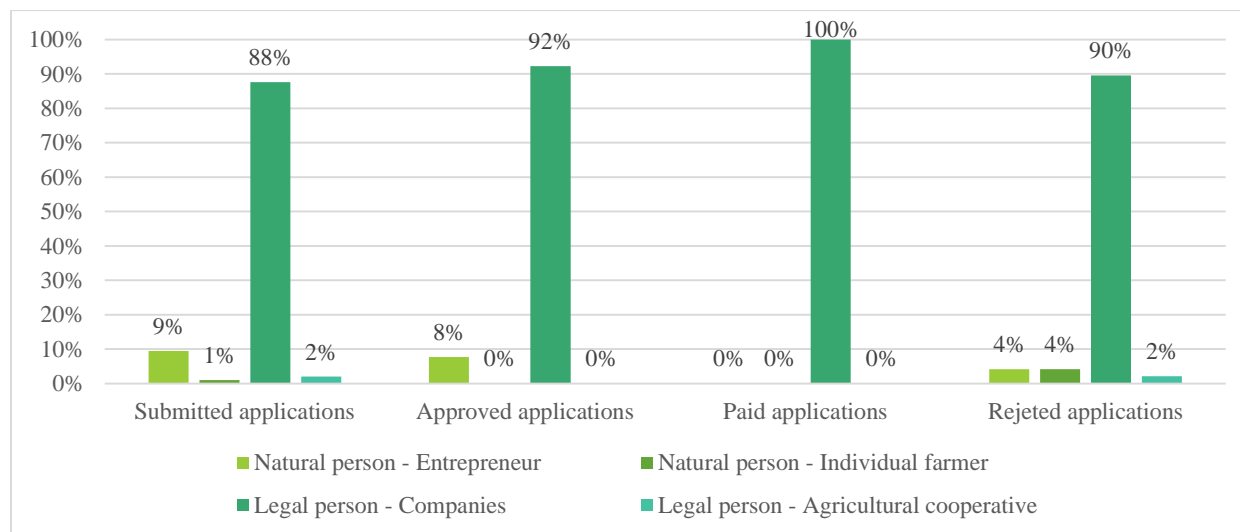


Under Measure 3, a total of 21 applications were submitted by natural persons (10%), while legal entities submitted 181 applications (90%). The largest number of applications submitted by natural persons was within the Third Public Call (6%), while at the same time the largest number of applications submitted by legal entities was within the Third Public Call (41%). For 181 applications submitted by legal entities under Measure 3, the total requested expenditures amount to EUR 101,994,306, which represents a share of 93% in the total requested expenditures for Measure 3.

In the structure of applications submitted by natural persons, entrepreneurs dominate (90%), while in the structure of legal entities, companies are dominant with a share of 98% in the total submitted applications by legal entities. In the total number of submitted applications within Measure 3, legal entities - companies achieve are dominant with a share of 88%. When it comes to approved

