

**SEMI-ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT  
ON IPARD II PROGRAMME  
IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA  
FOR THE PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY – 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2021**

**Department for Management  
of IPARD Programme  
(Managing Authority)**

**Belgrade, December 2021**



**THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**  
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water  
Management



**IPARD**  
EU4Rural Areas

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

AAS – Agricultural Advisory Service

AIR – Annual Implementation Report

AP – Autonomous Province

DAP – Directorate for Agrarian Payments

EC – European Commission

EU – European Union

IA – IPARD Agency

IPARD – Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance for Rural Development

IT – Information Technology

MA – Managing Authority

MAFWM – Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management

PRAG – Practical Guide to Contracting Procedures for EU External Actions

RD – Rural Development

RS – Republic of Serbia

## Executive Summary

The Semi-Annual Implementation Report on IPARD II Programme in the Republic of Serbia covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 and contain information on progress in the Programme implementation.

The Report has been prepared by the IPARD Managing Authority on the basis of data provided by the IPARD Agency in the form of Common Indicator Tables for Monitoring and Evaluation of IPA Rural Development Programmes 2014 – 2020. The Report presents the results of the nine published and closed Public Calls for Measure 1, Measure 3 and Measure 7, shown cumulatively since the beginning of the Programme implementation. The results of the Public Calls are presented per measures, eligible sectors, groups and types of investment, regions and administrative districts, as well as recipients type and vulnerable categories. The Report also include legal acts adopted during the reporting period, implemented trainings and projects, as well as an overview of promotional activities that have been carried out.

The European Commission officially approved IPARD II Programme on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015 by Decision C (2015) 257 (most recently amended by EC Decision C (2021) 2585 of 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021).

The main goal and purpose of the IPARD II Programme is to support agricultural producers and processors and the population of rural areas in the Republic of Serbia in gradually increasing their capacities and potential to timely and properly prepare them for complying with the European standards and laws in the fields of agriculture, the agri-food industry and environment protection. The IPARD II Programme sets out measures that provide financial support to primary agricultural production sector, processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products sector, agri-environment-climate measures and organic farming, implementation of local development strategies and farm diversification and business development in rural areas of the Republic of Serbia. For each measure, the Programme specifies which sectors it will support. Furthermore, IPARD II Programme, in addition to abovementioned measures include “Technical Assistance” measure.

From the beginning of the IPARD II Programme implementation to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, eleven Public Calls were published, while the twelfth Public Call was published in September, with 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021 as the final date for submission of project applications.

In total, 722 applications were approved, with total public support of approx. EUR 62.84 m and EU contribution of approx. EUR 47.13 m. For Measure 1, there were 634 applications approved, with total public support of approx. EUR 41.52 m and EU contribution of approx. EUR 31.14 m. Regarding Measure 3, there were 77 applications approved, with total public support of approx. EUR 19.87 m and EU contribution of approx. EUR 14.90 m, while for Measure 7 there were 11 applications approved, with total public support of approx. EUR 1.46 m and EU contribution of approx. EUR 1.09 m. In total, 520 applications were rejected, in the amount of EU contribution of approx. EUR 48.36 m, of which 197 applications were withdrawn by applicant, in the amount of EU support of 12.53 m. Until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, 431 applications were approved, with total public support of approx. EUR 23.82 m and EU contribution of approx. EUR 17.86 m. Out of the total EU funds allocated for the period 2014-2020 (175.0 m), 26.93% was approved by the end of August 2021. Out of the total amount of the EU contribution, 66.07% was for Measure 1, 31.62% for Measure 3 and 2.31% for Measure 7.

By the end of August 2021, total paid EU support was EUR 17.86 m. Out of this amount of EU contribution, Measure 1 accounted for 7.37%, while Measure 3 accounted for 2.84%. The execution rate of the EU contribution at Programme level was 10.21%, while in terms of individual measures, Measure 1 accounted for 13.23% and Measure 3 accounted for 10.07%.



## Introduction

The Republic of Serbia has been implementing IPARD II Programme since December 2017. From the beginning of implementation until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, eleven Public Calls were published, out of which two were published during the reporting period: Sixth Public Call for Measure 1 – Investment in physical assets of agricultural holdings and Fourth Public Call for Measure 3 – Investments in physical assets concerning processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products. The Second Public Call for Measure 7 – Farm Diversification and Business Development was published on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2021.

Since the First Public Call, the agricultural producers have shown the great interest, which supports the fact that 1,748 applications have been submitted up to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, out of which 431 recipients have received the Decision on payment of IPARD support. Strong political commitment of the Government of the Republic of Serbia is of great importance for successful implementation of the IPARD II Programme, as well as the broad social consensus on the importance of IPARD support for further development and increase in competitiveness in the agriculture and rural development sector.

The Semi-annual report covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021. All data in this Report are presented cumulatively since the beginning of Programme implementation.

The following measures are entrusted under the IPARD II Programme:

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

### **Under Measure 1, six public calls have been published:**

- The *First Public Call* was related to investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings for the purchase of new equipment, machinery and mechanisation with 85 submitted applications;
- The *Second Public Call* was related to investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings for the purchase of a new tractor with 393 submitted applications;
- The *Third Public Call* was related to investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings for construction and equipping of facilities and purchase of new equipment and machinery – with 151 submitted applications;
- The *Fourth Public Call* was related to investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings for the purchase of a new tractor with 437 submitted applications;
- The *Fifth Public Call* was related to investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings for the construction and purchase of new equipment, machinery and mechanisation with 169 submitted applications;
- The *Sixth Public Call* was related to investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings for construction and purchase of new equipment, machinery and mechanisation (excluding

tractors). The deadline for submission of applications for project approval was 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

**Under Measure 3, four public calls have been published:**

- The *First Public Call* was related to investments in physical assets concerning the processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products for purchase of new equipment with 26 submitted applications;
- The *Second Public Call* was related to investments in the construction and purchase of new equipment with 81 submitted applications;
- The *Third Public Call* was related to investments in the construction and purchase of new equipment with 95 submitted applications;
- The *Fourth Public Call* was related to investments in physical assets concerning the processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products. The deadline for submission of applications for project approval was 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

**Under Measure 7, two public calls have been published:**

- The *First Public Call* for Measure 7 was related to rural tourism with 311 submitted applications;
- The *Second Public Call* for Measure 7 is related to rural tourism – The deadline for submission of applications for project approval is 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

**Measure 9 – Technical Assistance**

When it comes to Measure 9 - Technical Assistance, the Managing Authority in cooperation with the IPARD Agency, prepared the Rulebook on conditions, manner and procedure for Technical Assistance measure implementation under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance for Rural Development. This Rulebook prescribes in more detail eligible recipient under Technical Assistance measure, the amount of funds available and the conditions, manner and procedure for implementation of Technical Assistance measure. The Rulebook was adopted on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021 (“Official Gazette of the RS” No. 107).

In 2021, the Public Call for IPARD Measure 9 was published and the Managing Authority submitted the first application for project approval to the IPARD Agency.

## **The Fourth Modification of IPARD II Programme**

The Proposal of Fourth Modification of the IPARD II Programme was adopted at the Seventh session of IPARD II Monitoring Committee by members and submitted to the EC for approval on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The EC adopted the Proposal of Fourth Modification of the IPARD II Programme by its Implementing Decision C (2021) 2585 on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021. The Proposal of Fourth Modification of the IPARD II Programme was adopted by the Conclusion of the Government of the Republic of Serbia number 05: 48-3420/2021 of 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

This Programme modification refers to financial tables, aimed at reallocating IPARD funds by measures and years. Funds were reallocated from non-entrusted to entrusted measures.

In addition to the abovementioned, the Fourth Modification of the IPARD II Programme also concerned financial demarcation to prevent double financing of rural tourism through IPARD Measure 7 and the national measure as follows:

- the maximum amount of support under national measure is EUR 20,000;
- the minimum amount of support under IPARD Measure 7 is EUR 20,000.

Furthermore, the Fourth Modification of the IPARD II Programme also includes a change in the definition of “young farmer”, according to which a young farmer is a person under 40 years of age at the time of submission of application for project approval.

## Adopted Legal Acts

The following legal acts were drafted and adopted in 2021:

- 1) Conclusion on Adoption of the IPARD Programme for the Republic of Serbia for 2014-2020 (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 30/16, 84/17, 20/19, 55/19 and 38/21);
- 2) The Rulebook on Amendments to the Rulebook on IPARD support for Investments in Physical Assets of Agricultural Holdings (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 53/2021 of 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021);
- 3) The Rulebook on Amendments to the Rulebook on IPARD support for Investments in Physical Assets concerning Processing and Marketing of Agricultural and Fishery Products (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 74/2021 of 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021);
- 4) The Rulebook on Amendments to the Rulebook on IPARD support for Farm Diversification and Business Development (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 87/2021 of 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021);
- 5) The Annual Implementation Report on IPARD II Programme for 2020 was adopted at the Eighth Session of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee and submitted to the EC. The EC adopted the Annual Implementation Report on IPARD II Programme for 2020 by its letter of 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021;
- 6) The Rulebook on conditions, manner and procedure for Technical Assistance measure implementation under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance for Rural Development (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 107 of 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021).

## Trainings and Projects

Within FwC project: Support to IPARD Managing Authority and IPARD Agency with the implementation of IPARD measures, which was completed in July 2021, in the reporting period, the main activities of the project were related to the case simulation trainings on raising knowledge of relevant MA and IA staff regarding the preparation of a tender dossier for the implementation of IPARD II Measure 9 and PRAG procedures. Additionally, the Expert for PRAG and Control has provided on-the-job training for preparation/update of the tender dossiers with MA relevant staff. The Draft Rulebook on Technical Assistance measure (Measure 9) is prepared together with MA and IA staff. Some activities of the project were also related to the preparation of IPARD III Programme.

The activities regarding the connection of the RD IT solution with the two web services have been initiated in the previous reporting period and continued in this reporting period. Consultations during the process of scanning of manually processed applications and their entering in the RD IT solution has been provided through additional training for initialisation of applications for additional users. The activities on collecting data, documents and information relevant for introducing Measure 7 and Measure 9 continued in the reporting period and the Measure 7 and Measure 9 have been initially introduced in the RD IT solution. Workshops on business analysis were organised with participants appointed from relevant DAP sectors.

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” continued support to the IPARD MA in the preparation of IPARD III Programme. As regards Measure 4, two capacity building workshops were held in July with approx. 50 participants, each.

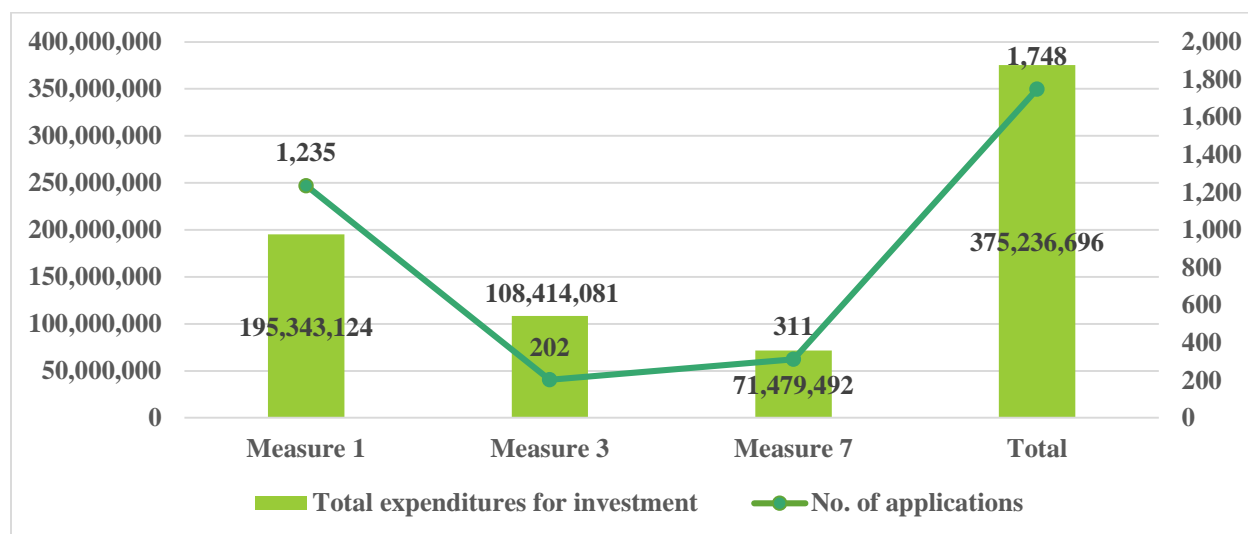
The workshop on the institutional functional analysis of the MAFWM, organised in July with 46 MAFWM staff, has presented detailed explanation of the re-structuring proposal of the relevant administrative units, as well as the additional supplemented functions and their direct and indirect subordination. The capacity building workshop on the preparation of the Negotiation position for Chapter 11 was held in June 2021 with 29 participants and the first draft of the Negotiation position was delivered to the MAFWM.

Support in organization of the conference “IPARD III Programme – What is there for me?” and printing of special edition of bi-monthly newsletter “IPARD in focus” were provided for appearance at the 88<sup>th</sup> International Agricultural Fair in Novi Sad.

## **Implementation of IPARD II Measures**

The analytics presented in this section of the Report are based on data provided in the Common Indicator Tables for Monitoring and Evaluation of IPA Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020, which were provided to the IPARD Managing Authority by the IPARD Agency, as well as on additional monitoring tables with a cut-off date 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021. This Report is based on available data from the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Public Calls for Measure 1, the First, Second and Third Public Calls for Measure 3 and the First Public Call for Measure 7. The following Public Calls were published during the preparation of the Report: the Fourth Public Call for Measure 3 (with deadline until 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021 for submission of applications for project approval) and the Second Public Call for Measure 7 (with deadline for submission of applications for project approval until 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2021). The Sixth Public Call for submission of applications for project approval for Measure 1 was closed on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

According to the available data and results from the nine IPARD Public Calls (the first five calls for Measure 1, three calls for Measure 3 and one call for Measure 7), there were 1,748 applications submitted in total, out of which 1,235 applications for Measure 1 (71% of the total number of submitted applications), 202 applications (11%) for Measure 3 and 311 applications (18%) for Measure 7 (Graph 1).

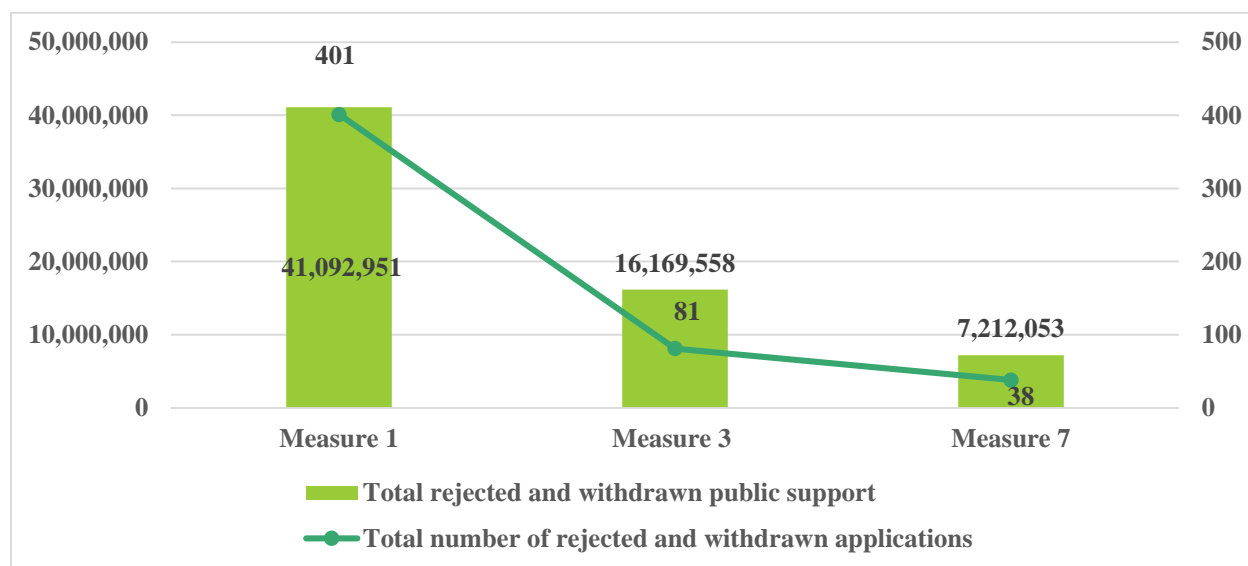
**Graph 1: Submitted applications and requested expenditures for investment (EUR), M1, M3, M7**

As regards total requested expenditures for investment (Graph 1), the total amount of requested expenditures for the nine IPARD Public Calls was EUR 375.2 m. Measure 1 accounted for more than half of the requested expenditures for investment (52% for the first five calls), Measure 3 accounted for nearly a third (29%), while Measure 7 (First Public Call) accounted for approx. 1/5 of the total amount of requested expenditures.

Out of the total number of submitted applications, 55 were unclassified (3%), out of which 10 under Measure 1, 16 under Measure 3 and 29 under Measure 7.

Out of the 10 unclassified applications under Measure 1, 4 applications were related to the Other Crops Sector with no business plan attached or no specific information on the type of production, with a total value of EUR 75.4 m (EUR 73.2 m for equipment and EUR 2.2 m for general costs), while in 6 applications the sector, subsector and the total eligible expenditures of the investment were not specified. Under Measure 3 there were 16 unclassified applications (without a specified subsector), out of which 12 applications were without specified sector or subsector, while under Measure 7 there were 29 applications unclassified.

As regards rejected applications, by the end of the reporting period, the IA adopted 520 decisions on rejection of applications; it should be noted that the total number of rejected applications includes applications that were withdrawn by applicants (197). The largest number of rejected/withdrawn applications was under Measure 1 (401), with significantly lower figures under Measure 3 (81) and Measure 7 (38), which is understandable given that under Measure 1 the largest number of applications was submitted (Graph 2).

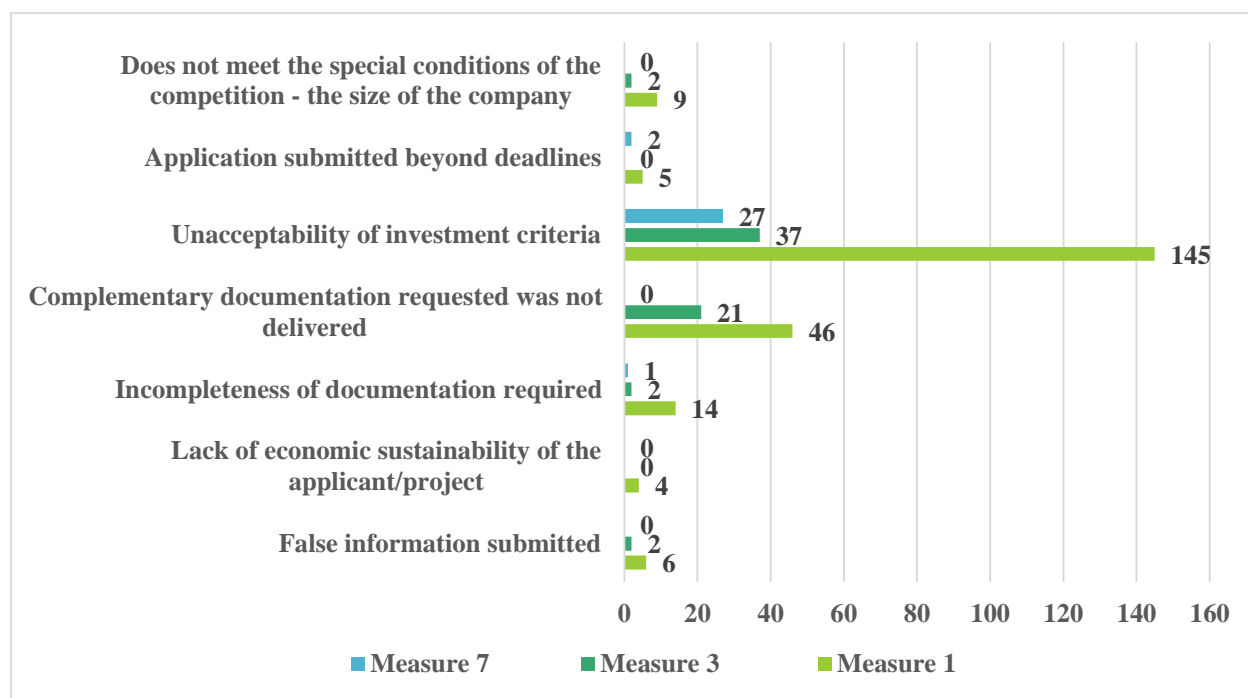
**Graph 2: Rejected/withdrawn applications and public support (EUR), M1, M3, M7**

Under Measure 1, a total of 401 applications were rejected/withdrawn, with total requested expenditures for investment in the amount of EUR 68.5 m. Observed by individual Public Calls, the highest number of rejections was under the Second Public Call (197). Analysed by sectors, the highest number of decisions on rejection of applications was recorded in the Other Crops Sector (167) and the Fruit and Vegetable Sector (152), while the Meat Sector had 55 rejected applications and in the Milk Sector 20 applications were rejected. The Viticulture Sector had 3 rejected/withdrawn applications.

