

SME-related policy measures adopted, implemented or announced in 2021

Cyprus

Title of the measure (national language)	Title of the measure (English translation)	Implementing body	Adopted / implemented / announced as part of the 'National Recovery and Resilience Plan' (Yes / No)	Status (Adopted or implemented or announced)	Date of adoption/ implementation or announcement (DD/MM/YYYY)	General description (objectives / key features / budget - if applicable, and weblink to online source)
ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY						
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΙΚΕΣ ΠΡΩΤΟΒΟΥΛΙΕΣ – ΤΟΠΙΚΗ ΑΝΑΠΤΥΞΗ - P2P/PRIMA/0321	European Initiatives - Local Development- P2p/Prima/0321	RIF	No	Announced	09/03/2021	The implementation of international research and innovation projects by transnational consortia on multiple topics for agro-food systems and water management. Budget: €200,000 Prima Program Invitation Announcement, RIF, 2021 https://www.research.org.cy/a/nakoinosi-prosklisis-tou-programmatos-prima/

Σχέδιο δράσης για την κυκλική οικονομία	Action Plan for the Enhancement of Circular Economy in Cyprus	Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment	Yes	Announced	27/07/2021	Approval of the National Action Plan for the Enhancement of Circular Economy in Cyprus. Budget: €90 million Presentation of the Cyprus Action Plan for the transition to a circular economy, Cyprus Circular Economy Network, 2021 https://cypruscircular.org.cy/cyprus-action-plan-circular-economy/
SOCIAL ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY						
DIGITALISATION (e.g. Digital Innovation Hubs, training, vouchers, grants or loans for digitalisation and to invest in new digital equipment, etc.)						
Ευρυζωνικό Πλάνο της Κύπρου 2021-2025	Broadband Plan of Cyprus 2021-2025	Dep. Ministry of Research Innovation and Digital Policy	No	Announced	11/10/2021	The Broadband Plan lays the foundations for the digital transition of Cyprus. Connectivity is strengthened by strong, reliable and affordable network infrastructures which are fully in line with the policy objectives for a European Gigabit Society as well as the strategic goals of the Digital Decade of Europe. 2030. Press Release: The main objectives and actions of the Broadband Plan of Cyprus for the years 2021-2025 were presented. Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy, 2021 https://tinyurl.com/45uprann
INNOVATION (e.g. vouchers, grants or loans for R&D and innovation, support to encourage SMEs to commercialise RTD results and to acquire patents, etc.)						
ΔΙΕΡΕΥΝΗΣΗ ΒΙΟΜΗΧΑΝΙΚΗΣ ΕΦΑΡΜΟΓΗΣ	Proof Of Concept for Technology / Knowhow Applications Concept/0521	RIF	No	Adopted	17/09/2021	The "Proof of Concept for Technology/Knowhow applications" Programme aims to strengthen the preliminary

ΤΕΧΝΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ/ ΤΕΧΝΟΓΝΩΣΙΑΣ CONCEPT/0521						<p>investigation of possible industrial applications of a technology. Budget: €500,000</p> <p>"Proof Of Concept (Concept/0521)" The submission of proposals has been completed, RIF, 2021 https://tinyurl.com/2p8aza38</p>
EUROSTARS Κύπρου/ EUROSTARS-3/0921	Eurostars Cyprus/ Eurostars-3/0921	RIF	No	Adopted	05/11/2021	<p>Eurostars is a funding instrument that supports innovative SMEs and project partners (large companies, universities, research organisations and other types of organisations) by funding international collaborative R&D and innovation projects. Call budget: €500,000</p> <p>Announcement of the "EUROSTARS Cyprus" Program Call, RIF, 2021 https://tinyurl.com/46nruu76</p>
Πρόγραμμα «Νησιδες Αριστείας»/ EXCELLENCE/0421	Excellence Hubs/ EXCELLENCE/0421	RIF	No	Adopted	02/07/2021	<p>The main objective of the programme is to reward and invest in research excellence. At the same time, the programme can facilitate cooperation between domestic research/academic institutions and businesses, helping to develop networks with foreign institutions. Call budget: €10,000,000</p> <p>Excellence/0421 Evaluation Results, RIF, 2021 https://tinyurl.com/2p9ymnsp</p>
Έρευνα στις επιχειρήσεις/ ENTERPRISES/0521	Research in Enterprises/	RIF	No	Announced	10/05/2021	<p>The programme aims to strengthen of the</p>