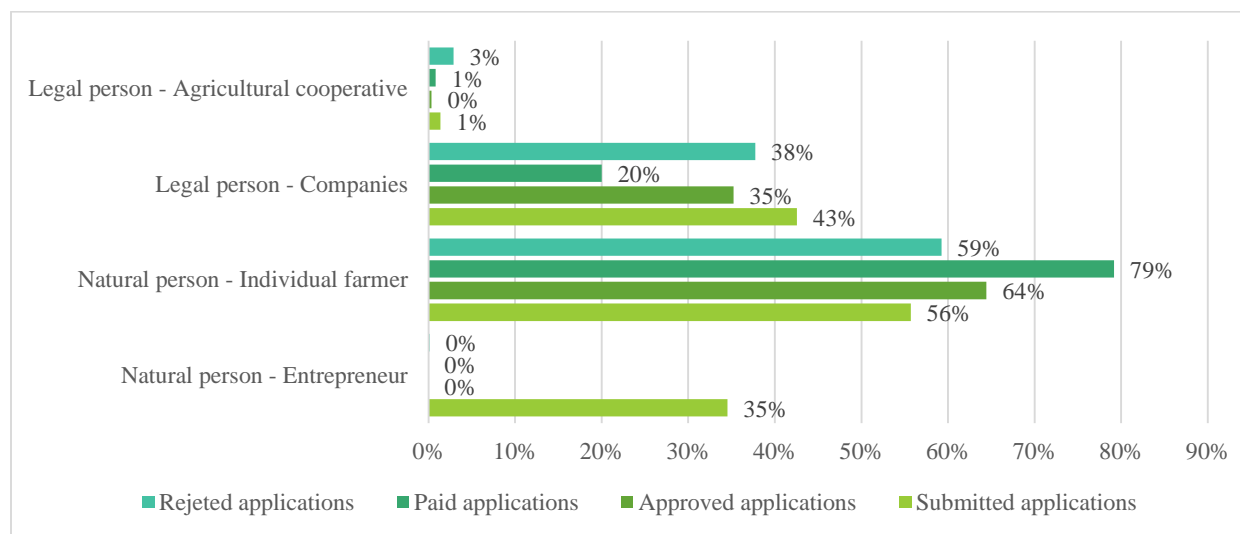
applications, four applications were approved to natural persons, while 48 applications were approved to legal entities. Under Measure 3, 11 applications were paid and all paid applications refer to legal entities (companies). Out of the total number of rejected and withdrawn applications for Measure 3, four applications submitted by natural persons were rejected, while 44 applications submitted by legal entities were rejected (Graph 42).

**Graph 42: Submitted, approved, paid and rejected applications for Measure 3 per type of recipients (%)**



In the total requested expenditures under Measure 1, the requested expenditures by natural persons amount to EUR 109,564,073, out of which requested expenditures individual farmers achieved a dominant share of 99%, while entrepreneurs has a share of 1% in the total requested expenditures by natural persons. Requested expenditures by legal entities amount to EUR 85,895,367 EUR, with the requested expenditures by companies achieving a dominant share of 97%, while agricultural cooperatives participate with 3% in the total requested expenditures by legal entities.

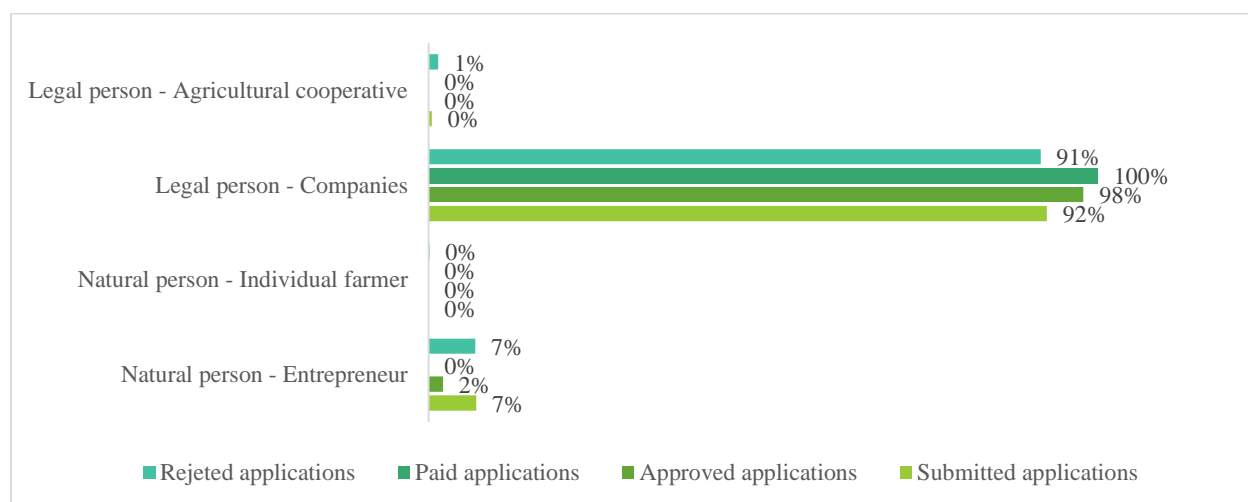
**Graph 43: The structure of expenditures for Measure 1 per type of recipients (%)**