As regards Measure 3, there were 81 rejected/withdrawn applications, with total requested expenditures for investment of EUR 32.3 m. Under the Second Call there was the highest share of rejected/withdrawn applications (39), while the highest amount of rejected/withdrawn expenditures for investment was under the Third Public Call (EUR 16.1 m). In terms of sectors, the highest number of rejected applications was in the Fruit and Vegetable Sector (40), while the Meat Sector and the Wine Sector had 11 rejected/withdrawn applications each and the Milk Sector had 7 applications.

By far the most common reason for rejection of applications was unacceptability of investment criteria (209), followed by failure to provide requested complementary documentation (67) and incomplete required documents (17) (Graph 3).



**Graph 3: Most common reasons for rejection/withdrawal of applications, per measure**

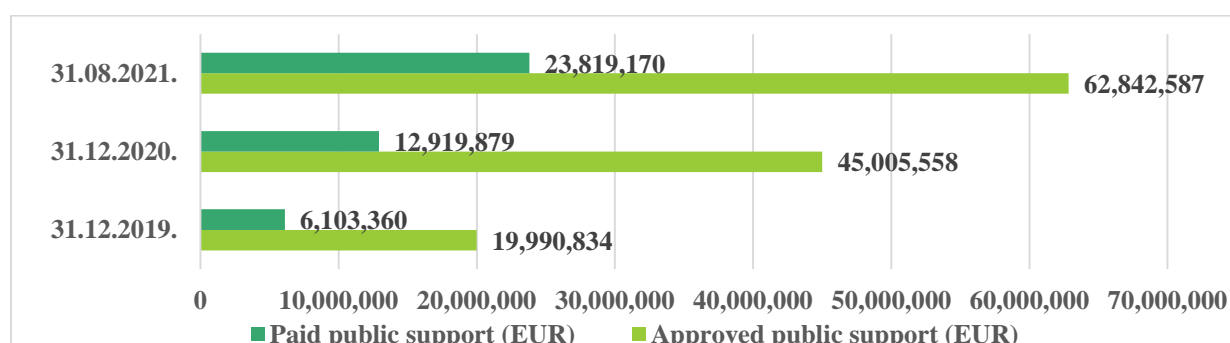
The IPARD Agency carried out 1,124 on-the-spot controls in total, out of which 576 on-the-spot controls were performed before project approval (454 for Measure 1, 86 for Measure 3 and 36 for Measure 7), and 500 on-the-spot controls before payment of projects (448 for Measure 1 and 52 for Measure 3), while 48 on-the-spot controls were performed *ex-post* (45 for Measure 1 and 3 for Measure 3). Due to the exceptional situation caused by COVID-19, 291 projects were approved without on-the-spot controls (287 for Measure 1 and 4 for Measure 3), and each of these projects will be subject to on-the-spot controls at the next stage – before payment.

Until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, a total of 722 decisions on project approval were made (634 for Measure 1, 77 for Measure 3 and 11 for Measure 7), with total approved eligible expenditures for investment in the amount of approx. EUR 109.6 m and approved public support in the amount of EUR 62.8 m (Graph 4). For Measure 1, 634 applications were approved, with total approved eligible expenditures for investment in the amount of EUR 67.1 m and approved public support in the amount of EUR 41.5 m, with the highest number of approved applications and the highest amount of expenditures under the Fourth Public Call (282 applications, with total approved eligible expenditures for investment of EUR 16 m). Under Measure 1, by far the highest number of applications was approved in the Other Crops Sector (64%) – the only sector with increasing trend in the number of approved applications compared to the previous reporting period – followed by the Fruit and Vegetable Sector (23%). The significantly lower number of approved applications were in the Meat Sector (8%), the Milk Sector (4%), the Viticulture Sector (1%) and only 1 project was approved in the Eggs Sector. When it comes to Measure 3, 77 applications were approved, with total approved eligible expenditures for investment in the amount of EUR 40.2 m and approved public support in the amount of EUR 20 m, with the highest number of approved applications and expenditures under the Second Public Call (42 applications with total approved eligible expenditures for investment in the amount of EUR 27.4 m). An analysis per sectors, based on processed applications, has shown that by far the highest number of approved applications

under Measure 3 were in the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector: 69 applications, i.e. 90% of total approved projects, while significantly lower number of approved applications were in the remaining sectors the (Meat Processing Sector: 4, Milk Processing Sector: 3 and 1 Wine Sector: 1 project). Based on available data, in the reporting period, out of the total number of submitted applications under Measure 7 (311 under the First Call), 11 projects were approved, with eligible expenditures for investment of EUR 2.3 m and approved total public support of EUR 1.5 m.

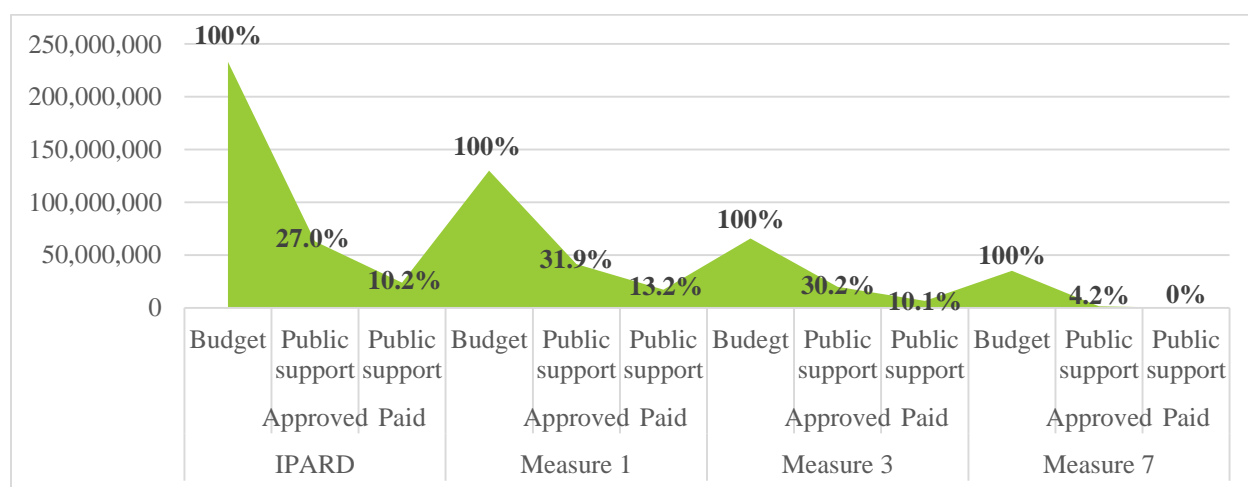
The IPARD Agency adopted 431 decisions on payment of IPARD support, with eligible expenditures for investment of EUR 41 m and paid public support of EUR 23.8 m (Graph 4). Under Measure 1, 397 applications were paid, with eligible expenditures for investment of EUR 27.3 m and public support of EUR 17.2 m, while 34 applications were paid under Measure 3, with eligible expenditures for investment of EUR 13.6 m and public support of EUR 6.6 m.

**Graph 4: Approved and paid IPARD public support (EUR)**



As at cut-off date 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, *execution of total allocated public support under the IPARD Programme in terms of project payment was 10.2%*, while the share of approved public support in total allocated IPARD funds was 27.0%. Observed per measure, the highest budget execution and the highest percentage of approved public support was under Measure 1 (13.2% and 31.9% respectively), followed by Measure 3 (10.1% and 30.2% respectively). As at the cut-off date, there was no budget execution under Measure 7, while at the same time, approved public support was 4.2% out of the allocated funds for this measure (Graph 5).

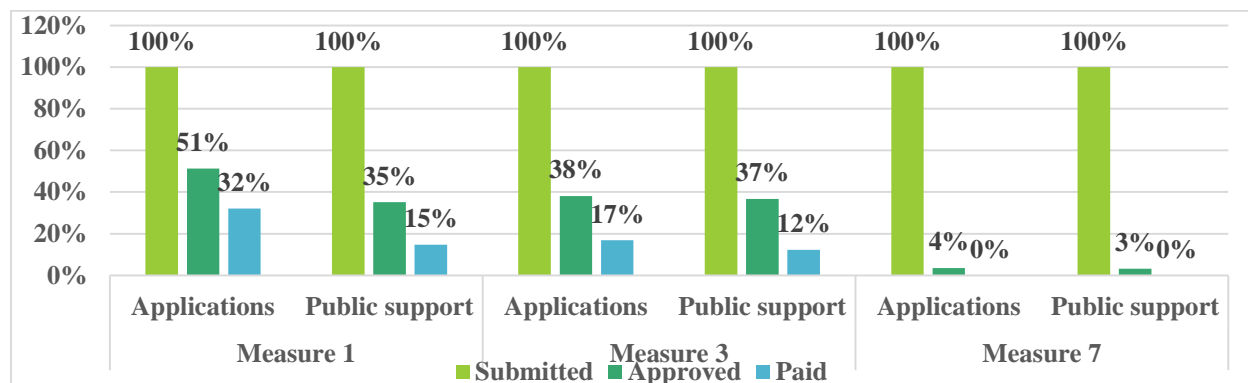
**Graph 5: Execution of approved and paid public support compared to the allocated IPARD budget (%)**





When it comes to the ratio of approved public support in relation to the requested, Measure 3 takes precedence over Measure 1 (37% vs. 35%, respectively), while the better result of the ratio of paid public support in relation to the requested was achieved under Measure 1 (15%) compared to Measure 3: 12% (Graph 6).

**Graph 6: Execution of approved and paid applications and public support compared to submitted applications and requested public support (%), M1, M3, M7**



The total number of submitted applications under the five Public Calls for Measure 1 was 1,235, while the requested estimated amount of public support was EUR 117.2 m, for three Public Calls under Measure 3: 202 submitted applications, i.e. EUR 54.2 m, while under the First Public Call for Measure 7 311 project proposals were submitted, with an estimated amount of public support of EUR 46.5 m. The estimated average value of requested expenditures for investment for submitted applications under Measure 1 amounts EUR 158,173, under Measure 3 is EUR 536,703, while under Measure 7 is EUR 229,838.

## Measure 1

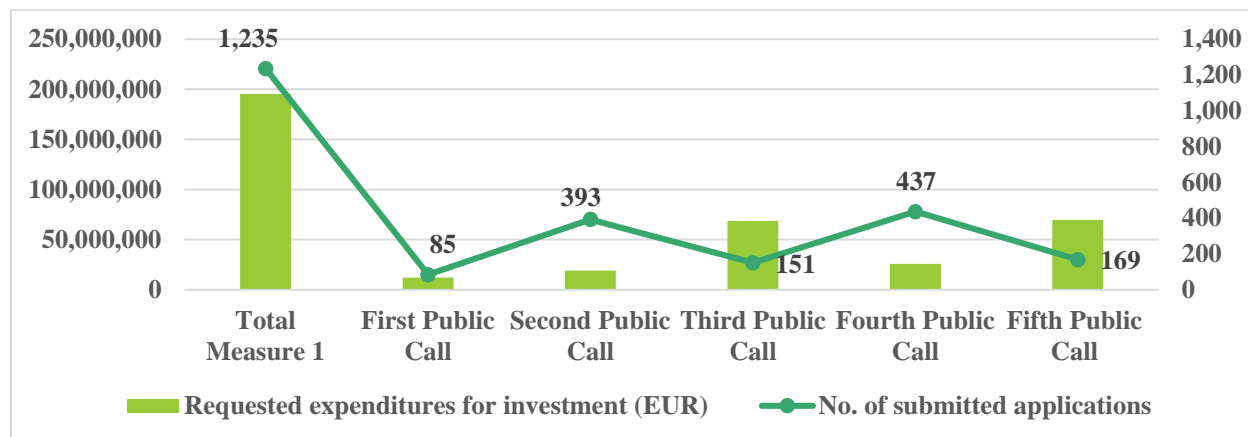
Six Public Calls were published for investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021. The analysis in this chapter is based on available data for the first five calls, given that the Sixth Public Call for Measure 1, with 369 submitted applications and allocated funds for the construction and purchase of equipment, machinery and mechanisation (excluding tractors) in the amount of EUR 54.95 m, was closed on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

In regard to payment and final processing of all submitted applications under Measure 1, the First Public Call was closed (published on 25<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and closed on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018), with the following result: 85 applications were submitted in total, with requested public support in the amount of EUR 12 m, 42 projects were approved in total, with requested public support in the amount of EUR 3.8 m and 32 projects were paid in total, with paid public support in the amount of EUR 2.8 m (EUR 2.1 m of EU contribution). There were 25 decisions on project rejection (rejected public support in the amount of EUR 2 m) and 18 projects were withdrawn by applicant (EUR 814,187.58 of public support). The execution rate of submitted applications under this Public Call was 37.6%, while the execution rate of requested public support (and EU contribution) was 23.3%. Total IPARD execution rate under this Public Call was 33.5%. Under this Public Call the ranking procedure for submitted applications were not applied. The first application under this Public Call was paid on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019, while the final date for all approved payments under this Public Call is 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

Under the first five published Public Calls under Measure 1, the ranking procedure was applied to all mentioned Calls except the First Call.

The total number of submitted applications within the first five calls under Measure 1 was 1,235, with requested expenditures for investment of EUR 195.3 m and requested estimated public support of EUR 117.2 m (Graph 7).

**Graph 7: Submitted applications and requested expenditures for investment (EUR), M1**

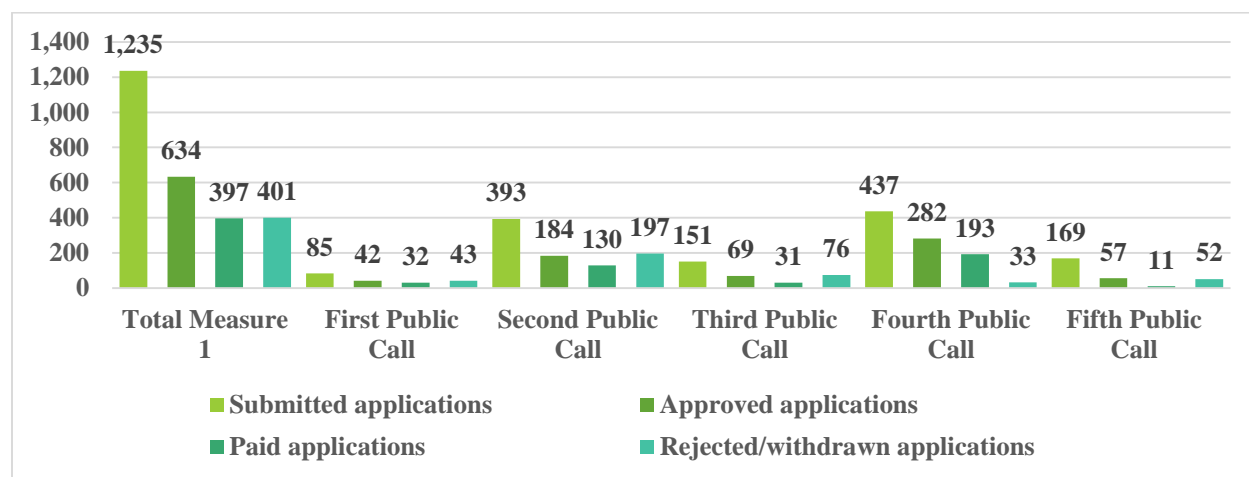


Under the First Public Call there were 85 applications submitted (7%), 393 applications under the Second Public Call (32%), 151 applications under the Third Public Call (12%), 437 applications under the Fourth Public Call (35%) and 169 applications were submitted under the Fifth Public Call (14%). According to analysis of the number of applications submitted under Measure 1, it can be concluded that a majority of potential recipients were interested in public calls related to the procurement of a new tractor.

At the level of Measure 1, 634 applications were approved, i.e. 51% of all submitted applications, with the Fourth Public Call achieving the highest percentage of approval both in terms of applications and in terms of eligible expenditures (65% and 62% respectively), while the Fifth Public Call had the lowest percentage (34% and 19% respectively). The highest number of approved applications were under the Fourth (282) and Second Public Call (184), while the First Public Call had the lowest number of approved applications (42).

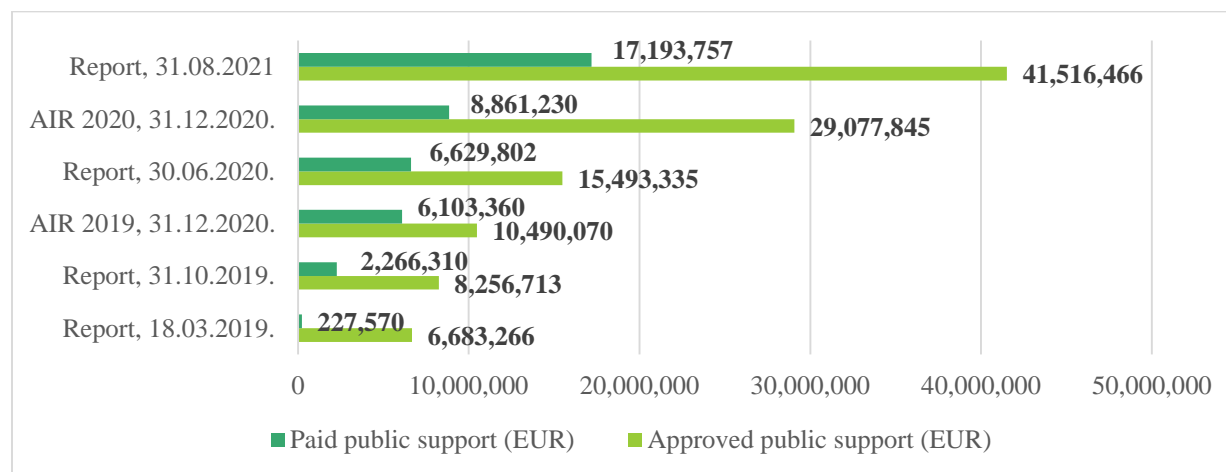
When it comes to the execution in relation to the number of submitted applications under Measure 1, the execution rate is 32% for 397 paid applications in total, with the highest execution rate under the Fourth Public Call (44%) and the lowest execution rate under the Fifth Public Call (a mere 7%). The highest number of paid projects was under the Fourth Public Call (193), while the Fifth Public Call had the lowest number (11).

Under Measure 1, there were 401 rejected/withdrawn applications in total, i.e. 32% of the total number of submitted applications. The rate of rejection/withdrawal of applications under the first three Public Calls was approx. 50%, under the Fifth Public Call it is 31%, while the Fourth Public Call has the lowest rate at 8%. The highest number of rejected/withdrawn applications was under the Second Public Call (197), following by decreasing trend: 76 applications under the Third Public Call and 33 under the Fourth, while the Fifth Public Call had 52 rejected/withdrawn applications (Graph 8).

**Graph 8: Total number of submitted, approved, paid and rejected/withdrawn applications, M1**

The amount of total requested expenditures for investment under Measure 1 was EUR 195.3 m, with the highest amounts under the Fifth (EUR 69.6 m) and Third (EUR 68.8 m) Public Calls. These two Public Calls included investments in construction, which have a higher value per application.

The dynamic of approval and payment of IPARD public support under Measure 1, observed based on reporting to the IPARD Monitoring Committee, indicate the following trends: a continuous increase in the amount of approved public support compared to each previous reporting period, albeit with a slower increase in the current reporting period in relation to the achieved increase of this indicator in the previous ones (compared with AIR 2020, the increase recorded in this Report was 44.9 percentage points lower). The highest increase in the amount of approved public support was achieved in the second half of 2020 (87.7% in relation to the previous reporting period). The increase in the amount of paid public support compared to each previous reporting period (except for this report compared to the previous report) has been continual: the highest increase in paid public support in relation to the previous reporting period, proportionate to the amount of approved public support, was achieved in the second half of 2020 and amounted to EUR 13.6 m (Graph 9).

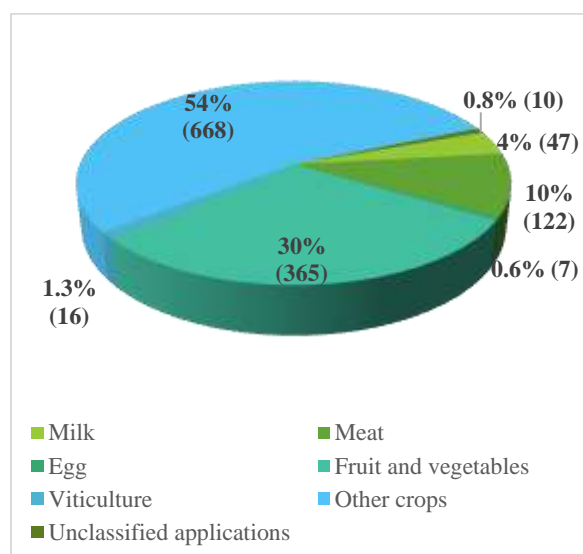
**Graph 9: Approved and paid public support, M1, IPARD MC reports**

The ratio of approved to paid projects under Measure 1 ranges from 18.6 (report of 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019) to 1.6 (as at the cut-off date for this Report), which indicate an increase in the number of paid projects compared to the number of approved projects during mentioned period.

