

THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN OF THE ÎLE-DE-FRANCE REGION

With a total amount of €1.3 billion, the economic, environmental and solidarity recovery plan will be financed through €698 million in redeployment and €592 million in additional appropriations. Thanks to the room for manoeuvre created each year for the past four years, historically favourable financial ratios at the beginning of 2020, the agility of the regional administration – and despite the very significant drop in revenue in 2020 – the Region can thus fully play its role as a crisis shock absorber.

Act I of the recovery plan has been envisioned around 4 main axes:

1. Supporting companies and innovation (€640 million)

€506 million will thus be allocated to VSEs and SMEs in order to help them overcome the crisis – with measures such as a zero-rate "rebound loan" going from €10,000 to €300,000 for a maximum duration of 7 years, with a 2-year deferral, or the creation of a "Resilience Fund" which will help support the recovery of independent businesses, liberal professions and businesses with fewer than 20 employees.

€24 million in aid will be dedicated to innovation and relocation – most notably with "PM'Up Covid-19", a programme that helps transform production tools in Île-de-France to secure regional strategic supply chains (10 applications have already been approved with another 115 currently under review) or the strengthening of a €1,500 "digital cheque" for artisans and independent retailers and €10,000 for municipal digital market spots.

In order to support strategic and future-oriented sectors, the Île-de-France Region will raise €75 million in financial support. It will help support farmers (€1.5 million emergency fund for the horticulture and plant breeding industries; regional food programme to support Île-de-France farmers in order to help supply regional food banks, etc.) as well as the health, automotive, aerospace, sustainable construction, digital, cybersecurity and quantum computing industries.

€20 million will be allocated to the recovery of the cultural sector, most notably with:

- €1 million in emergency aid for the performing arts,
- €1.5 million for adjustments and protective equipment for the reopening of bookshops, movie theatres, theatres, etc.
- €4.75 million in exceptional aid to help guarantee a 100% funding even when facilities are closed.

Last but not least, €15 million will be dedicated to a tourism recovery plan — which includes, among other things, €3.5 million to support new building layouts and equipment for tourist sites in preparation for the reopening, €3.1 million in measures in favour of revalorising heritage sites and initiatives such as "Île-de-France Celebrates its Restaurants" to support restauranteurs and celebrate the farm industry and food professionals (€1 million).



2. Fighting unemployment and accelerating the return to employment

€230 million will be dedicated to doubling and modernising professional training in order to help unemployed persons return to employment, through two separate strategies:

- Reorient at-risk and future-oriented sectors (such as construction and public works, security, health and social, digital, agriculture and environment), with an additional €85 million allocated to the "Skill Investment Regional Covenant"; the online platform "Together for Jobs" (in partnership with Le Bon Coin and Staff Me) in order to reorient people towards jobs and training in areas that are currently hiring; doubling the number of available spots in professional training, or an additional €1,000 in support to unemployed people farthest from employment who are currently in training for such jobs;
- Modernise the professional training offer and support apprenticeships, most notably with €6 million funding for individual, remunerated "bespoke" professional training for job seekers

 even with no recruitment commitment; financing of individual and remunerated professional training for job seekers looking to create their own company, and a €100 digital cheque for trainees following remote professional training.
- 3. Purchasing power, health, solidarity and gap-bridging

€97 million will be dedicated to support the purchasing power of secondary school students and their families.

As a result, the families of secondary school scholarship recipients and part-time boarding school students (from both public and accredited private schools) will receive €60 in support to compensate for the lack of school restaurants during lockdown. In the following stage, the Region is planning for €80 million in order to provide each public secondary school student with a laptop computer or a tablet for their first year of upper secondary school (Lycée, international equivalent ISCED 3) for the school year 2020/2021 – and therefore bridging the digital gap. This massive two-year digital plan will concern close to 340,000 students and teachers, amounting to the largest digital education deployment in Europe.

For tertiary education students facing financial difficulties, the Region will commit €10 million in financial support for the purchase of digital equipment as well as an increase in the number of scholarships in health and social studies — amounting to 1,000 additional scholarships for the year 2020/2021.

For the second year in a row, apprentices will enjoy a 5% increase in individual financial support.

In parallel, €5 million will be dedicated to fighting school dropouts, with a third awareness campaign for all identified youths and the organisation of summer schools in upper secondary schools (*lycées*) to help prepare for the beginning of the school year in September (all upper secondary schools will be open in the second half of August to all students in need of refresher courses).

In continuity with the social gap-bridging project, the Île-de-France Region will commit:

• €8 million to fight exclusion and marginalisation, in partnership with the associations that are major partners in regional solidarity. This will notably go through food distributions to Îlede-France residents in need, in partnership with the Food Bank;



• €4 million for the "Maisons Région solidaire" network – a network of associations sheltering homeless people living in the metro.

The Region will commit €15 million to its fight for a more social and accessible housing policy. First of all, it will launch a "housing solidarity guarantee" — a measure that will help first-time buyers acquire a home, without having to pay the additional insurance premiums for people suffering from disabling chronic diseases or cancer (AERAS covenant).

Secondly, €10 million will be allocated to the recovery of the housing sector in Île-de-France (medium-priced housing, especially for healthcare workers, and reconversion of offices into housing).

In parallel, €50 million will be dedicated to health, health workers and research:

- The Île-de-France Region will provide financial support of up to €5,000 per practitioner to help purchase telemedicine carts, protective and health equipment or rent vehicles for house calls;
- It will also dedicate close to €5 million to fight against medical deserts and support telemedicine;
- €42 million will help remunerate the 18,000 nursing students and nursing assistants who volunteered to help fight Covid-19.

Finally, the Region will provide €15 million in support for sports and recreation in order to help spread sports and cultural villages to all recreational centres all summer long (€4,5 million), or for the opening of secondary school gymnasiums during summer for regional sports clubs. €1.3 million of recreation vouchers will also be distributed to Île-de-France families.

4. Environmental and transport recovery (€238 million as soon as 2020 for an environmental and inclusive recovery)

The Île-de-France Region has also mobilised to help make Act I of the recovery plan a green and inclusive act.

It will therefore dedicate €100 million from the regional environmental participatory budget to stimulate public local investments (€500 million by 2024): the online platform for calls for proposals will open next July.

€30 million will be allocated to the pursuit of the Renewable Energy Support Plan (installing solar panels in secondary schools, etc.) and €70 million for the first tranche of the new secondary school thermal renovation market.

Finally, €30 million will be attributed to green and innovating transport, with a strong commitment for a 60% financing of the "RER Vélo" cycle path project (€300 million in the long term) and €4 million for installing public charging stations for electric vehicles in 2020, with a goal of 12,000 charging stations by 2023.