Regarding the approved eligible expenditures for Measure 1, EUR 16,235,843 were approved to individual farmers, while EUR 8,961,660 were approved to legal entities, out of which EUR 8,874,865 was approved to companies and EUR 86,796 were approved to agricultural cooperatives. In the structure of rejected expenditures, EUR 21,791,260 were rejected in applications submitted by natural persons and EUR 14,913,924 were rejected in applications submitted by legal entities (Graph 43).

Out of the total amount of paid expenditures under Measure 1, 79% (EUR 5,249,321) refer to natural persons (individual farmers), while amount of EUR 1,380,412 was paid to legal entities (EUR 1,325,380 to companies and EUR 55,032 to agricultural cooperatives).

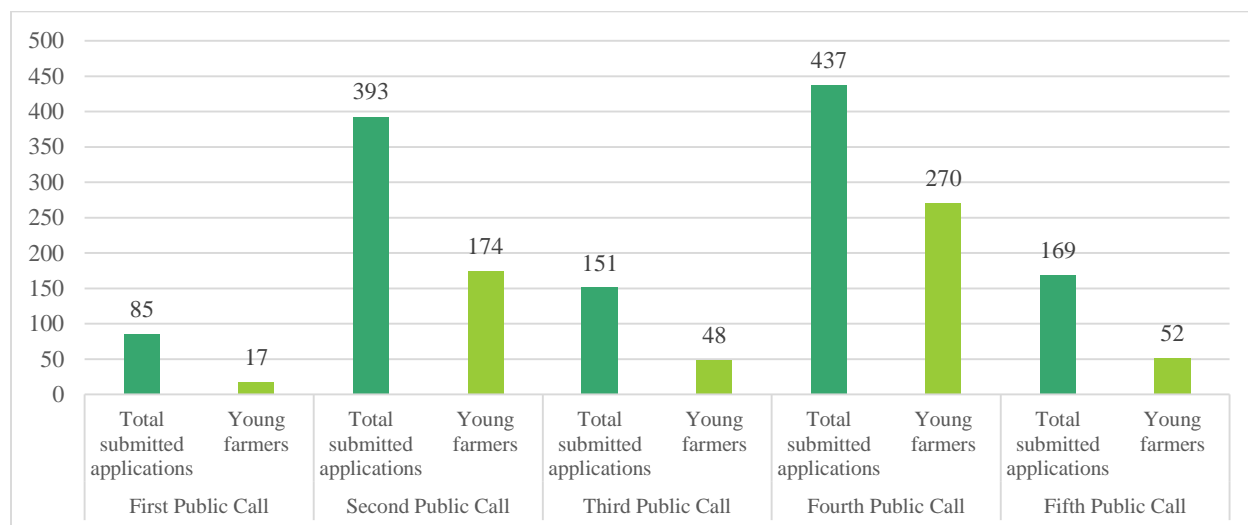
**Graph 44: The structure of requested expenditures for Measure 3 per type of recipients (%)**



In the total requested expenditures under Measure 3, the amount of requested expenditures by natural persons is EUR 7,827,818, out of which the requested expenditures by entrepreneurs achieved a dominant share of 99.74%, while individual farmers participate with 0.26% in the total requested expenditures by natural persons. Requested expenditures by legal entities amount to EUR 101,994,306, out of which the requested expenditures by companies achieved a dominant share of 99.47%, while agricultural cooperatives have a share of 0.53% in the total requested expenditures by legal entities.

Regarding the approved eligible expenditures for Measure 3, EUR 615,631 were approved to entrepreneurs, while EUR 28,118,986 were approved to companies. In the structure of rejected expenditures, EUR 1,119,636 were rejected on applications submitted by natural persons and EUR 14,640,027 were rejected on applications submitted by legal entities (Graph 44).