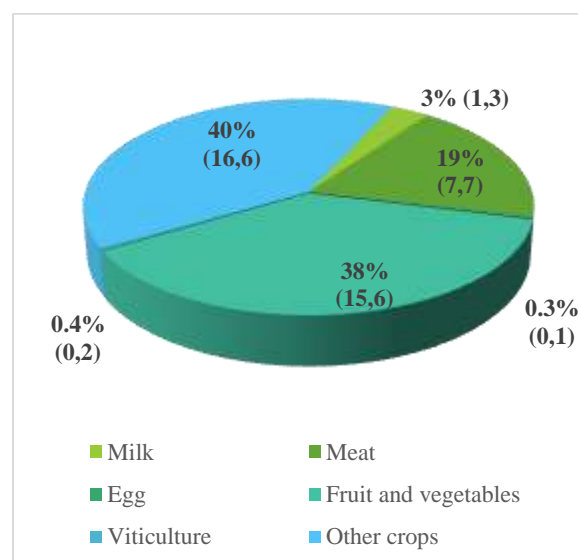
Out of the total number of applications submitted under Measure 1 (1,235), the Other Crops Sector (cereals, oil crops, sugar beet) achieved the highest share of 54% (668 applications), followed by the Fruit and Vegetable Sector 30% (out of the total of 365 applications submitted in the Fruit and Vegetable Sector, 310 were for fruit, while 55 applications were submitted for vegetables), the Meat Sector participate with 10% (122 applications), the Milk Sector participate with 4% (47 applications), the Viticulture Sector with 1.3% (16 applications) and the Egg Sector participate with 0.6% (7 applications submitted), while 10 submitted applications were unclassified (Graph 10).

When it comes to the structure of total approved eligible expenditures per sector, approved by IA decision (including general cost) under Measure 1 (Graph 11), there has been a change compared to the previous reporting period. The Other Crops Sector achieved the highest share, both in terms of approved projects (407/635, i.e. 64%) and in terms of approved total eligible expenditures (40%), while the Fruit and Vegetables Sector achieved the share of 38%. The Meat Sector achieved the share of 19%, while the Milk Sector achieved the share of 3% of total eligible expenditures. The Viticulture Sector and the Egg Sector had negligible shares in the total approved public expenditures (0.4% and 0.3% respectively).

**Graph 10: Submitted applications per sector, M1**



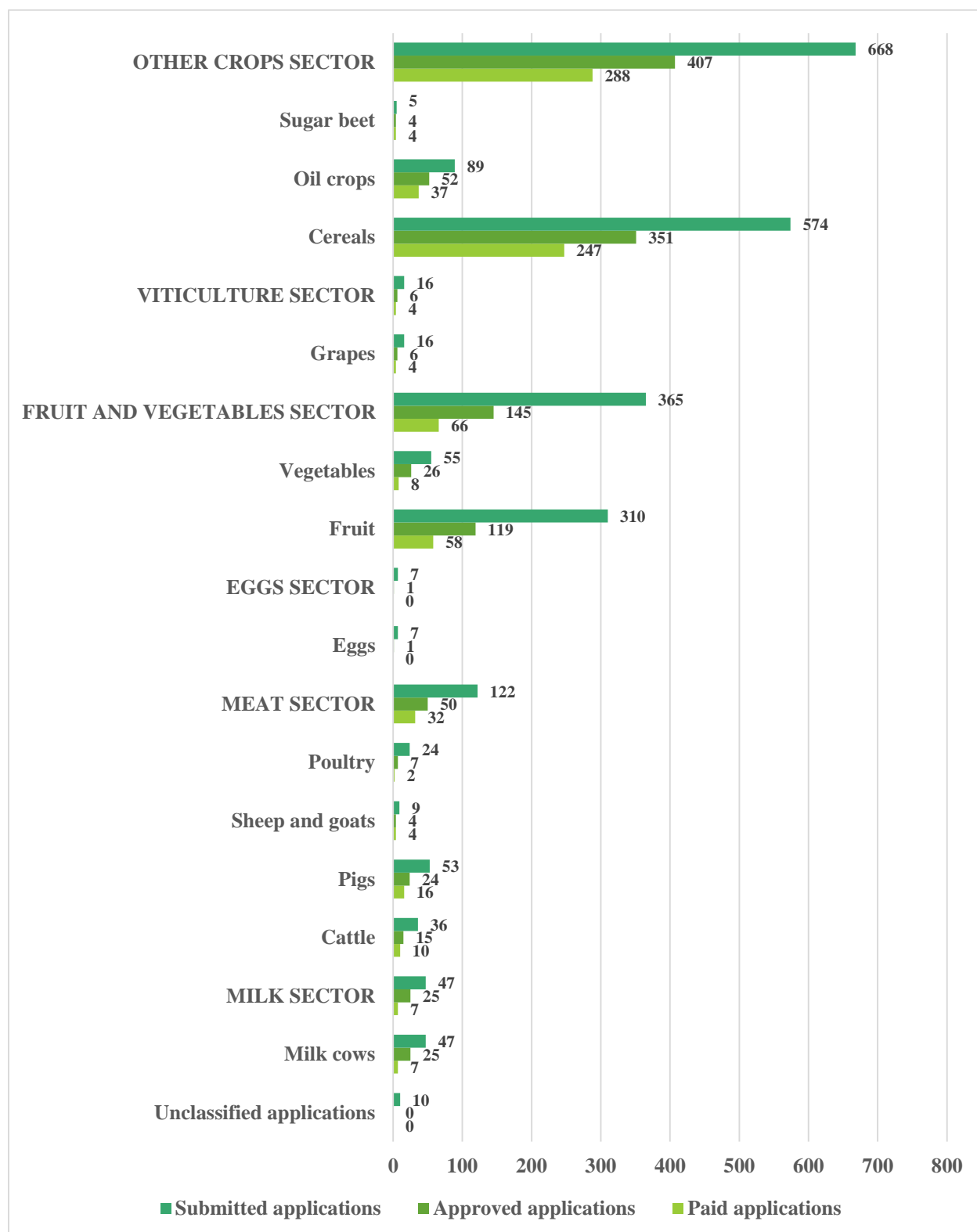
**Graph 11: Approved eligible expenditures per sectors (EUR m), M1**



The Graph 12 shows the number of submitted, approved and paid applications per subsectors within Measure 1. Out of the total number of applications submitted under Measure 1, the Other Crops Sector achieved the highest share (668 applications or 56%); where the cereals subsector had the highest number of submitted applications (574, or 86%) within this sector. Furthermore, the Other Crops Sector is also dominant in terms of total approved applications (407 or 64%) and paid applications (288 or 73%), as well as in terms of the share of paid applications in the total number of submitted applications at sector level (43%). The Fruit and Vegetable Sector, with 365 applications submitted, i.e. with the share of 30%, was second in terms of total number of

submitted applications, primarily due to the dominant share of the fruit subsector in the total number of submitted applications in this sector (85%, with 310 submitted applications). The share of this sector in the total number of paid (66) in relation to the submitted applications was 18%. The Meat Sector, with 66 applications submitted, has a share of 10% out of the total submitted applications for project approval under Measure 1, where the pig subsector achieved the highest share of submitted applications in this sector (43%, with 53 submitted applications).

**Graph 12: Submitted, approved and paid applications per subsectors, M1**

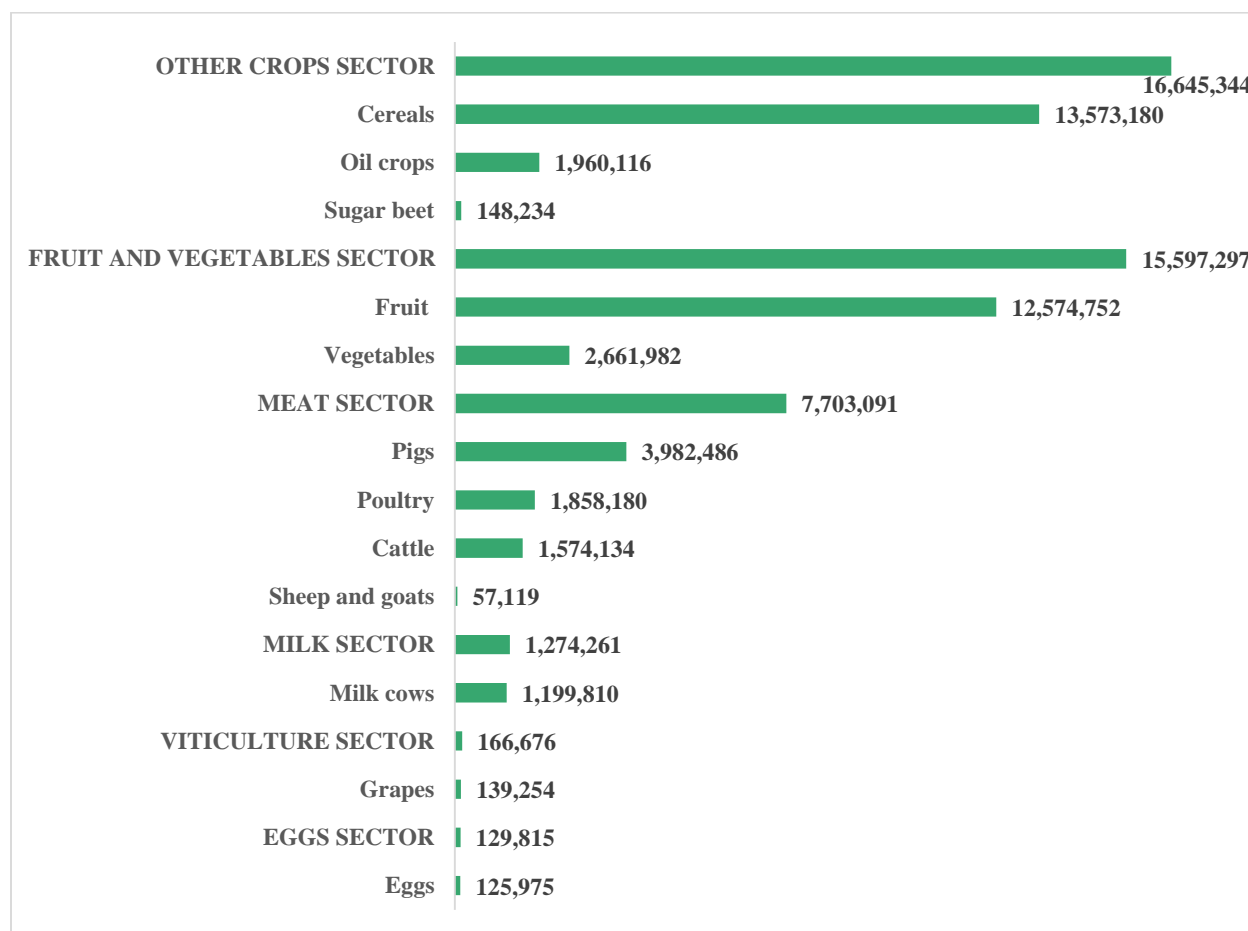


The Milk Sector, the Viticulture Sector and the Egg Sector had significantly lower number of submitted applications compared with other sectors (47, 16 and 7 applications respectively). In the Milk Sector there were 7 paid applications, in the Viticulture Sector there were 4, while in the Egg Sector there were no paid applications until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021. The “Unclassified Applications” include 10 applications, out of which four unclassified applications are in the Other Crops Sector (without an attached business plan or without specific data on the type of production), with the total value of EUR 75,432.69.

In regard to the share of sectors/subsectors in total public eligible expenditures contracted by the IA, including general costs (Graph 13), there has been a change from the previous reporting period. The Other Crops Sector has the first position with EUR 16.6 m, within cereals subsector is dominant (81.5% of eligible expenditures for investment). The mentioned sector is followed by the Fruit and Vegetable Sector with total approved eligible expenditures of EUR 16.0 m, within fruit subsector is dominant (80.6% of eligible expenditures for investment).

Total approved public eligible expenditures (both investment and general costs) in the Meat Sector amounted to EUR 7.7 m, where the pig subsector achieved the highest share of 52% out of the total eligible expenditures for investment within this Sector.

**Graph 13: Total approved eligible expenditures per subsectors (EUR), M1**



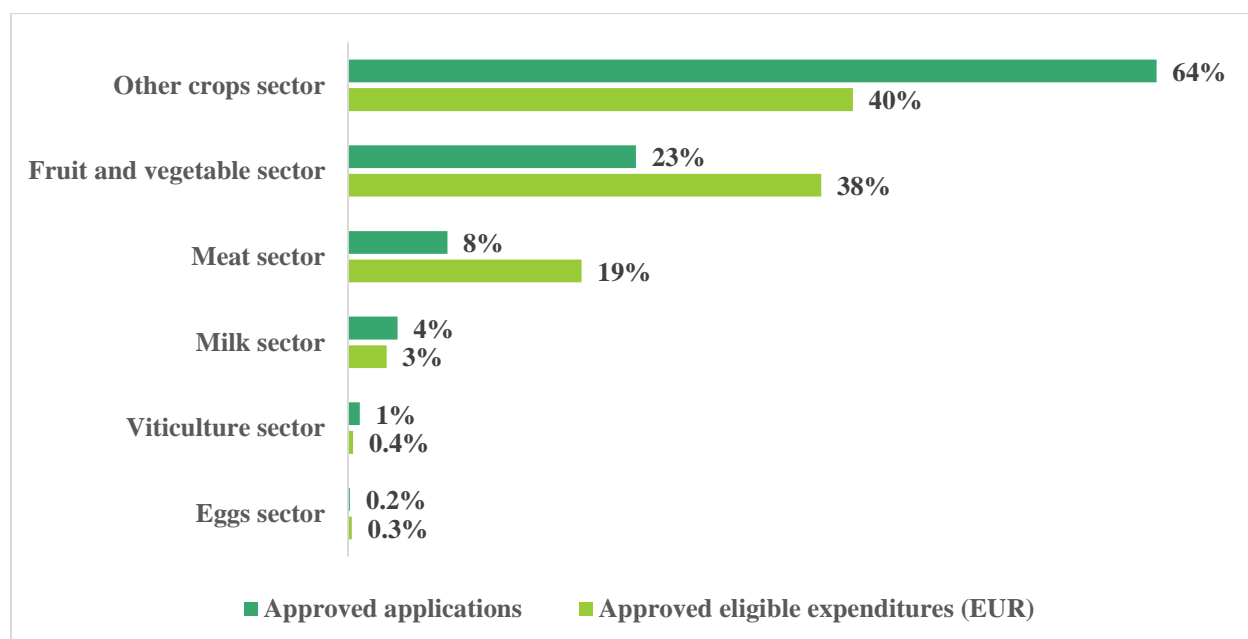
Approved public eligible expenditures for the Milk Sector amounted to EUR 1.3 m, while the Viticulture Sector and the Egg Sector achieved significantly lower shares of this category of approved expenditures.

In regard to paid public eligible expenditures by the IA (Table O.1.a, Annex 1), with 62% of total payments, the Other Crops Sector was dominant by far, followed by other sectors: the Fruit and Vegetable Sector (26%), the Meat Sector (9%), the Milk Sector (2%) and the Viticulture Sector (0.4%), while within the Egg Sector there were no payments as at the cut-off date.

The average amount of paid public support per project under Measure 1 was EUR 43,309. The Fruit and Vegetable Sector achieved the highest average amount of payment per project (EUR 68,697), followed by the Meat Sector (EUR 50,385), the Milk Sector (EUR 46,793) and the Other Crops Sector (EUR 36,997), while the Viticulture Sector achieved the lowest value of this indicator (EUR 16,212).

The highest share both in the total number of approved applications (64%) and in total public eligible expenditures approved by the IA (40%) for Measure 1 was achieved within Other Crops Sector, where both indicators have increasing tendency compared to the previous reporting period. In the structure of approved applications for Measure 1, the Fruit and Vegetable Sector has share of 23%, while its share in the structure of approved eligible expenditures is 38% (Graph 14).

**Graph 14: Share of sectors in total approved applications and public eligible expenditures for investment (%), M1**

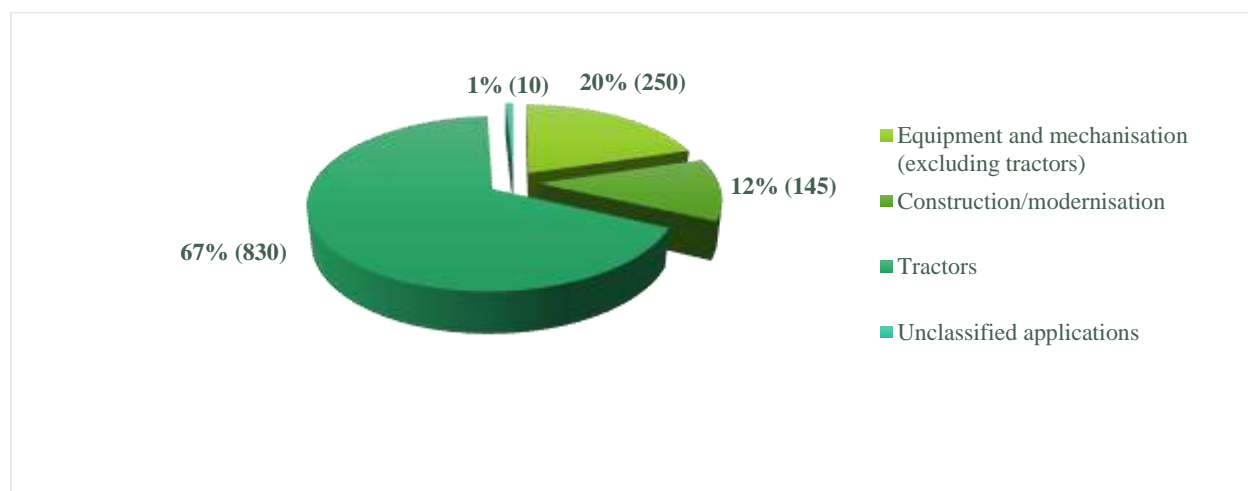


The Egg Sector and the Viticulture Sector achieved the lowest share both in the number of approved applications and in the amount of approved eligible expenditures. The highest share in total approved applications in relation to the total approved eligible expenditures was achieved within Other Crops Sector, the Milk Sector and the Viticulture Sector, while, at the same time, the Fruit and Vegetable Sector, Viticulture Sector and Egg Sector achieved the higher share of total eligible expenditures in relation to their share in the total number of approved application (Graph 14).



In terms of investment type, investments referred to the procurement of a new tractor has a dominant share in submitted applications under Measure 1, with 830 applications submitted in total and share of 67%, followed by applications submitted for investments in the purchase of new equipment and mechanisation (excluding tractors), with 250 submitted applications and a share of 20% of the total number of submitted applications, while applications submitted for investment in the construction of facilities and warehouses represents 12%, with 145 submitted applications (Graph 15).

**Graph 15: Share of investment type in total submitted applications (%), M1**



As regards specific investment types, by far the largest number of potential recipients under Measure 1 were interested in procurement of a new tractor, followed by purchases of: harvesting/picking, sorting, packaging and storage equipment (Fruit and Vegetable Sector); other mechanisation and equipment; equipment and machinery for the vegetation period; and construction of new operating facilities and warehouses. These investment types have a share of 90% of the total volume of requested investments in terms of the number of submitted applications (excluding 10 unclassified applications), where procurement of a tractor achieved 68% of the total number of submitted applications. Regarding the structure of these investments, by far the largest share of applications concerned investments in the field of plant production (85%), while among investments in the field of livestock production in relation to the number of submitted applications, apart from the dominant share of purchase of a tractor, the highest level of interest applicants expressed for the construction of new operating facilities (especially in the Meat Sector), purchase of equipment for fodder preparation and livestock feeding and purchase of equipment for manure storage and management.

In the group of investments related to the equipment and mechanisation (excluding tractors), the highest number of submitted applications was for the purchase of harvesting/picking, sorting, packaging and storage equipment (65 applications) and equipment and machinery for the vegetation period (38 applications) in the Fruit and Vegetable Sector, as well as other mechanisation (37 applications) in the Other Crops Sector. Within the group of investments for the construction, from a point of view of submitted applications, potential recipients expressed the highest level of interest in construction of new storage facilities for plant production, with a total of 62 applications, including 42 applications in the Fruit and Vegetable Sector and 22 applications in the Other Crops Sector, while 45 applications in total were submitted for the construction of

new operating facilities in the field of livestock production (35 applications in the Meat Sector, 7 applications in the Milk Sector and 3 applications in the Egg Sector).