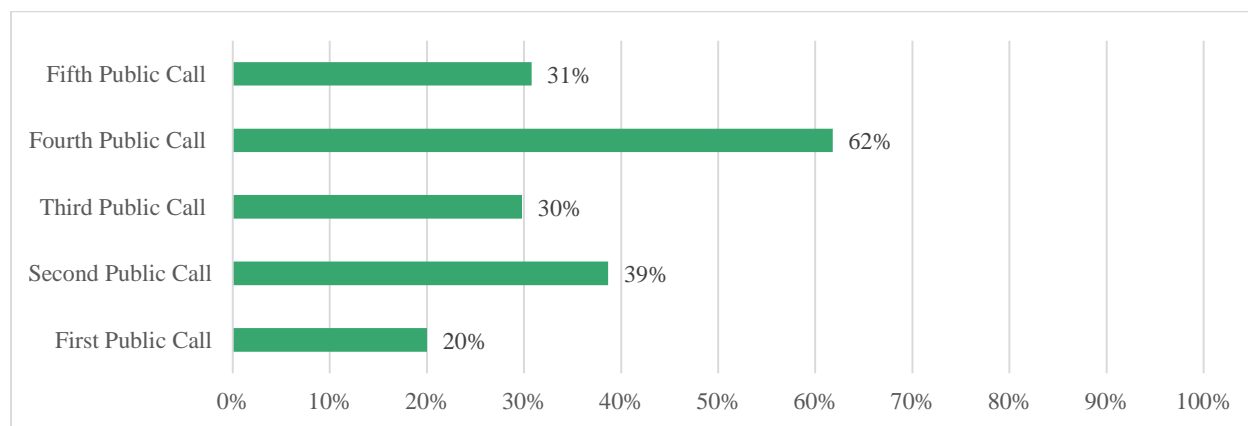
Under Measure 3, 11 applications submitted by companies were paid with the support amount to EUR 1,364,039.

**Graph 45: The number of applications submitted by young farmers**

Since the beginning of the IPARD II Programme implementation, under Measure 1, **young farmers** have submitted 536 applications (43% out of the total number of submitted applications for Measure 1) with the requested expenditures in the amount of EUR 61,753,745 (32% out of the total requested expenditures for Measure 1), out of which 127 Decisions on project approval were adopted, i.e. 24% out of the total number of applications submitted for Measure 1 by young farmers with approved expenditures amounting to EUR 7,890,051.

In the reporting period, 85 applications submitted by young farmers were paid with the amount of paid support of EUR 2,883,893, which is 53% out of the total number of paid applications, i.e. 43% out of the total paid amount of IPARD support.

Out of the total number of applications submitted by young farmers, 14% of applications were rejected (77 applications) with the requested expenditures in the amount of EUR 13,758,444 (22% out of the total expenditures requested by young farmers).

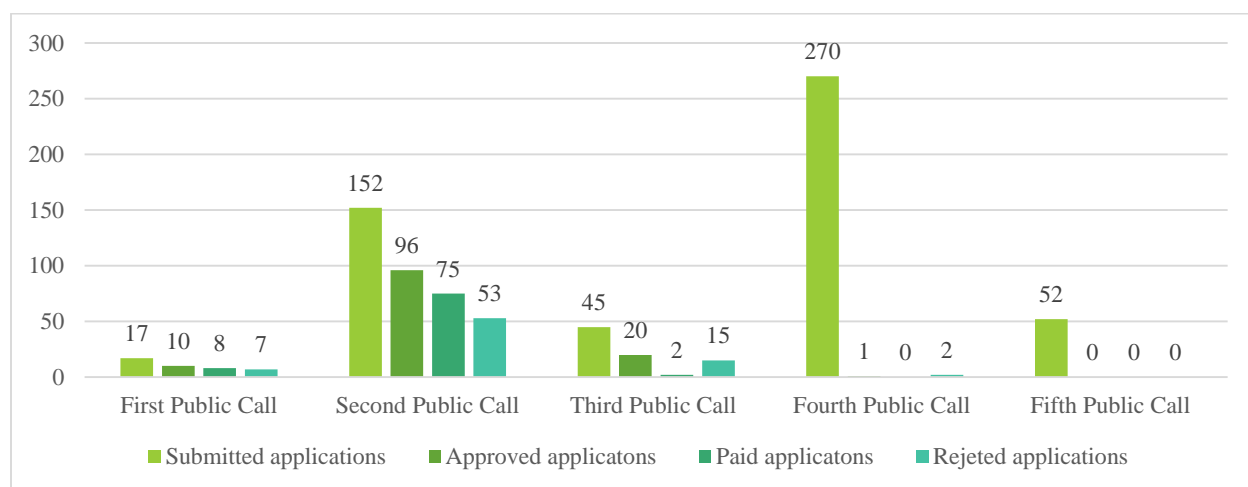
**Graph 46: The share of the young farmers in submitted applications for Measure 1 per public calls**



Observed per public call, the largest share of young farmers in the total number of submitted applications for Measure 1 was within the Fourth Public Call, referring to the procurement of a new tractor (62%), while the lowest number of applications submitted by young farmers were under the First Public Call (20%).

When it comes to the type of investment, the greatest interest was expressed for the procurement of a new tractor, which makes for 69% of applications submitted by young farmers (a total of 422 applications for procurement of a new tractor, 152 applications within Second Public Call and 270 applications within the Fourth Public Call).

**Graph 47: Submitted, approved and rejected applications by young farmers for Measure 1 per public calls**



The Graph 47 shows the status of the applications for Measure 1 where the applicant was young farmer. Observed per public calls, the largest number of approved applications was under Second Public Call, when 63% out of the total number of applications submitted were approved. Also, the largest number of rejected applications was within the Second Public Call (35% out of the total number of applications submitted under this Public Call).

When it comes to paid applications, the largest number of paid applications was under the Second Public Call (75 applications) with paid support in the amount of EUR 2,378,804. Out of total number of approved applications 78% is paid, i.e. 49% out of the total number of submitted applications under the Second Public Call.

The share of young farmers in the total number of submitted applications within Measure 3 is 38% and under the Third Public Call for Measure 3 is 81% (77 applications), with the requested expenditures in the amount of EUR 50,619,661.

## Promotional activities and visibility

The successful implementation of IPARD measures and the ability of potential recipients to absorb IPARD funds depend directly on the quality of the applications submitted, the awareness of the recipients, update of Agricultural Advisory Services and other parties in information chain to provide support. Communication and promotional activities in the observed period were partially stopped due to COVID - 19 pandemic and online activities were held instead.

Promotion of the IPARD II Programme in 2020 was carried out through ten information events (four online events) for representatives of local self-governments, agricultural cooperatives, farmer's associations, regional development agencies, regional chambers of commerce, consultants and bank representatives.

Presentation and communication of sectoral analyses for IPARD III programming with approximately 250 participants with representatives of potential IPARD recipients, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, NGOs, consultancy companies, financial institutions and other professional organisations, local and regional authorities and general public, were organized through six events during January 2020.

Continuous communication and information of potential IPARD support recipients to be informed on eligibility criteria, necessary documentation and national standards that have to be met for public calls for Measure 1, Measure 3 and Measure 7 was provided. Considering that, IPARD e-mail address for questions [ipard.info@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:ipard.info@minpolj.gov.rs) on actual public calls on Measure 1 and Measure 3, as well as on the Measure 7 in the period 1.1 - 30.6.2020, 860 answers are prepared and delivered to all interested parties. During the same period, 571 calls on IPARD measures were registered through telephone line.

In order to make the results of IPARD implementation more visible, the MA and the IPARD Agency have provided good IPARD project examples from the Republic of Serbia to EC and EU Delegation in the Republic of Serbia.

During 2020 promotional video spot for Public Call for Measure 7 is prepared and has started with broadcasting in September 2020 on the first channel of national public service Radio television of Serbia. The spot is published on the MAFWM and the IPARD Agency web pages, as well as on the social networks (Instagram, Facebook).