### Measure 3

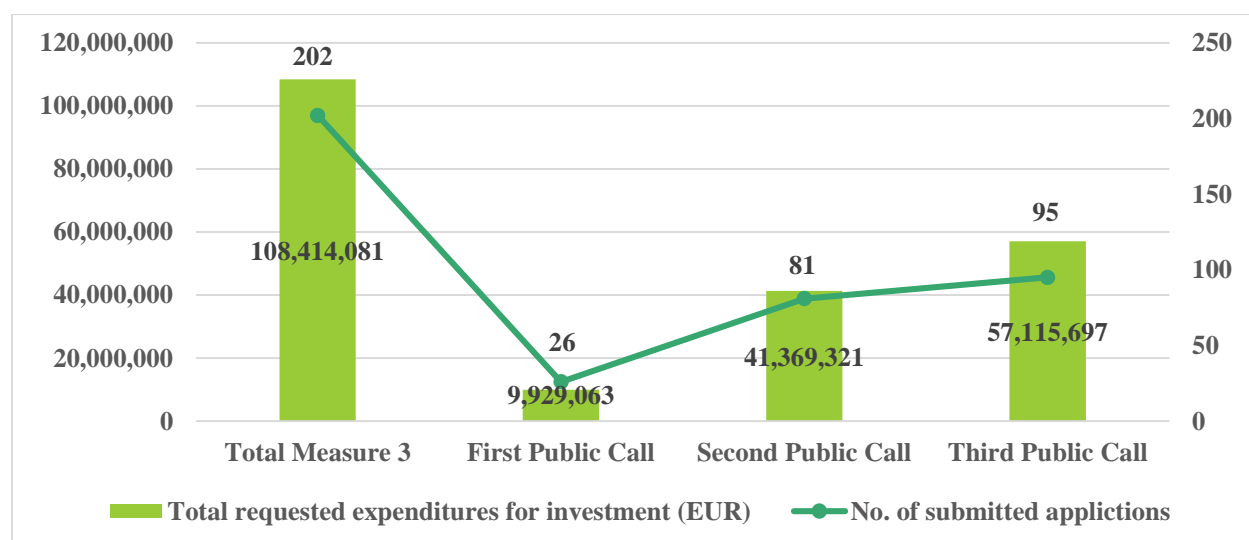
A total of four public calls were published for investments in the processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021. The analysis in this Chapter is based on available data for the first three Public Calls, because the Fourth Public Call for Measure 3, with allocated funds in the amount of EUR 25.52 m, was closed on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

In terms of payment and final processing of all submitted applications under this Measure, the First Public Call was closed (published on 27<sup>th</sup> March and closed on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018), with the following result: a total of 26 submitted applications with requested public support of EUR 19.9 m, a total of 15 approved projects with requested public support of EUR 2.2 m and a total of 12 paid projects with paid public support in the amount of EUR 1.7 m (EU contribution of EUR 1.3 m). Eight decisions on rejection of projects were made (rejected public support of EUR 2.2 m), while three projects were withdrawn by the applicants (public support of EUR 1.3 m). The execution rate within this call for submitted applications is 46.2%, and for requested public support (and EU contribution) is 8.5%. The total IPARD execution rate within this public call is 22.9%. The ranking procedure of submitted applications was not applied within this public call. The first application within this public call was paid on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020, and all approved payments under this call were paid by 26<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

The ranking procedure of submitted applications was not applied within public calls under Measure 3.

A total of 202 applications were submitted within the first three public calls for Measure 3, with requested expenditures for investment of EUR 108.4 m and requested estimated public support of EUR 54.2 m (Graph 16).

**Graph 16: Submitted applications and requested expenditures for investment (EUR), M3**



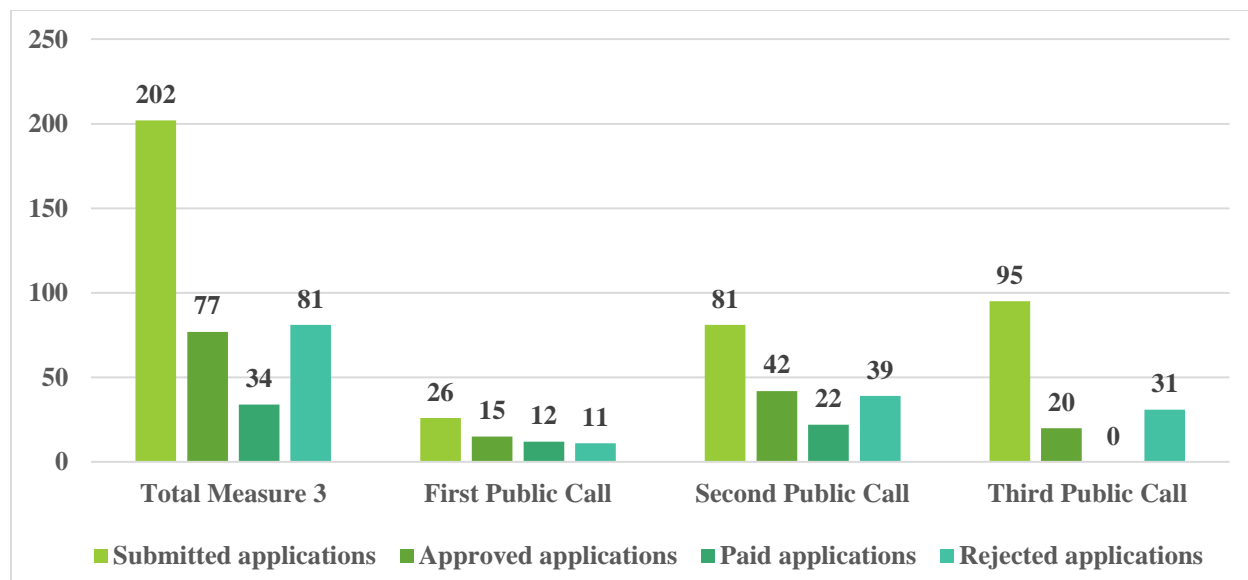
Within the First Public Call, 26 applications (13%) were submitted, 81 were submitted within the Second Public Call (40%), and 95 applications were submitted within the Third Public Call (47%). Noting the increasing tendency, potential recipients showed the highest interest in the Third Public Call within this Measure.

Under Measure 3, 77 projects were approved, or 38% of the total number of submitted applications. The highest number of approved projects were within the Second Public Call (42), while the highest percentage of approval compared to the number of submitted applications was achieved within the First Public Call (58%), and the lowest within the Third Public Call (21%). From the aspect of approved eligible expenditures compared with requested expenditures, the Second Public Call had the best result (66%).

When it comes to the level of execution (payment) in relation to the number of applications submitted under Measure 3, the execution rate is 17%, for a total of 34 projects paid, where the First Public Call, which is closed, achieved the highest result within this indicator (46%), with a total of 12 paid projects. The execution rate in relation to the number of submitted applications within the Second Public Call was 27%, however, a higher number of applications were submitted within this Call (81) compared to the First Public Call (26).

A total of 81 applications were rejected/withdrawn within Measure 3, or 40% of the total number of submitted applications, which is a higher rejection/withdrawal rate than within Measure 1. Among the first three analysed public calls, the application rejection/withdrawal rate was the highest within the Second Public Call and it is 48% of the total number of submitted applications within this Public Call, and the lowest within the Third Public Call (1/3 of applications submitted within this Public Call). The highest number of applications were rejected/withdrawn within the Second Public Call (39), while the lowest was within the First Public Call (closed) and included 11 rejected/withdrawn applications (Graph 17).

**Graph 17: Submitted, approved, paid and rejected/withdrawn applications, M3**

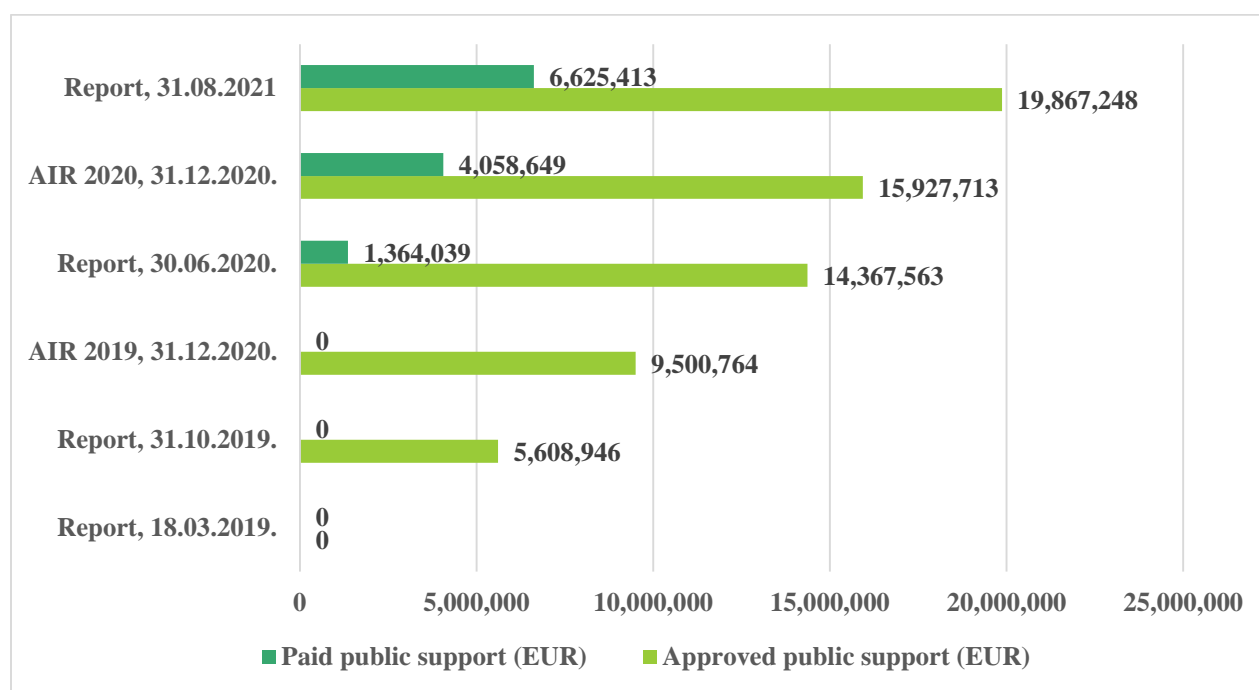


The total requested expenditures for investment within Measure 3 were EUR 108.4 m and were the highest within the Third Public Call (EUR 57.1 m), and the lowest within the First Public Call

(closed) (EUR 9.9 m), which confirms the observed trend of increasing amounts of requested expenditures with each new Public Call.

The dynamics of approval and payment of IPARD public support within Measure 3 monitored based on reporting by the IPARD Monitoring Committee shows the following tendencies: oscillatory trends of approved and paid amount of public support compared with each previous reporting. The highest amount of approved public support was achieved in the reporting period from 18<sup>th</sup> March to 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (EUR 5.6 m), and the lowest was in the second half of 2020 (EUR 1.6 m), which is understandable having in mind that in this period the focus of the approval of public support was on Measure 1 (EUR 13.6 m). Unlike approval within Measure 3, in the second half of 2020 the highest amount of public support was paid: EUR 2.7 m (Graph 18).

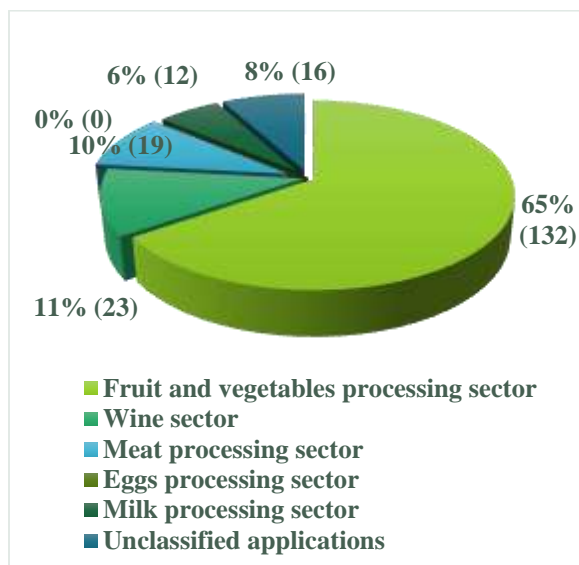
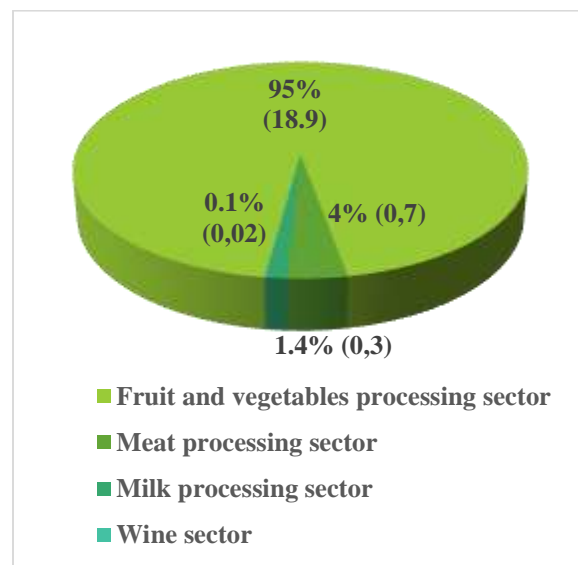
**Graph 18: Approved and paid public support, M3, IPARD MC reports**



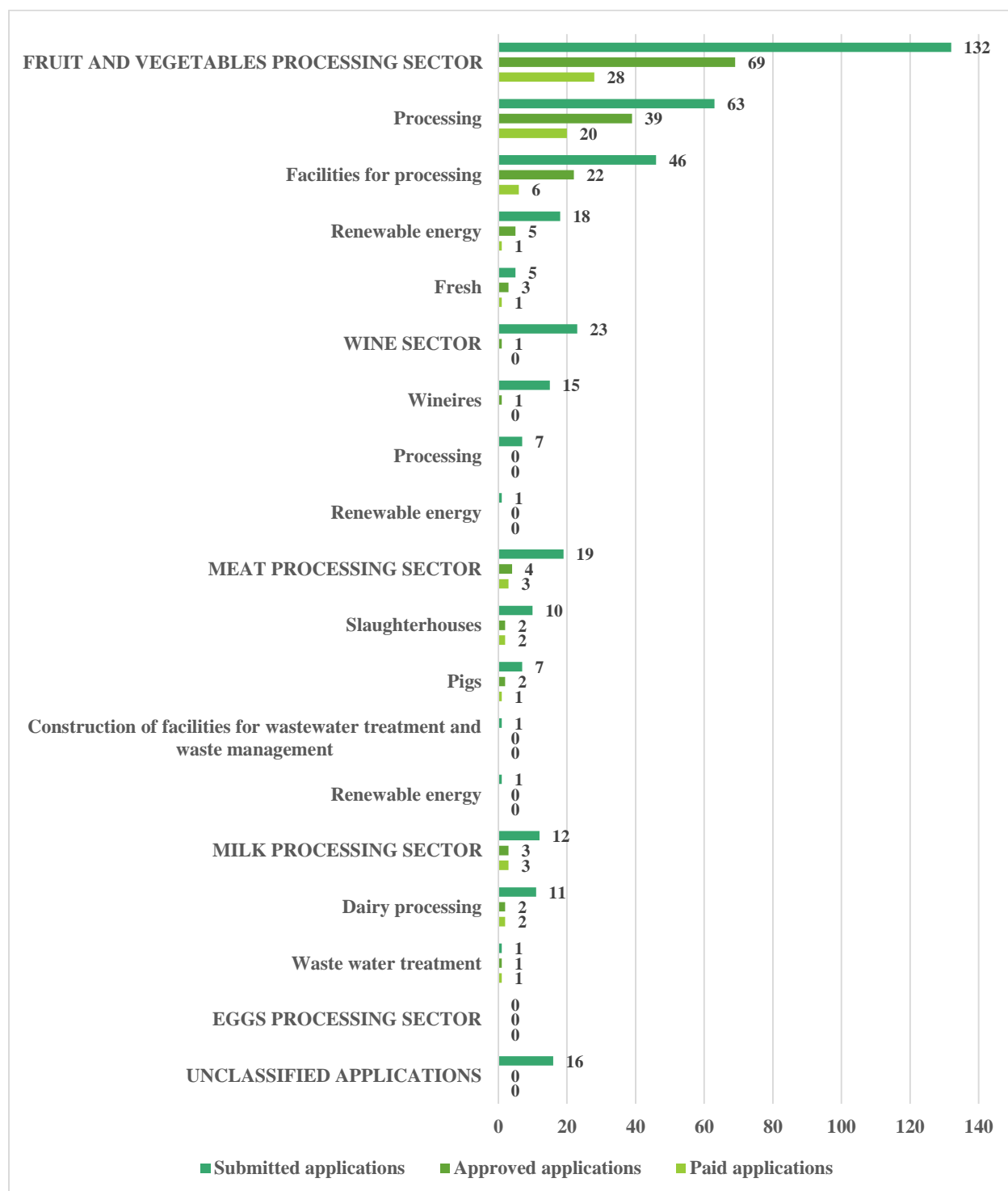
The number of approved to paid projects ratio for Measure 3 ranges between 2,2 (AIR 2020) and 2,3 (31<sup>st</sup> August 2021), which shows a slight increase in the number of approved projects compared to paid projects.

In the total number of submitted applications (202) within Measure 3, the Fruit and Vegetables Processing Sector has the highest share of 65% (132 applications), followed by the Wine Sector with 11% (23 applications). Within the Meat Processing/Slaughterhouses Sector, 19 applications were submitted, while 12 applications were submitted in the Milk Processing Sector (Graph 19).

In regard to the structure of total eligible expenditures per sector under Measure 3, as adopted by a decision of the IA (including general costs), the distribution is slightly different. Namely, as in the case of approved applications (69/77), the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector with approved amount of the total eligible expenditures of EUR 18,9 m has a dominant share of 95%, while the share of other sectors is as follows: the Meat Processing Sector – 4%, the Milk Processing Sector – 1.4% and the Wine Sector – 0.1% (Graph 20).

**Graph 19: Submitted applications per sector, M3****Graph 20: Approved eligible expenditures per sector (%), M3**

The Graph 21 shows data on the number of submitted, approved and paid applications per subsectors within Measure 3. The Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector is dominant in the total number of applications submitted for this Measure (132 applications or 65%), while the highest number of applications in this Sector was submitted in the processing subsector (63 applications, or 48%) and in facilities for processing subsector (46 applications, or 35%). Furthermore, the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector is dominant from the aspect of the total number of approved (69 applications, or 90%) and paid applications (28 applications, or 82%). When it comes to the share of paid applications in the total number of submitted applications at the level of sectors, the Milk Processing Sector has the highest result (25%), followed by the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector (21%), but it should be noted that significantly lower number of applications were submitted in the first mentioned than in the second mentioned sector. In the Wine Sector, potential recipients showed the highest interest, in regard to submitted applications, in investment related to wineries (15/23, or 65%), in the Meat Processing Sector for investment in slaughterhouses (10/19, or 53%), in the Milk Processing Sector, the dairy subsector had dominant share (11/12, or 92%), while there were no applications submitted in the Egg Processing Sector.

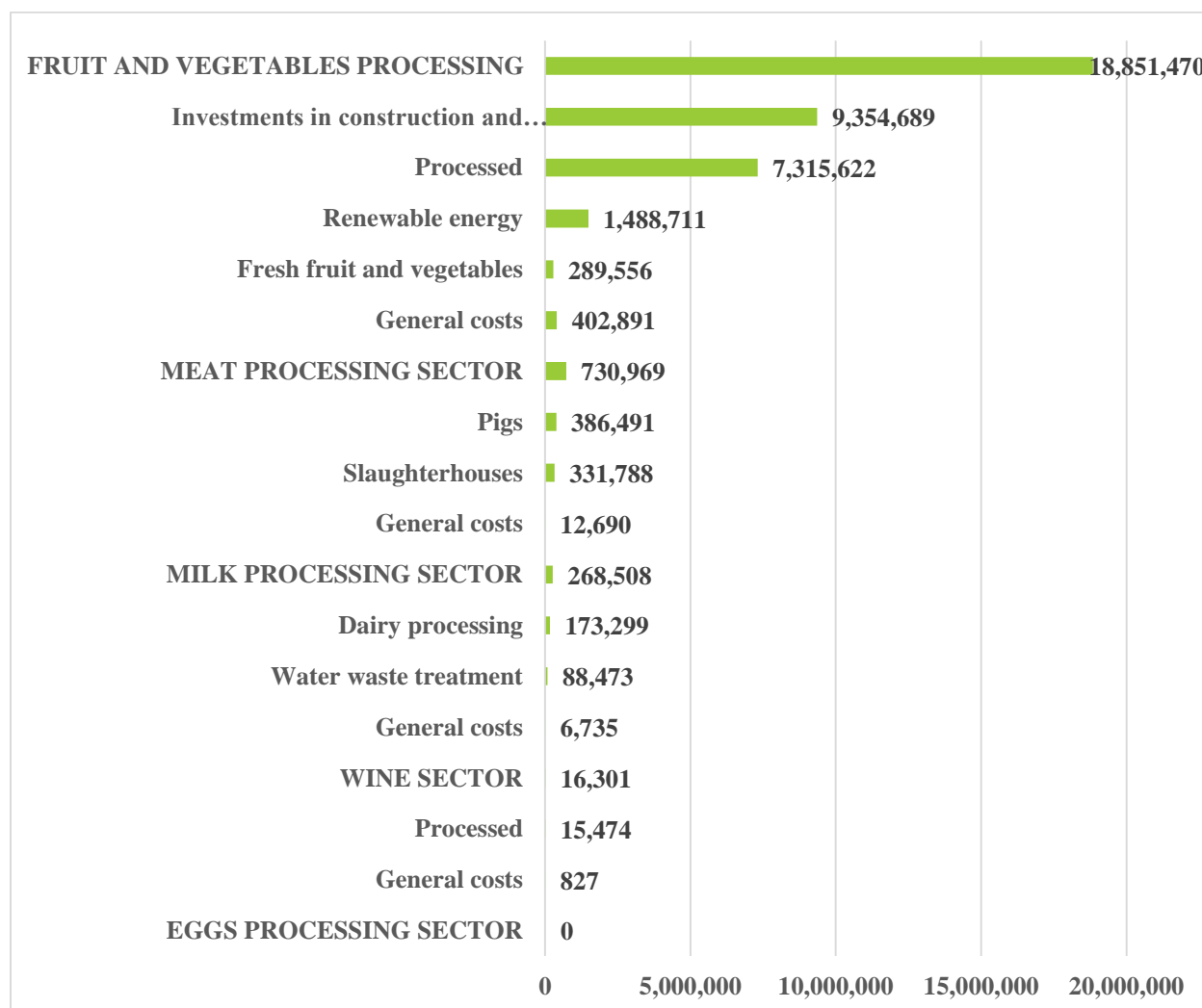
**Graph 21: Submitted, approved and paid applications per subsectors, M3**

The Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector is dominant, both from the aspect of the number of approved and paid applications (69 approved, or 90% and 28 paid applications, or 82%). The Meat and Milk Processing Sectors had approximately the same number of approved and paid applications (significantly lower than the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector), while one

application was approved in the Wine Sector until 31<sup>st</sup> August. Within “Unclassified applications” 16 applications were included, which do not have indicated subsector, out of which 12 applications do not have indicated either sector or subsector.