The Guide for Applicants/Recipients for IPARD Measure 7 has been prepared and published on the Web pages of the MAFWM and the DAP (<http://www.minpolj.gov.rs/ipard-program-2014-2020/> and <http://uap.gov.rs/ipard-ii-u-srbiji/>). Guide for applicants for IPARD Measure 7 was printed. The Web pages of the MAFWM and the IPARD Agency are updated and contain all relevant information for potential recipients and applicants.

Agricultural Advisory Services as the main partner in activities related to the IPARD II Programme as well as in direct work with potential IPARD recipients as well as recipients were continuously trained through different modules on IPARD related topics foreseen in their annual programme since 2016. Continuous education of representatives of AAS and consultants have the aim to provide better quality of applications and submission of complete documentation, especially for recently entrusted Measure 7.

In 2020 two online modules was organized: one-day training for 100 agricultural advisors on IPARD modification and introduction of new sectors in Measure 1 and second, two one-day

trainings on Measure 7. The lecturers were employees from the Rural Development Sector and the DAP of the MAFWM, as well as representatives of technical bodies that will check the fulfilment of prescribed relevant national and EU standards in rural tourism. One more online module is planned for September.

After the modules on IPARD II Programme, advisors are obliged as it set down in their annual plan of activities to disseminate information on the IPARD II Programme to potential recipients through winter schools, tribunes, workshops, media and bulletins.

Activities of AAS in Central Serbia and in AP Vojvodina are presented in Tables 1 and 2:

**Table 1: AAS Central Serbia**

Information tool	1.1 - 30.6. 2020.	
	Number of events held	Number of participants
<b>Events (winter schools, stands, lectures, workshops)</b>	117	2,591
<b>Media (local TV, radio, newspapers)</b>	62	/
<b>Bulletin / Portal of Advisory Services</b>	19	/

Individual work - assistance of advisers in preparation of business plan for the IPARD measures was provided to one agricultural holding, in the observed period.

**Table 2: AAS AP of Vojvodina**

Information tool	1.1 - 30.6.2020.	
	Number of events held	Number of participants
<b>Events (winter schools, stands, lectures, workshops)</b>	60	1,215
<b>Media (local TV, radio, newspapers)</b>	3	/
<b>Bulletin / Portal of Advisory Services</b>		/

Individual work - assistance of advisers was related to provide adequate information on the IPARD II subsidies.

## Indicators for visibility and communication activity

The indicators for visibility and communication activity are presented in the Table 3.

**Table 3: Indicator for visibility and communication activity**

Type of indicator	Indicator	Value from 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan - 30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	Target for programming period	Execution Rate (%)
<b>Output</b>	Number of potential recipients attending information events	520	4,000	13.0
	Number of promotional events implemented	10	30	33.3
	Number of national events	/	5	/
	Number of promotional materials disseminated	1,600 brochures	6,000	26.7
	Number of national and regional media, reached by informational materials (press conferences, press releases)	135	20	Achieved
	Number of sector stakeholders acting as multipliers (providing links to IPARD II website, distributing promotional materials)	6 (42 with AAS)	10	60.0
	Number of TV and/or radio presentations	97	1 per call	Achieved
	Number of press conferences organised	3	at least 5 national and at least 4 regional	60.0
	Number of press releases provided	14	at least 20	70.0
	Number of people accessing the IPARD II website	397,500 per period, approximately 66,250 per month	2,000	Achieved
Type of indicator	Indicator	Value from 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan- 30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	Target	Execution Rate (%)
<b>Result</b>	Level of satisfaction from the informational events	/	at least 80% satisfied by the content and organisation	Achieved

Semi-annual report on the implementation of the IPARD II Programme in the Republic of Serbia

	Number of publications/ articles, TV and radio reportages for the IPARD II Programme	432	60	Achieved
	Number of applications for grants per measure	M3 – Third Public Call – 95 M7: First Public Call ongoing	At least 80 for the Measure 1 and at least 45 for the Measure 3	Achieved for M3

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