From the aspect of the share of sectors/subsectors in the total public eligible expenditures approved by the IA - including general costs, with the total approved public eligible expenditures in the amount of EUR 18.9 m and a share in total approved public expenditures of 95%, the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector has the dominant position according to this financial indicator. Two main fruit and vegetable processing subsectors from the aspect of the amount of approved total public eligible expenditures are investment in construction and reconstruction of processing facilities and investment in fruit and vegetable processing equipment, which achieved a share of 88% within this Sector. Other agricultural products processing sectors have significantly lower shares in the total approved public eligible expenditures - below 5%. The total approved public eligible expenditures (for investment and general costs) in the Meat Processing Sector amount to EUR 0.7 m, in the Milk Processing Sector – EUR 0.3 m, for the Wine Sector they amount to EUR 16,301, while there were no submitted applications in the Egg Processing Sector (Graph 22).

**Graph 22: Approved eligible expenditures per subsector (EUR), M3**



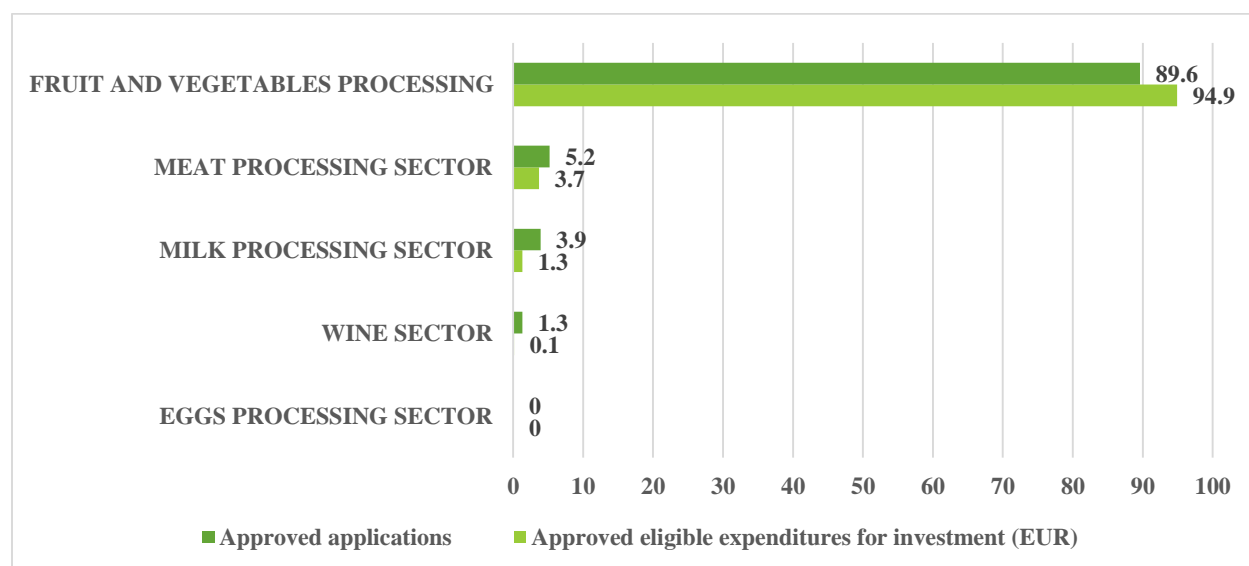


In regard to the paid public support by the IA until the end of August 2021, as in the case of approved total eligible expenditures, the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector is dominant with paid amount of EUR 5.9 m and a share of 90% in the total payment, followed by: the Meat Processing Sector, with paid public support in the amount of EUR 430,370 and the Milk Processing Sector (EUR 259,112), while in the Wine Sector there were no payment as at the cut-off date on which this Report was prepared.

The average amount of paid public support per project for Measure 3 is higher than this indicator for Measure 1 (4.5 times higher) and amounts to EUR 194,865, and only the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector achieved the level of this indicator above average (EUR 211,998), while other sectors achieved average payment per project below the indicated average for Measure 3. The Milk Processing Sector had the lowest average amount of payment per project (EUR 86,371). Meat Processing Sector with average payment per project: EUR 143,457 achieved significantly higher value of this indicator compared to the Milk Processing Sector.

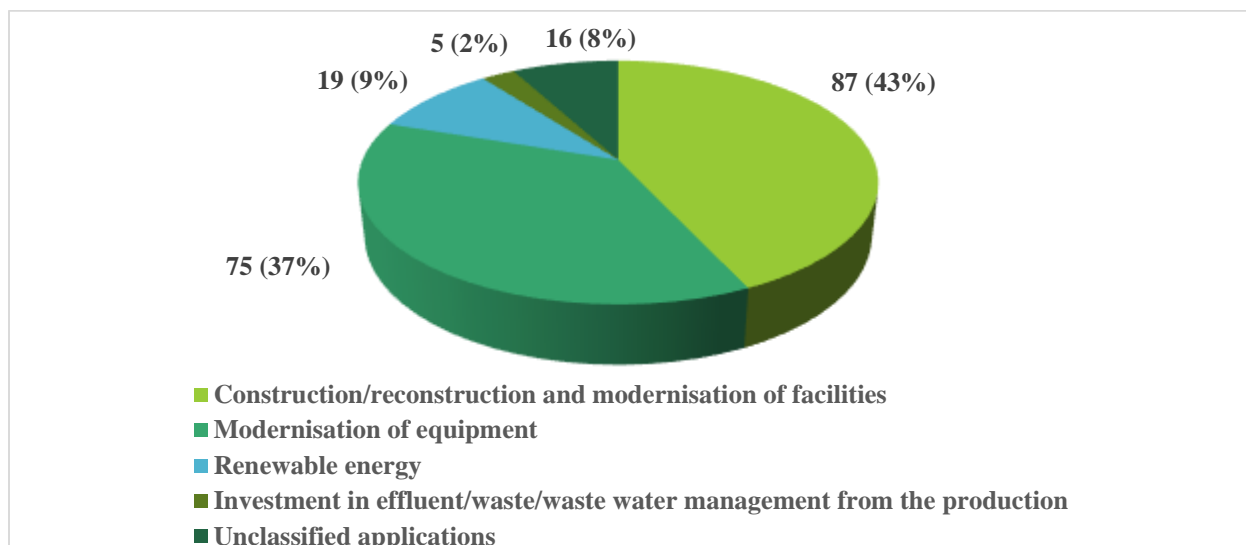
The Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector had a dominant share in both total number of approved applications (90%) and the total public eligible expenditures for investment approved by the IA (95%) under Measure 3. In the analysed period of the IPARD II Programme implementation, other sectors achieved a negligible share of named indicators of project/funds approval, which is a reflection of the number of submitted applications and requested funds per sector within Measure 3 (Graph 23).

**Graph 23: Share of sectors in total approved applications and public eligible expenditures for investment (%), M3**

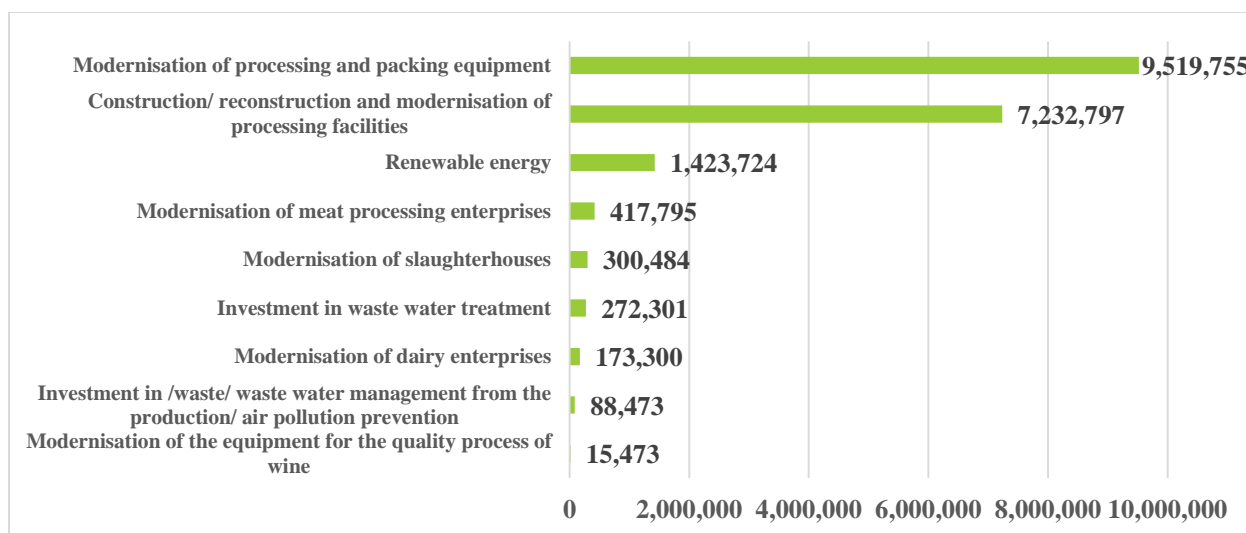


Observed by the type of investment, from the aspect of the share in the total submitted applications within Measure 3, investment related to the construction/reconstruction and modernisation of facilities for processing of agricultural products is dominant, with 87 submitted applications, and share of 43% in the total number of applications submitted within this Measure. Purchase/modernisation of processing equipment with 75 submitted applications participate with 37% in the total number of submitted applications (Graph 24).



**Graph 24: Submitted applications within Measure 3 per type of investment**

When it comes to the total approved eligible expenditures for investment within Measure 3, as in the previous reporting, the highest amount of approved eligible expenditures was in the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector, which is understandable due to the fact that this Sector is characterised by the highest number of submitted applications. The first three positions from the aspect of the total volume of approved eligible expenditures for investment relate to groups of investment in the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector. By far the highest amount of approved eligible expenditures for investment was for projects related to the modernisation of processing and packaging equipment, in the amount of EUR 9.5 m (46 approved of the total of 68 submitted applications). Within this group of investment, 25 projects were paid. The next group of investment by the volume of the total approved eligible expenditures for investment relates to the construction/reconstruction and modernisation of processing facilities (EUR 7.2 m for 17 approved of 46 submitted applications), as well as for production of energy from renewable sources, also in the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Sector (Graph 25).

**Graph 25: Approved eligible expenditures per group of investment (EUR), M3**

Other groups of investment which relate to other sectors have significantly lower volume of approved expenditures for investment. In the Meat Processing Sector, from the aspect of both the number of submitted and approved applications and the amount of approved expenditures, the most important group of investment for which funds were approved relates to modernisation of meat processing facilities (EUR 417,795, with 8 submitted and 3 approved applications until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021). Regarding approved eligible expenditures in the Milk Processing Sector, out of eight applications submitted for dairy modernisation, two decisions on project approval were made with the total amount of eligible expenditures for investment of EUR 173,299, as well as two decisions on payment of public support in the amount of EUR 181,621. At the same time, one application was paid for investment in wastewater management and treatment in the total amount of EUR 77,491, based on the previously approved amount of eligible expenditures in the amount of EUR 88,473 (Graph 25).

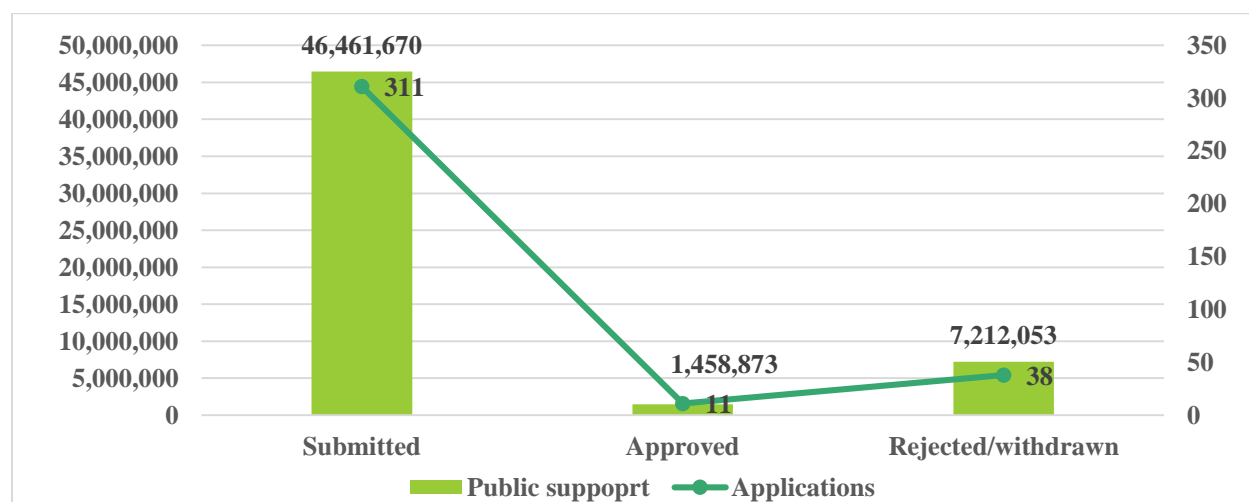
## Measure 7

Two Public Calls were published for investment in farm diversification and business development. The analysis in this Chapter is based on available data for the First Public Call, taking into account that the Second Public Call for Measure 7 was open for submission of applications for project approval at the time when this report was prepared.

The ranking procedure of submitted applications was applied within the First Public Call for Measure 7.

A total of 311 applications were submitted within the First Public Call for Measure 7, with the requested amount of expenditures for investment of EUR 71.5 m and the requested estimated public support of EUR 46.5 m (Graph 26).

**Graph 26: Submitted, approved and rejected/withdrawn applications and public support (EUR), First Public Call, M7**



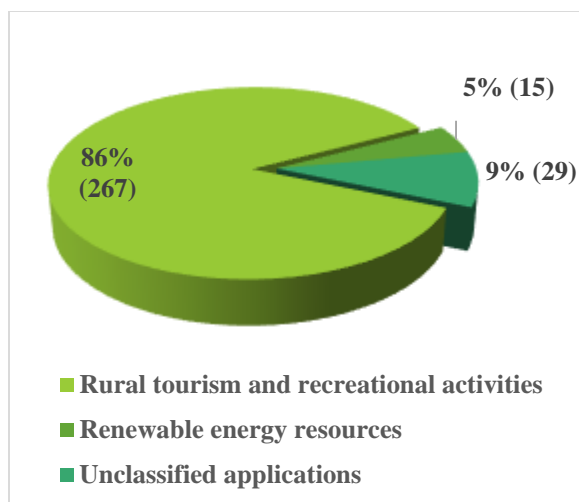
Until the end of August 2021, the IA adopted 11 decisions on project approval (3.5%), with the total amount of approved eligible expenditures for investment of EUR 2.3 m and approved public support of EUR 1.5 m. Of the total number of submitted applications, a total of 38 were rejected

or withdrawn until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 (12.2%), with the total expenditures for investment of EUR 11.1 m and estimated public support of EUR 7.2 m (Graph 26).

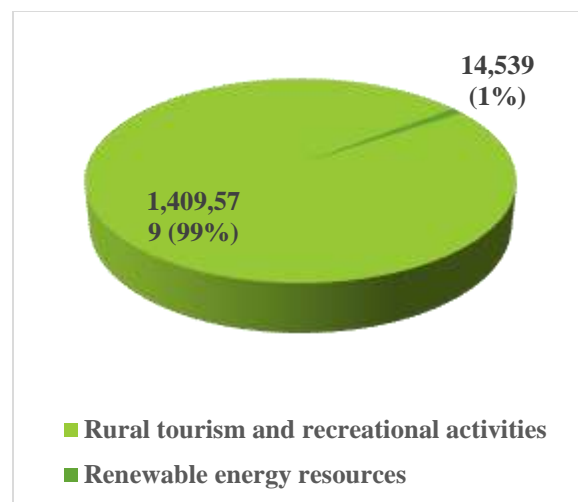
In the total number of submitted applications (311) within Measure 7, the Rural Tourism and Recreational Activities Sector with 267 submitted applications had a dominant share of 86%, while the Renewable Energy Resources Sector had 15 submitted applications until the end of August 2021, with a 5% share in the total number of submitted applications within this Measure. According to the data of the IA, 29 submitted applications for investment within Measure 7 were unclassified, which is 9% of the total number of applications submitted for this Measure (Graph 27).

As regards the structure of approved eligible public expenditures for investment per sector within Measure 7, as in case of the number of approved applications (10/11), the Rural Tourism and Recreational Activities Sector is also predominant, with a share of 99% in the total approved eligible public expenditures (Graph 28).

**Graph 27: Submitted applications per sector, M7**

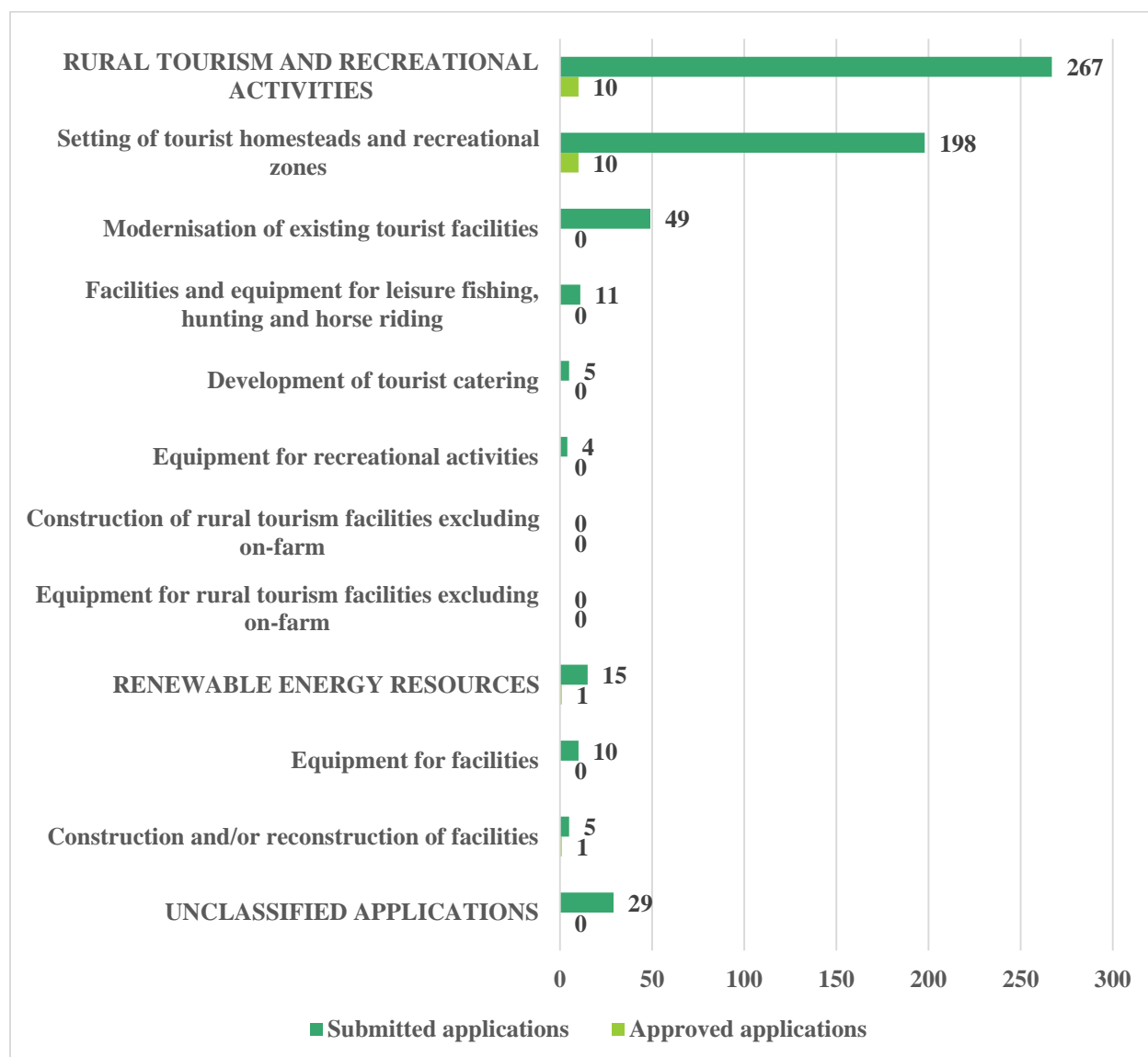


**Graph 28: Approved eligible expenditures per sector (EUR), M7**



The Graph 29 shows data on the number of submitted and approved applications per subsectors within Measure 7. In the total number of submitted applications for this Measure, the Subsector Setting of tourist homesteads and recreational zones has a dominant share (198 applications or 74% of the total number of submitted applications within the Rural Tourism and Recreational Activities Sector), followed by applications for investment in the Subsector Modernisation of the Existing Tourist Facilities (49 applications, or 18% in the relevant Sector). In the Renewable Energy Resources Sector, twice higher number of applications were submitted within the Subsector Equipment for Facilities (10) than within the Subsector Construction and/or Reconstruction of Facilities (Graph 29).

As regards approved applications, a total of 11 applications were approved within Measure 7 until the end of August of the current year (3.5% of the total number of applications submitted for Measure 7), only for two subsectors: the Subsector Setting of tourist homesteads and recreational zones (11) within the Rural Tourism and Recreational Activities Sector, as well as for the Subsector Construction and/or Reconstruction of Facilities for Renewable Energy Resources: one project (Graph 29).

**Graph 29: Submitted and approved applications per subsectors, M7**

From the aspect of approved eligible public expenditures for investment at the level of subsectors for Measure 7, proportionate to the number of approved applications, the Subsector Setting of tourist homesteads and recreational zones is dominant with EUR 1.4 m of approved expenditures for investment, while one decision on project approval was made for the Subsector Construction and/or Reconstruction of Facilities for Renewable Energy Resources with approved eligible public expenditures for investment of EUR 14,539.

## Regions and Administrative Districts

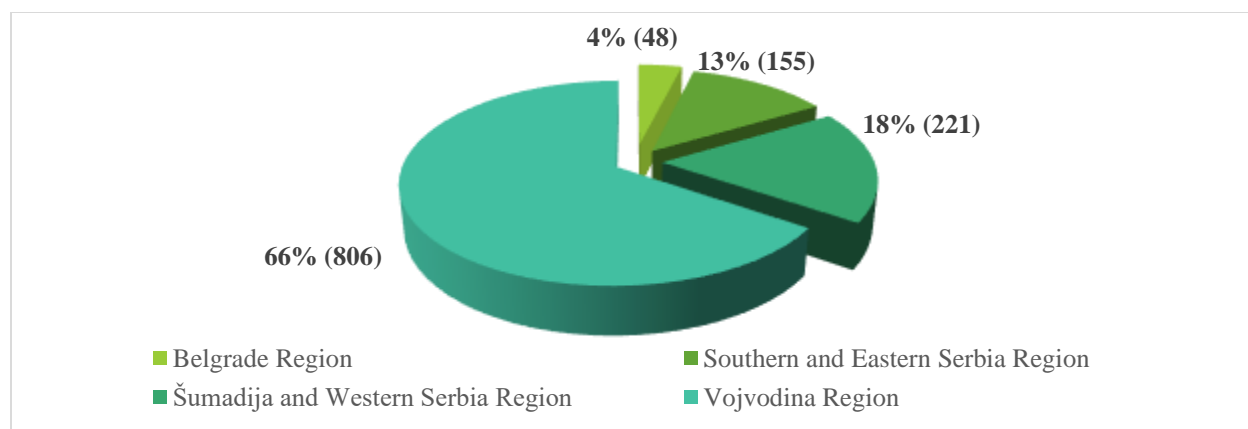
This part of the Report presents data on implementation of Measure 1, Measure 3 and Measure 7 per regions and administrative districts.

The analysis relating to regions and administrative districts does not include applications which did not have indicated location for investment in the application form (five applications within Measure 1, two applications within Measure 3 and 13 applications within Measure 7). In addition, the analysis does not include applications where requested amounts were not indicated (22 applications for Measure 1, 21 applications for Measure 3 and 26 applications for Measure 7).

### Measure 1

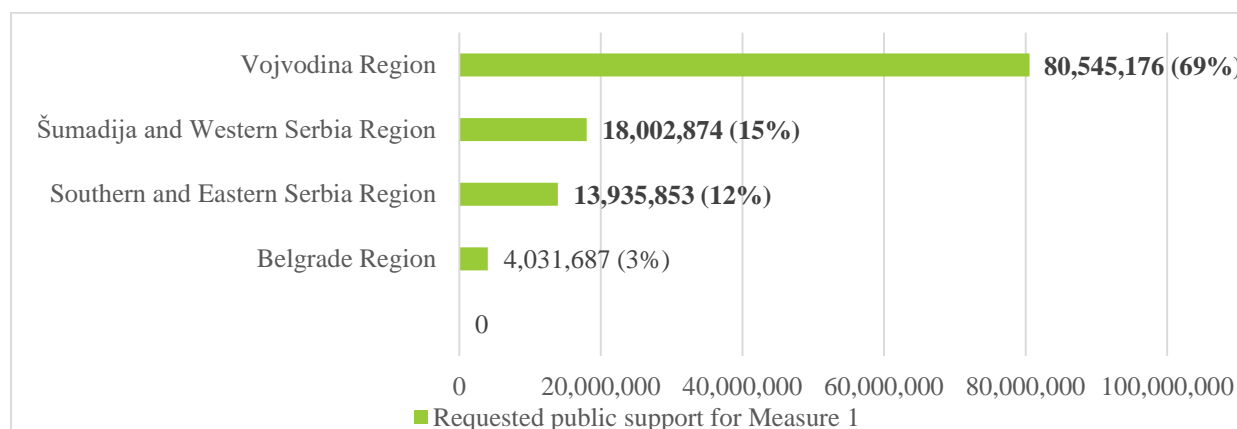
Observed by regions, within Measure 1, the Vojvodina Region has the largest share in the number of submitted applications, as well as in the total amount of requested support. The share of the Vojvodina Region in the total number of submitted applications within Measure 1 is 66% (806). The Šumadija and Western Serbia Region have a share of 18% (221) in the total number of applications, while Belgrade Region has the lowest share with 4% or 48 submitted applications for project approval (Graph 30).

**Graph 30: Submitted applications per regions, M1 (%)**

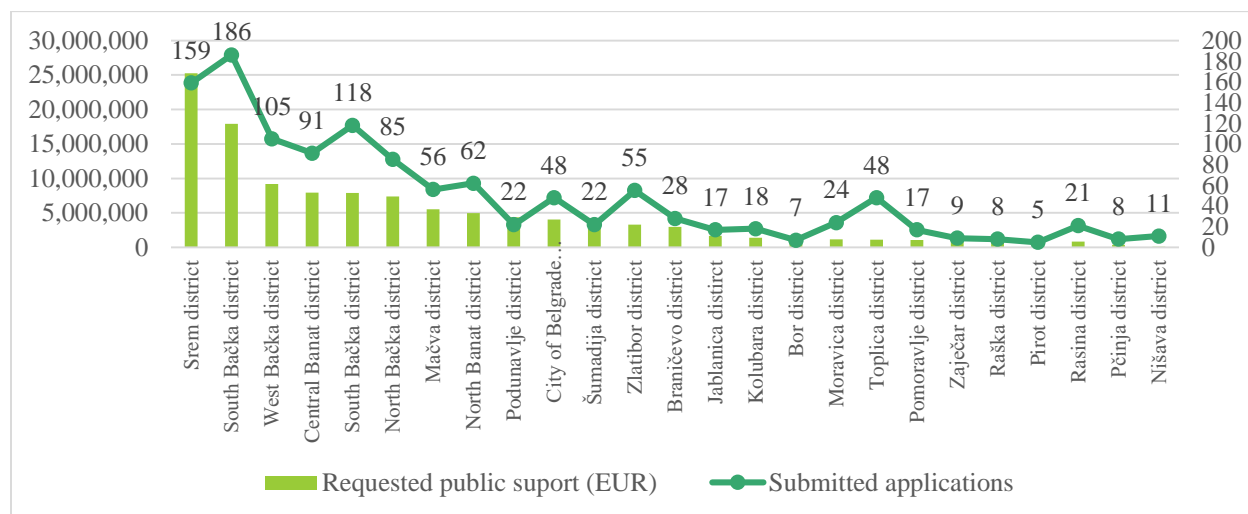


Within Measure 1, the Vojvodina Region has a dominant share in the requested support – 69% (EUR 80,545,176), which is about 2.2 higher amount of the requested support compared with the requested support of other regions. The Šumadija and Western Serbia Region accounts for 15% of the total requested support (EUR 18,002,874).

The Southern and Eastern Serbia Region with the requested support of EUR 13,935,853 have a share of 12% in the total requested support, while the Belgrade Region with the requested support of EUR 4,031,687 has a share of 4% in the total requested support for Measure 1 (Graph 31).

**Graph 31: Requested public support by regions (EUR), M1**

Observed by administrative districts, all seven districts in the Vojvodina Region have the highest number of submitted applications and include more than one half of the total number of submitted applications for Measure 1 with indicated location for investment (66%), with the following shares: South Bačka district 15%, Srem district 13%, South Banat district 10%, West Bačka district 9% and Central Banat district and North Bačka 7% each, while North Banat district accounted for 5% (Graph 32).

**Graph 32: Submitted applications and requested public support (EUR) per administrative district, M1**

Administrative districts with less than ten submitted applications for project approval within Measure 1 account for 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 the Šumadija and Western Serbia Region (Raška district with eight submitted applications).

In addition, Graph 32 presents the total requested public support, where Srem administrative district has a dominant share in the total requested support within Measure 1 (22%) with value of EUR 25,233,846. Administrative districts with high shares of requested public support are also from the Vojvodina Region, including: South Bačka district with 15%, West Bačka district with

8%, South Banat and Central Banat district with 7% each, North Bačka district with 6% and North Banat district with 4% in the total requested public support for Measure 1.

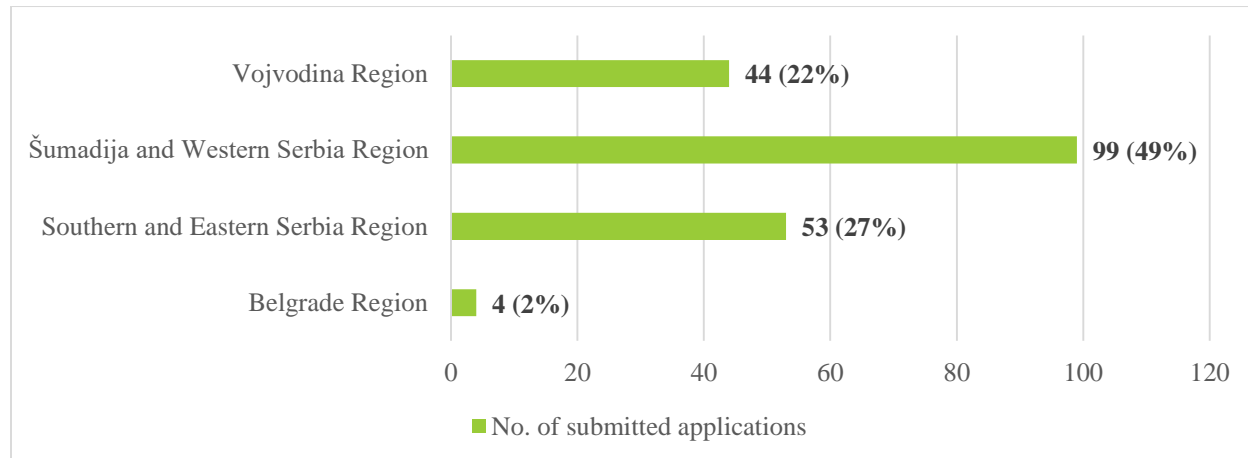
Of other administrative district, the following have a significant share in the total requested public support: Mačva administrative district with 5%, Podunavlje administrative district with 4%, while the city of Belgrade district, Šumadija district, Zlatibor district and Braničevo administrative district account for 3% each in the total requested public support.

The following administrative districts had the value of requested public support less than EUR one million, which accounts for about 2% (EUR 2,247,562) of the total requested public support within Measure 1: Pirot administrative district (EUR 915,321), Rasina administrative district (EUR 858,000), Pčinja administrative district (EUR 373,704) and Nišava administrative district (EUR 100,537).

### Measure 3

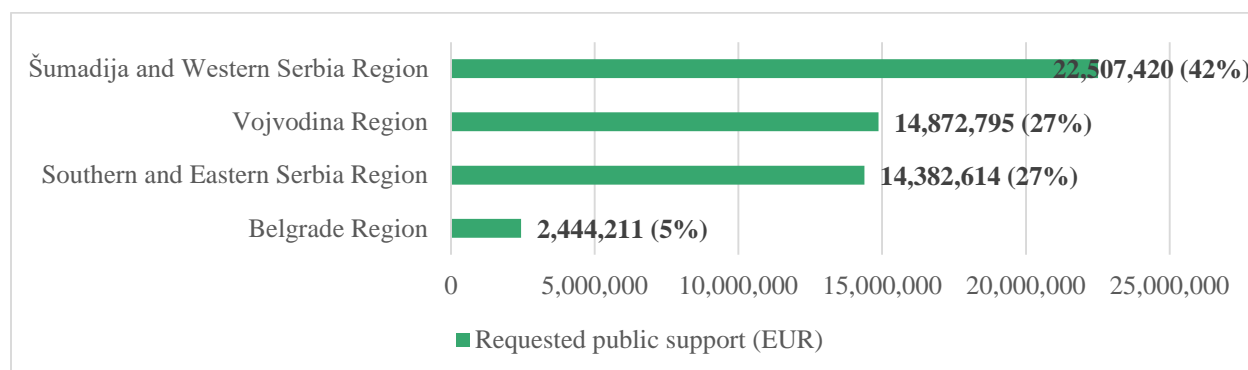
Observed by regions within Measure 3, the Šumadija and Western Serbia Region has the largest share in both total number of submitted applications (49%) and the total amount of requested public support - 42% (98 applications with requested public support of EUR 22,507,420). Compared with Measure 1, where the Vojvodina Region had a dominant share, both in the number of submitted applications and in the amount of requested public support, within Measure 3 this region accounted for 22% with 44 submitted applications, and for 27% (EUR 14,872,795) in requested public support.

**Graph 33: Total number of submitted applications per region, M3**



The Southern and Eastern Serbia Region accounted for 27% in both the total number of submitted applications and the total requested public support (55 applications, and EUR 14,382,614).

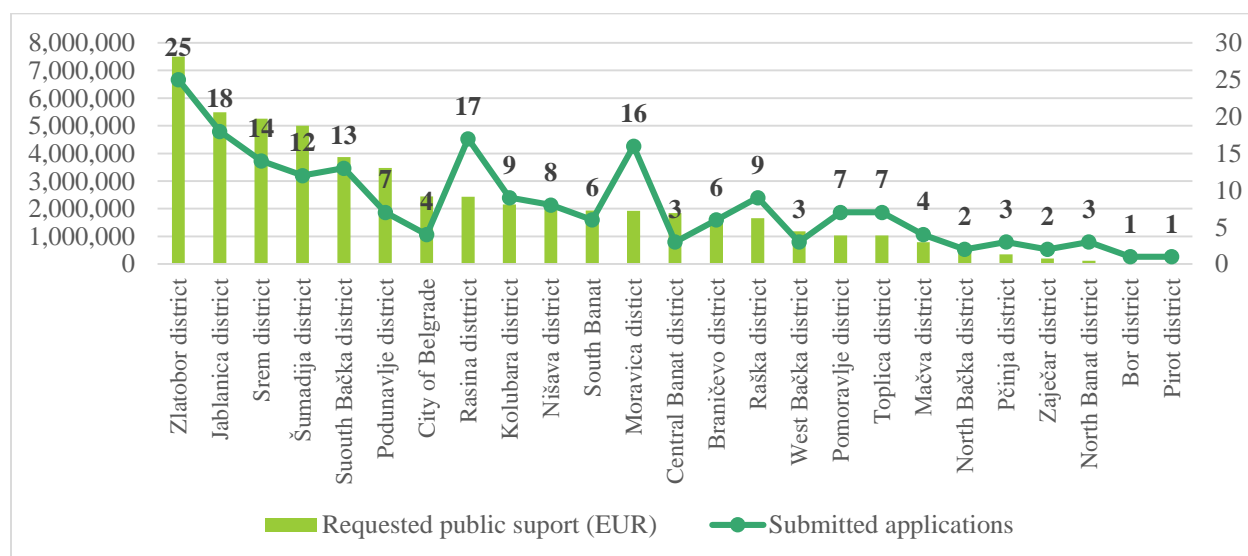
The Belgrade Region had the lowest share in both the total number of submitted applications and the total requested public support: 2% for submitted applications, and 5% for total requested public support (Graphs 33 and 34).

**Graph 34: Requested public support per region (EUR), M3**

Observed by administrative districts, the highest number of applications within the Šumadija and Western Serbia Region were submitted in Zlatibor district (25 applications), Rasina district (17 applications) and Moravica district (16 applications).

As regards the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region, the highest number of applications were submitted in Jablanica district (18 applications), while Srem district was dominant in the Vojvodina Region in terms of submitted applications (14 applications). These five administrative districts account for 45% of the total number of submitted applications for Measure 3, including: Zlatibor district 13%, Jablanica and Rasina districts 9% each, Moravica district 8% and Srem district 7% (Graph 35).

Administrative districts with the lowest number of submitted applications for project approval within Measure 3 account for 5% of the total number of submitted applications and belong to the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region (Pčinja district – three applications, Zaječar district – two requests, Bor and Pirot districts - one application each) and the Vojvodina Region (West Bačka, North Banat and Central Banat districts – three submitted applications each and North Bačka district – two submitted applications).

**Graph 35: Submitted applications and requested public support (EUR) per administrative district, M3**



The Graph 35 presents the total requested public support, where Zlatibor administrative district has the largest share in the total requested public support within Measure 3 (14%) with value of EUR 7,502,720, which is only 4% higher than the next two districts (Jablanica and Srem districts with 10% each). Administrative districts with high requested public support also include: Srem district (10%), Šumadja district (9%) and South Bačka district with a share of 7% in the total requested public support for Measure 3.

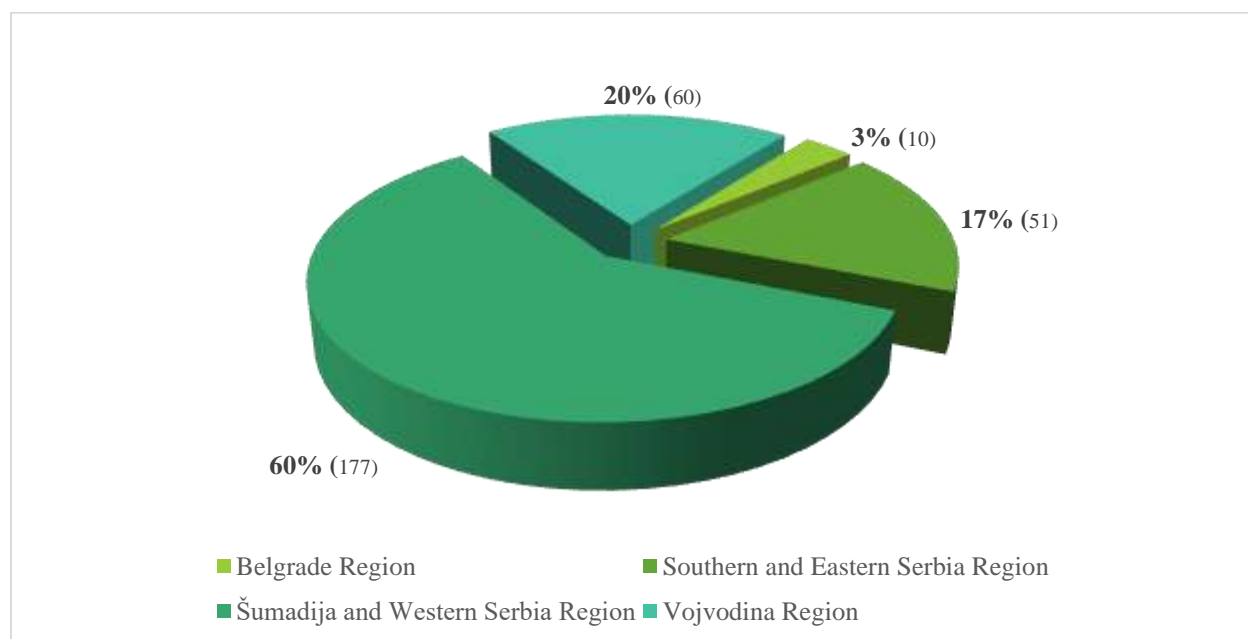
Of other districts, the following have a significant share in the total requested public support for Measure 3: Podunavlje district with 6%, the city of Belgrade with 5%, while Rasina, Kolubara, Nišava, South Banat and Moravica districts account for 4% each.

Administrative districts with the value of requested public support less than EUR one million, which accounts for 4% of the total requested public support within Measure 3, include: Mačva district (EUR 793,102), North Bačka district (EUR 662,174), Pčinja district (EUR 352,405), Zaječar district (EUR 203,289), North Banat district (EUR 124,001) and Bor district (EUR 3,792). There were no submitted applications for IPARD support for Measure 3 in Pirot administrative district.

## Measure 7

Observed by regions, within Measure 7, the Šumadija and Western Serbia Region has the highest share in the total number of submitted applications (59%) with 177 submitted applications (Graph 36). The Vojvodina Region accounts for 20% of the total number of submitted applications, the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region accounts for 17%, while the Belgrade region has the lowest share (3%) with 10 submitted applications.

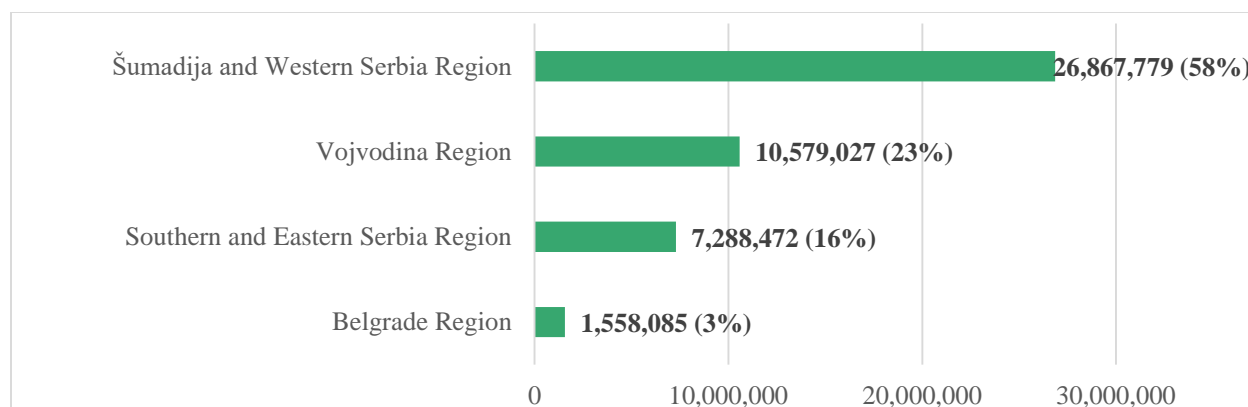
**Graph 36: Total number of submitted applications per region, M7**



In the total value of requested public support within Measure 7, the Šumadija and Western Serbia Region has dominant share of 58% (EUR 26,867,779). The Vojvodina Region accounts for 23%

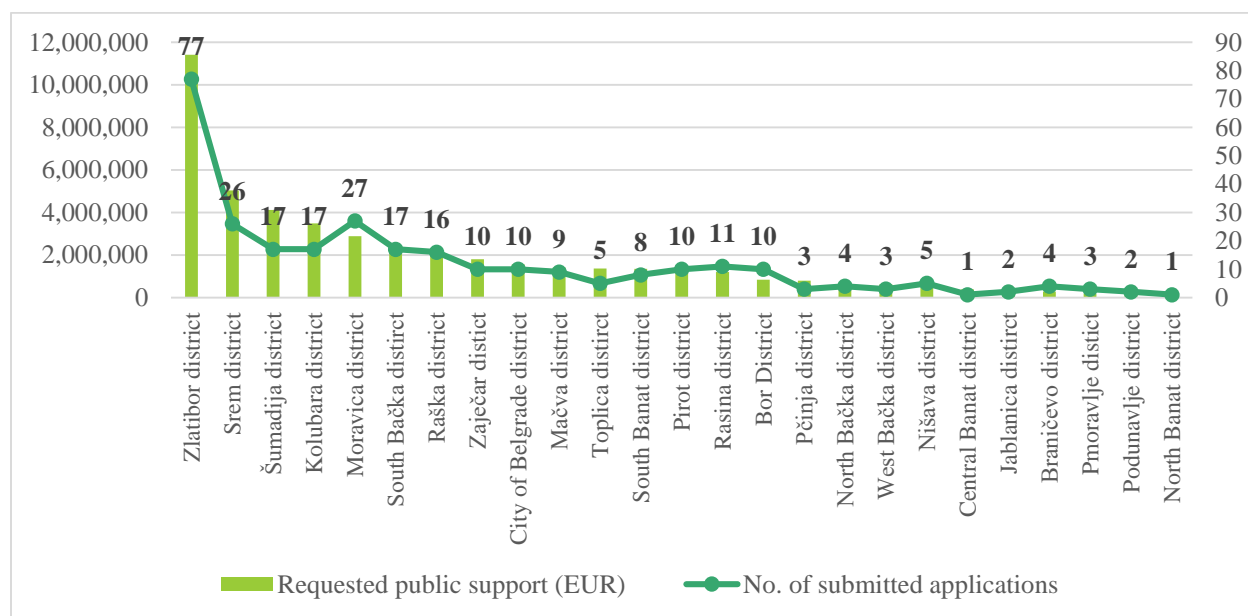
of the total requested public support (EUR 10,579,027), the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region with requested public support of EUR 7,288,472 accounts for 16%, while the Belgrade Region with requested public support of EUR 1,558,085 accounts for 3% of the total requested public support for Measure 7 (Graph 37).

**Graph 37: Requested public support per region (EUR), M7**



Observed by administrative districts, districts with the highest number of submitted applications in the total number of submitted applications are from the Šumadija and Western Serbia Region and include more than one half of the total number of submitted applications within Measure 7 (52%) – with indicated location for investment, with the following shares: Zlatibor district 26%, Moravica district 9%, Kolubara district and Šumadija district 6% each and Raška district with 5% (Graph 38). A high number of applications were also submitted in the Vojvodina Region: 60 applications (Srem administrative district accounts for 9% of the total number of submitted applications, while South Bačka district accounts for 6%).

**Graph 38: Submitted applications and requested public support (EUR) per administrative district, M7**



Administrative districts with less than five submitted applications for project approval within Measure 7 account for 8% of the total number of submitted applications and belong to the Vojvodina Region (Central Banat and North Banat districts with one application each, West Bačka administrative district with three applications and North Bačka district with four submitted applications), the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region (Jablanica and Podunavlje districts with two applications each, Pčinja with three applications and Braničevo district with four applications), the Šumadija and Western Serbia Region (Pomoravlje administrative district with three applications).

## Vulnerable Categories and Types of IPARD Recipients

This part of the Report shows results of the implementation of the IPARD II Programme from the aspect of vulnerable categories (women and young farmers) and types of IPARD recipients (entrepreneur, individual farmers, companies and agricultural cooperatives), as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

### Vulnerable Categories - Women and Young Farmers

**Women** – owners of commercial family agricultural holdings submitted a total of 279 applications (23%) within Measure 1 with requested expenditures for investment of EUR 26,519,962 (14% of the total requested expenditures for investment within Measure 1). There were 189 approved applications (68% of the total number of applications submitted by women, or 15% of the total number of applications submitted within Measure 1) in the amount of EUR 11,262,337 (42% of the total amount of expenditures for investment requested by women, or 17% of the total amount of approved expenditures for investment within Measure 1). A total of 74 applications were rejected and withdrawn (27% of the total of applications submitted by women and 6% of the total number of applications submitted for Measure 1) in the amount of EUR 10,927,335 (41% of expenditures for investment requested by women and 27% of the total rejected expenditures for Measure 1). In the reporting period, 137 applications submitted by women were paid in the amount of EUR 5,264,832 of paid public support (31% of the total paid public support for Measure 1), where EU contribution was EUR 3,948,624.

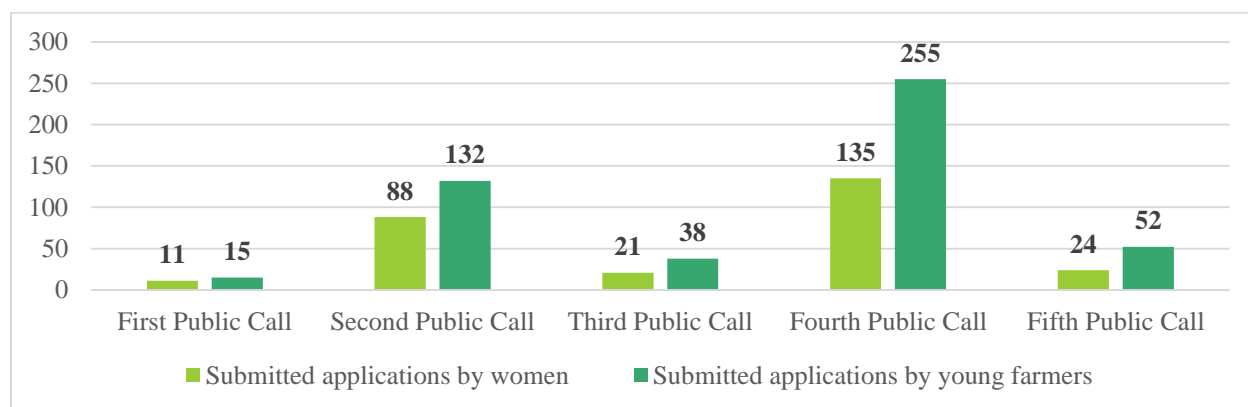
Observed per public calls, the highest number of applications submitted by women within Measure 1 was under public calls related to the procurement of a new tractors (the Second Public Call: 88 applications and the Fourth Public Call: 135 applications), which represents 80% out of the total number of applications submitted by women (Graph 39).

**Young farmers** submitted a total of 492 applications (40%) within Measure 1, with requested expenditures for investment of EUR 53,985,282 (28% of the total requested expenditures for investment within Measure 1). A total of 336 applications were approved (68% of the total number of applications submitted by young farmers, or 27% of the total number of applications submitted within Measure 1) in the amount of EUR 25,152,633 (47% of the total amount of expenditures for investment requested by young farmers, or 37% of the total amount of approved expenditures for investment within Measure 1). There were 108 rejected and withdrawn applications (22% of the total number of applications submitted by young farmers and 9% of the total number of applications submitted for Measure 1) in the amount of EUR 18,802,183 (35% of expenditures for investment requested by young farmers and 27% of the total rejected expenditures for Measure 1). In the reporting period, 229 applications submitted by young farmers were paid in the amount of

EUR 8,970,364 of paid public support (52% of the total paid public support for Measure 1), where EU contribution was EUR 6,727,773.

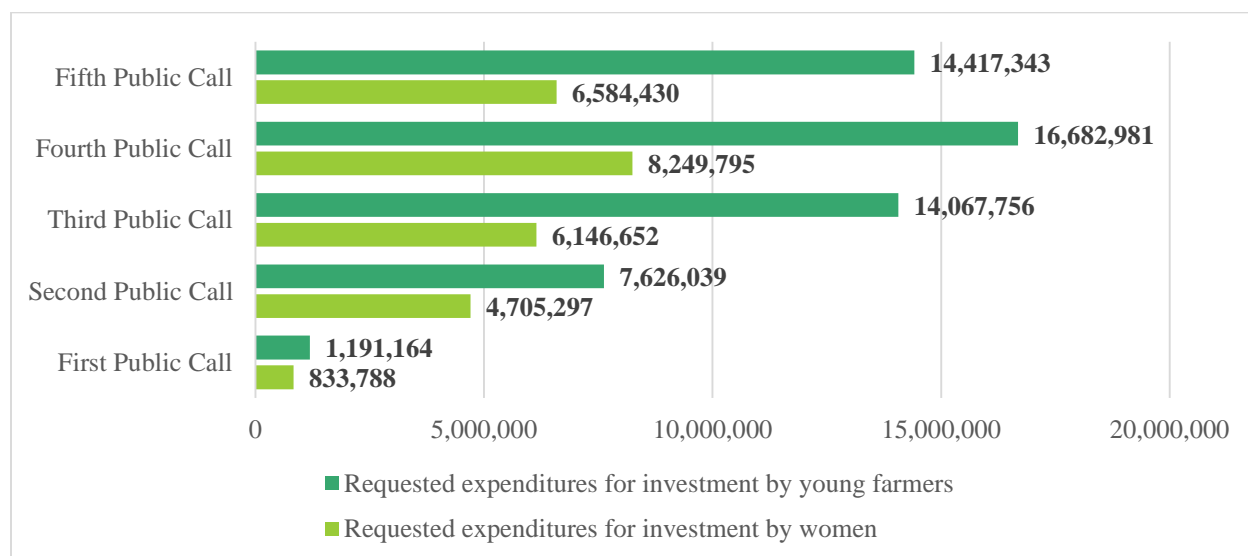
Observed per public calls, the highest number of applications by young farmers within Measure 1 was submitted under public calls related to the procurement of a new tractors (the Second Public Call: 132 applications and the Fourth Public Call: 255 applications), which represents 79% out of the total number of applications submitted by young farmers (Graph 39).

**Graph 39: Applications submitted by women and young farmers per public call, M1**



The Graph 40 shows expenditures for investment requested by women and young farmers within Measure 1, per public calls. The analysis of requested expenditures for investment per public calls within Measure 1 shows that vulnerable categories requested the highest amount of expenditures for investment within the Fourth Public Call, which related to purchase of a new tractors: young farmers – EUR 16,682,981, women – EUR 8,249,795.

**Graph 40: Requested expenditures for investment by women and young farmers per public call (EUR), M1**

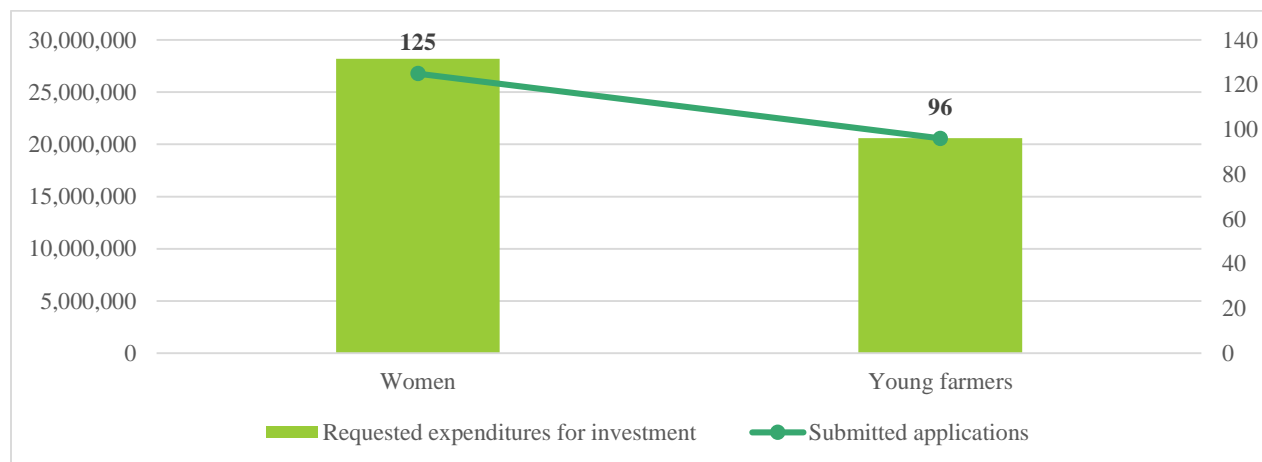


As regard Measure 7, **women** submitted a total of 125 applications (40%) with requested expenditures for investment of EUR 28,195,063 (39% of the total requested expenditures for investment within Measure 7). Five applications were approved (4% of the total number of

applications submitted by women and 2% of the total number of submitted applications within Measure 7) in the amount of EUR 562,689 (2% of the total number of expenditures for investment requested by women, or 25% of the total amount of approved expenditures for investment within Measure 7). There were 18 rejected and withdrawn applications (14% of the total number of applications submitted by women and 6% of the total number of applications submitted for Measure 7) in the amount of EUR 4,749,133 (17% of expenditures for investment requested by women and 43% of the total rejected expenditures for Measure 7). There were no paid applications within Measure 7 in the reporting period (Graph 41).

Within Measure 7, **young farmers** submitted a total of 96 applications (31%), with requested expenditures for investment of EUR 20,599,860 (29% of the total requested expenditures for investment within Measure 7). Seven applications were approved (7% of the total number of applications submitted by young farmers, or 2% of the total number of applications submitted within Measure 7) in the amount of EUR 954,361 (2% of the total amount of expenditures for investment requested by young farmers, or 42% of the total number of approved expenditures for investment within Measure 7). A total of 17 applications were rejected and withdrawn (18% of the total number of applications submitted by young farmers and 5% of the total number of applications submitted for Measure 7) in the amount of EUR 4,029,043 (20% of expenditures for investment requested by young farmers and 36% of the total rejected expenditures for Measure 7). There were no paid applications within Measure 7 in the reporting period (Graph 41).

**Graph 41: Submitted applications and requested expenditures for investment by women and young farmers, M7**



### Approved, Paid and Rejected/Withdrawn Applications

As regards approved applications which were submitted by women within Measure 1, a total of 189 applications were approved in the amount of eligible expenditures of EUR 11,262,337, while the highest number of applications were approved within the Fourth Public Call (116 applications, EUR 6,567,429 of eligible expenditures).

A total of 137 applications were paid in the amount of EUR 5,264,832 of public support. Also, the highest number of applications submitted by women were paid within the Fourth Public Call, i.e. 88 applications were paid in the amount of EUR 3,224,732 of public support.

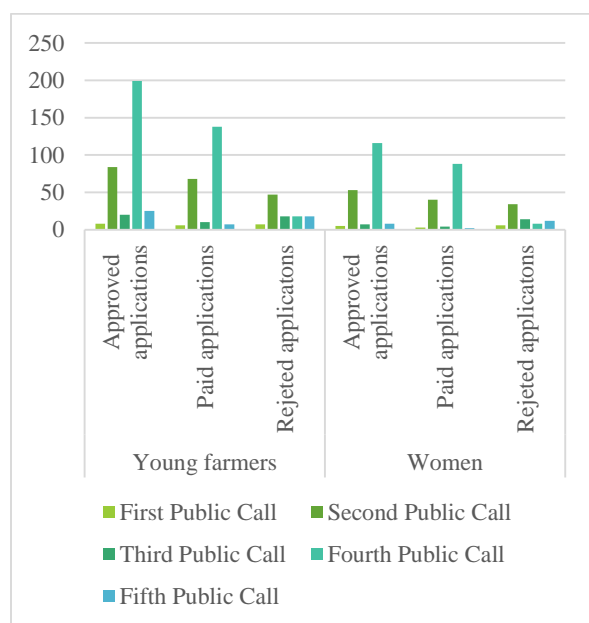
A total of 74 applications submitted by women were rejected/withdrawn, in the amount of EUR 10,927,335. The highest number of applications were rejected within the Second Public Call, i.e. 34 applications, while the highest amount of expenditures was rejected within the Third Public Call (EUR 4,847,755), which can be explained by the fact that this public call also included investment related to the construction.

When it comes to the approved applications submitted by young farmers within Measure 1, a total of 336 were approved, while approved eligible expenditures were EUR 25,152,633. By far the highest number of applications were approved within the Fourth Public Call (199 applications, EUR 12,110,366 of approved eligible expenditures).

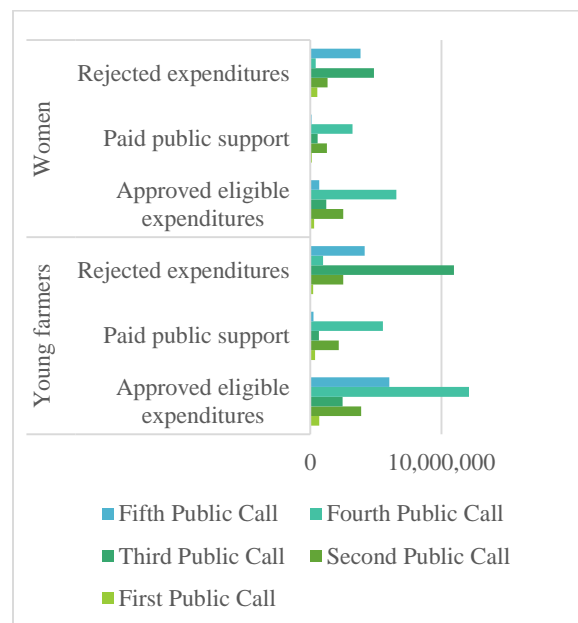
A total of 229 applications submitted by young farmers were paid, while paid public support was EUR 8,970,364. The Fourth Public Call was dominant from the aspect of the total paid applications submitted by young farmers, i.e. 138 applications were paid in the amount of EUR 5,551,335 of public support.

A total of 108 applications submitted by young farmers were rejected/withdrawn, in the amount of EUR 18,802,183. The highest number of applications were rejected within the Second Public Call (47 applications), while the highest amount of expenditures was rejected within the Third Public Call (EUR 10,954,509), which can be explained by the fact that this public call also included investment related to the construction.

**Graph 42: Approved, paid and rejected applications per public call for vulnerable categories of recipients, M1**



**Graph 43: Approved and rejected expenditures and paid public support per public call for vulnerable categories, M1**

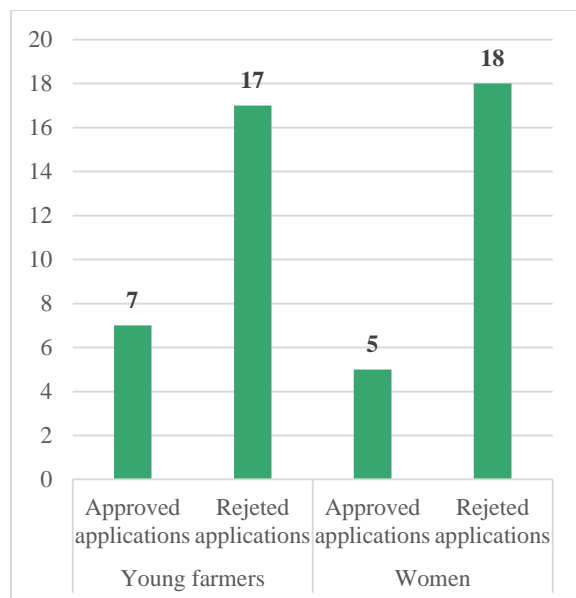


As regards Measure 7, **women** submitted a total of 125 applications in the amount of EUR 28,195,063, of which five applications were approved in the amount of EUR 562,689. A total of 18 applications were rejected in the amount of EUR 4,479,133.

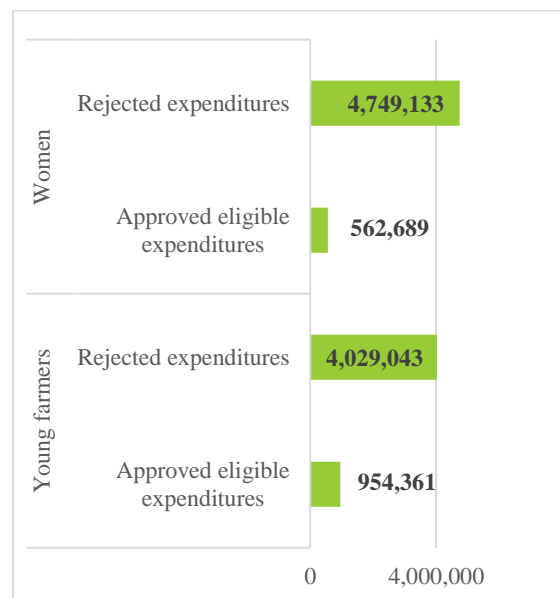
**Young farmers** submitted a total of 96 applications by the end of August of the current year, with total requested expenditures of EUR 20,599,860. When it comes to the approved applications

submitted by young farmers within Measure 7, seven applications were approved in the amount of EUR 954,361. A total of 17 applications were rejected in the amount of EUR 4,029,043.

**Graph 44: Approved and rejected applications, vulnerable categories, M7**



**Graph 45: Approved and rejected expenditures, vulnerable categories, M7**



## Type of Recipients

Observed by the type of recipients, of the total number of submitted applications for Measure 1, Measure 3 and Measure 7, natural persons (individual farmers and entrepreneurs) submitted 1,354 applications and participate with 77% in the total number of submitted applications, while legal entities (companies and agricultural cooperatives) submitted 394 applications and have a share of 23% of the total number of submitted applications.

A total of 1,070 applications were submitted by natural persons within Measure 1 (87%), while legal entities submitted 165 applications (13%). Natural persons submitted the highest number of applications within the Fourth Public Call (34%), followed by the Second Public Call (31%), while the lowest number of applications were submitted within the First Public Call (5%). Individual farmers are dominant in the structure of applications submitted by natural persons (1,062 applications), while companies are dominant in the structure of legal entities with share of 95% of the total applications submitted by legal entities. As regards approved applications, 578 applications were approved for natural persons, while 56 applications were approved for legal entities. Of the total number of paid applications, 378 relate to natural persons (95%) – individual farmers, while 19 relate to legal entities. Of the total number of rejected and withdrawn applications for Measure 1, 340 were applications submitted by natural persons, while 61 applications submitted by legal entities were rejected (Graph 46).

In the total value of requested expenditures for investment within Measure 1, expenditures requested by natural persons amount to EUR 108,257,332, where expenditures for investment requested by individual farmers are dominant with 99%, while entrepreneurs participate with 1% in the total expenditures for investment requested by natural persons. Expenditures for investment

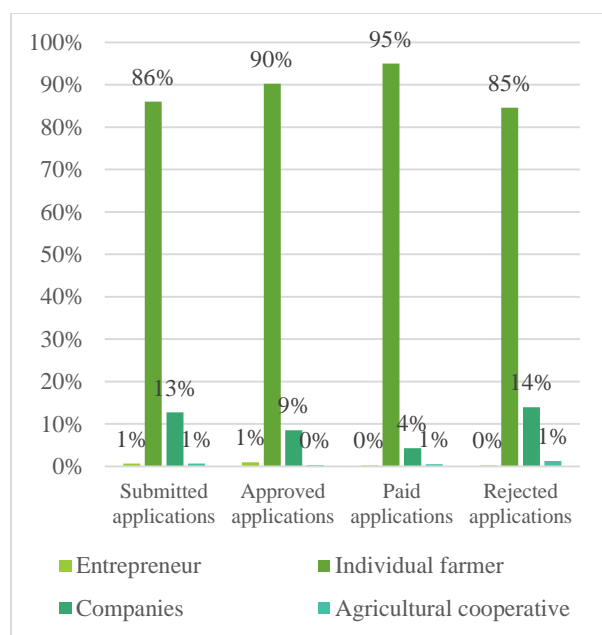


requested by legal entities amount to EUR 87,085,792, where expenditures for investment requested by companies are dominant with 97%, while agricultural cooperatives account for 3% in the total value of expenditures for investment requested by legal entities (Graph 47).

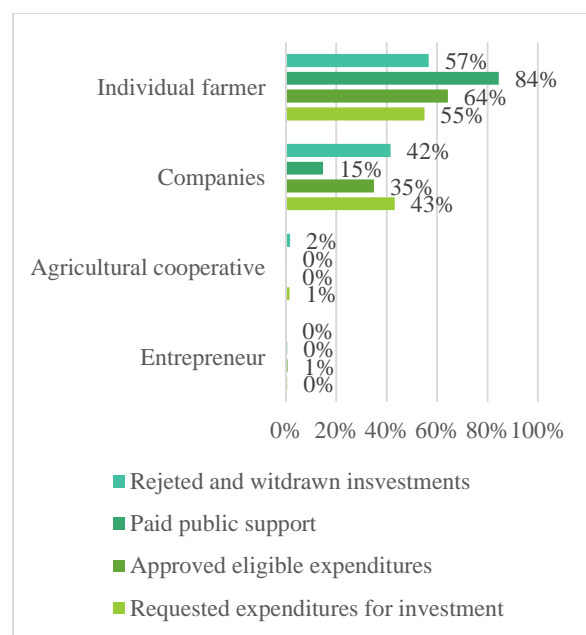
As regards approved eligible expenditures for Measure 1, EUR 43,124,861 was approved for individual farmers, while EUR 23,525,704 was approved for legal entities, of which EUR 23,438,909 was approved for companies and EUR 86,796 was approved for agricultural cooperatives. In the structure of rejected expenditures, EUR 38,896,297 was rejected for applications submitted by natural persons and EUR 29,591,954 for applications submitted by legal entities (Graph 47).

Of the total amount of paid public support within Measure 1, 85% (EUR 14,598,932) of paid public support relates to natural persons, while EUR 2,594,825 of public support was paid to legal entities: EUR 2,539,793 for companies and EUR 55,032 for agricultural cooperatives (Graph 47).

**Graph 46: Submitted, approved, paid and rejected applications by type of recipients, M1 (%)**



**Graph 47: Requested, approved and rejected expenditures and paid public support by type of recipients (%), M1**



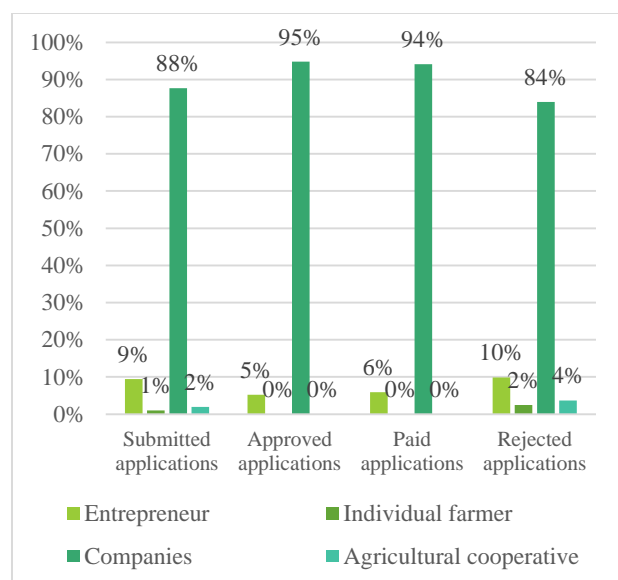
A total of 21 applications (10%) were submitted by natural persons within **Measure 3**, while legal entities submitted 181 applications (90%). Natural persons submitted the highest number of applications within the Third Public Call (6%), while the lowest number of applications were submitted within the First Public Call (1%). Companies are dominant in the structure of legal entities and account for 88% of the total number of submitted applications. When it comes to the approved applications, 73 applications were approved for legal entities, while four applications were approved for natural persons – entrepreneurs. Of the total number of paid applications, 32 applications relate to legal entities, while two applications relate to entrepreneurs. Of the total number of rejected and withdrawn applications for Measure 3, 10 applications submitted by natural persons were rejected, while 71 applications were rejected to legal entities (Graph 48).

In the total requested expenditures for investment within Measure 3, expenditures requested by natural persons were EUR 7,827,818, while expenditures requested by legal entities were EUR 100,586,263, where expenditures requested by companies have a dominant share of 99%, while agricultural cooperatives have a share of 1% of the total value of expenditures for investment requested by legal entities (Graph 49).

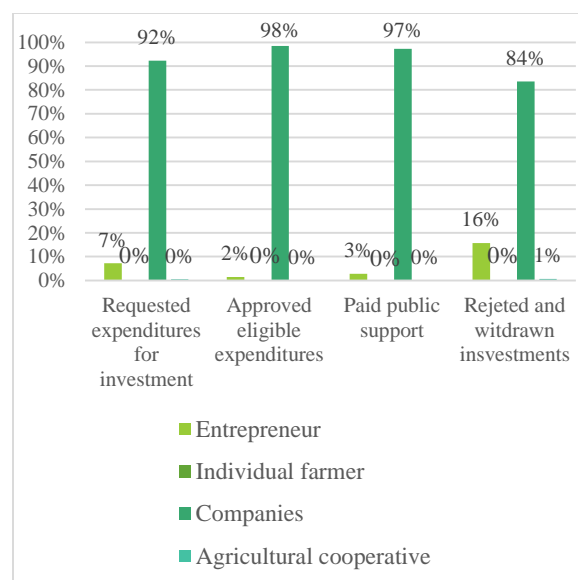
As regards approved eligible expenditures for Measure 3, EUR 615,631 was approved for natural persons – entrepreneurs, while EUR 39,604,642 was approved for legal entities. In the total value of rejected expenditures, EUR 5,104,607 was rejected for applications submitted by natural persons and EUR 27,234,509 for applications submitted by legal entities (Graph 49).

Of the total amount of paid public support within Measure 3, 3% (EUR 183,845) of paid public support relates to natural persons – entrepreneurs, while EUR 6,441,567 of public support was paid to legal entities (Graph 49).

**Graph 48: Submitted, approved, paid and rejected applications per type of recipients (%), M3**

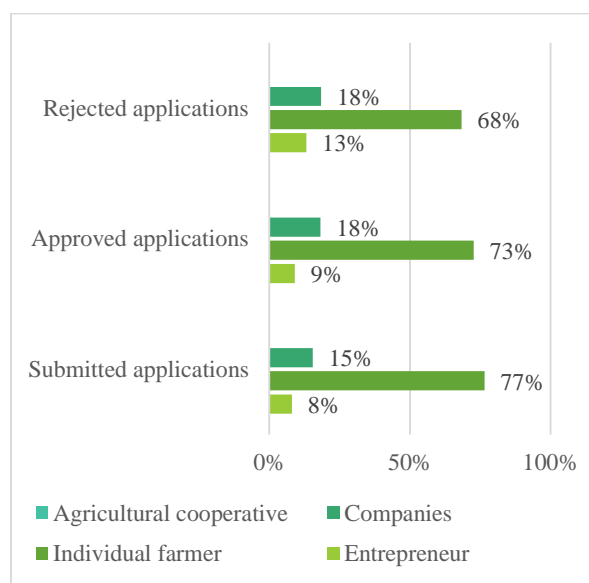
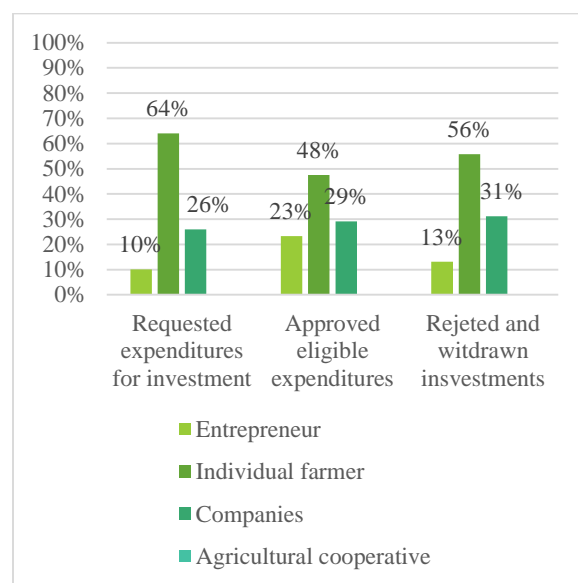


**Graph 49: Requested, approved and rejected expenditures and paid public support per type of recipients (%), M3**



Natural persons submitted a total of 263 applications (85%) within **Measure 7**, while legal entities submitted 48 applications (15%). Individual farmers are dominant in the structure of applications submitted by natural persons (238 applications). In regard to the approved applications, nine applications were approved for natural persons, while two applications were approved for legal entities. Of the total number of rejected and withdrawn applications for Measure 7, 31 applications submitted by natural persons were rejected, while seven applications were rejected for legal entities (Graph 50).

In the total value of requested expenditures for investment within Measure 7, expenditures requested by natural persons were EUR 52,905,514, where expenditures for investment requested by individual farmers have a dominant share of 86%, while entrepreneurs have a share of 14% of the total expenditures for investment requested by natural persons. Expenditures for investment requested by legal entities were EUR 18,573,978 (Graph 51).

**Graph 50: Submitted, approved and rejected applications per type of recipients (%), M7****Graph 51: Requested, approved and rejected expenditures per type of recipients (%), M7**

As regards approved eligible expenditures for Measure 7, EUR 1,602,234 was approved for natural persons, while EUR 658,759 was approved for legal entities. In the total value of rejected expenditures, EUR 7,639,473 was rejected for applications submitted by natural persons and EUR 3,455,992 for applications submitted by legal entities (Graph. 51).

## 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 submitted applications, the awareness of the recipients, update of Agricultural Advisory Services and other parties in information chain to provide support. Due to COVID - 19 pandemic, communication and promotional activities were reduced in the observed period, with an option of online participating in the mentioned activities.

Promotion of the IPARD II Programme in 2021 was carried out through nine information events (three hybrid events) for representatives of local self-governments, agricultural cooperatives, farmer's associations, regional development agencies, regional chambers of commerce, women organisations, consultants, etc.

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 - 31. 8. 2021, 364 answers were prepared and delivered to all interested parties. During the same period, 1200 calls on IPARD measures were registered through telephone line, which is seven calls per day on average.

In order to make the results of IPARD Programme implementation more visible, the MA and the IPARD Agency organized the conference "IPARD III Programme – What is there for me?" in the

frame of the promotional campaign of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Serbia “Za naša polja - # EU za poljoprivredu”. The conference was held within the 88<sup>th</sup> International Agricultural Fair in Novi Sad.

Participants in the conference had the opportunity to get first-hand information on EU assistance in the field of agriculture and rural development to the Republic of Serbia, within the successful stories of IPARD II support, presented by recipients of Measure 1 and Measure 3. In the discussion part, the representatives of the IPARD Agency answered the questions and dilemmas regarding the implementation of IPARD II measures. Representatives of the IPARD Managing Authority presented the possibilities of the new IPARD III Programme, within pre-accession assistance of the European Union and participants contributed to the active discussion with their questions and suggestions.

The Guides for Applicants/(Potential) recipients for IPARD Measures 1, 3 and 7 have been updated 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/>). The Web pages of the MAFWM and the DAP contain all relevant information for (potential) recipients and applicants.

Bi-monthly newsletter “IPARD in focus”, initiated in 2019, has five publications in 2021 and it is disseminated to more than 2,000 e-mail addresses regularly. Furthermore, special edition of “IPARD in focus” is prepared, printed and disseminated at the 88<sup>th</sup> International Agricultural Fair. For the newest information on events, announcements, calls and rules regarding the implementation of the IPARD II Programme and preparation of the IPARD III Programme in Serbia, Instagram (@ipardnadlanu) and Facebook (IPARD na dlanu) IPARD MA accounts have been created for the general public and (potential) recipients.

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

In 2021 one online educational module was organized, one-day training for 80 agricultural advisors on IPARD II Programme modification and IPARD III Programme preparation. The lecturers were employees from the Department for Management of IPARD Programme within MAFWM.

After the module 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.

Registration for attending 50 hours of training for recipients of IPARD support in the appropriate sector is enabled through webpage of the Institute for Science Application in Agriculture (<https://www.psss.rs/licenciranje/ipard-50h.html>). In the reporting period, 19 attendants have successfully completed training “IPARD 50 hours” and received the final certificate.

Activities of AAS in Central Serbia and in AP Vojvodina are presented in the Table 1.

**Table 1: Activities of AAS in the period 1.01 – 31.08.2021.**

Information tool	AAS Central Serbia		AAS AP of Vojvodina	
	No. of events held	No. of participants	No. of events held	No. of participants
Events (winter schools, tribunes, lectures, workshops)	62	737	4	58
Media (local TV, radio, newspapers, <i>Youtube</i> , <i>DVD</i> <sup>1</sup> )	87	/	12	/
Bulletin/Portal of Advisory Services	8	/	/	/

Individual work - assistance of agricultural advisors in preparation of business plans for the IPARD measures was provided to two agricultural holdings, in the observed period.

## Indicators for Visibility and Communication Activities

The indicators for visibility and communication activity are presented in the Table 2.

**Table 2: Indicator for visibility and communication activity**

Type of indicator	Indicator	Value from 1 <sup>st</sup> January – 31 <sup>st</sup> August, 2021	Target for programming period	Execution rate (%)
<b>Output</b>	Number of potential recipients attending information event	580	4000	14.5
	Number of promotional events implemented	9	30	27
	Number of national events	3	5	20
	Number of promotional materials disseminated	500 pcs of newsletter IPARD in Focus -special edition and five publications of newsletter IPARD in Focus e-edition distributed to more than 2000 e-mail addresses per edition	6.000	Achieved

<sup>1</sup> Due to epidemiological measures and recommendations of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, the advisors reduced number of lectures and tribunes held. For these reasons, the planned lectures and workshops were presented via Youtube channels and DVDs.

Type of indicator	Indicator	Value from 1 <sup>st</sup> January – 31 <sup>st</sup> August, 2021	Target for programming period	Execution rate (%)
	Number of national and regional media, reached by informational materials (press conferences, press releases)	82 through IPARD Agency's news (printed, electronic and Internet)	20	Achieved
	Number of sector stakeholders acting as multipliers (providing links to IPARD II Web site, distributing promotional materials)	6 (42 with AAS)	10	60
	Number of TV and/or radio presentations	128	1 per call	Achieved
	Number of press conferences organised	6 (four national, two regional)	at least 5 national and at least 4 regional	67
	Number of press releases provided	28	at least 20	Achieved
	Number of people accessing the IPARD II Web site	140.094 (approx. 17.511 per month)	2,000	Achieved
<b>Result</b>	Level of satisfaction from the informational events	N/A	at least 80% satisfied with the content and organization	-
	Number of publications/ articles, TV and radio reportages for the IPARD II Programme	1,023	60	Achieved
	Number of applications for grants per measure	M1, 6 <sup>th</sup> Public Call: 369 M3, 4 <sup>th</sup> Public Call: 104	At least 80 for the Measure 1 and at least 45 for the Measure 3	Achieved

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