	ENTERPRISES/0521					competitiveness of Cypriot enterprises and intensify the participation of Cypriot companies in research activities. Call budget: €3,600,000 https://tinyurl.com/386s4fdk
Διερεύνηση Βιομηχανικής Εφαρμογής Τεχνολογίας / Τεχνογνωσίας» στον τομέα των Υδρογονανθράκων CONCEPT-HYDRO/0421	HYDRO - Proof of Concept for Technological Knowledge Applications /CONCEPT-HYDRO/0421	RIF	No	Adopted	18/06/2021	The "Proof of Concept for Technology /Knowhow Applications" Programme focuses on the preliminary investigation of possible industrial applications of a technology. In particular, this special Call addresses technological applications related to the hydrocarbon sector. Call budget: €200,000 "Research In Enterprises (Enterprises/0521)" The submission of proposals has been completed, RIF, 2021. https://tinyurl.com/ucmp3hh7
SKILLS (e.g. vocational education and training, forecasting skill needs, measures to adapt the vocational training systems to the requirements of the labour market, etc.).						
ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN						
REGULATORY OBSTACLES						
ACCESS TO FINANCE (including guarantee schemes, public funding programmes, support for alternative financing and equity financing, favourable legal, tax and regulatory frameworks for investments, fiscal incentives, measures to reduce/address late payments)						
Σχέδιο παραχώρησης κυβερνητικών εγγυήσεων για εξασφάλιση πιστωτικών σημειώσεων που εκδίδονται από φορείς του τουριστικού τομέα	Government guarantee concession plan to provide credits votes issued by tourism bodies	Ministry of Finance	No	Adopted	07/05/2021	A Government guarantees scheme that issues credit notes for canceled tour services, hotel businesses, cruise companies and car rental companies. Government guarantees concession plan to secure

						credits Notes issued by stakeholders in the tourism sector, Ministry of Finance, 2021 https://tinyurl.com/rjf5symj
Το περί της Έκδοσης Κυβερνητικών Εγγυήσεων προς Πιστωτικά Ιδρύματα για τη Παραχώρηση Δανείων σε Επιχειρήσεις και Αυτοτελώς Εργαζομένους Διάταγμα του 2021	Government guarantee scheme to support businesses and the self-employed in the wake of the Covid-19 outbreak	Ministry of Finance	No	Adopted	19/11/2021	Government guarantees will cover 70% of the losses that may arise from loans and the banks will cover the remaining 30% regardless of whether the loan is secured or not. Budget: €1 billion The Issuance of Government Guarantees to Credit Institutions for the Granting of Loans to Businesses and Self-Employed Employees Law of 2021 (110(I)/2021), CYLAW, 2021, https://tinyurl.com/5ys8eraf
Επιμήκυνση της παράτασης πληρωμής ΦΠΑ για ακόμη τρεις (3) φορολογικές περιόδους.	Extension of the VAT payment extension for another three (3) tax periods.	Ministry of Finance	No	Adopted	22/07/2021	The payments that were payable on 10/5, 10/6 and 10/7 and have been suspended for 10/8, 10/9 and 10/10, respectively, were extended again so that the payments become payable on 10/10, 10/11 and 10/12, provided that the taxable persons comply with their other obligations. Extension of VAT Payment, Ministry of Finance, 2021 https://tinyurl.com/rwz4sxwz
Σχέδιο Επιδότησης Επιτοκίων Επιχειρηματικών Δανείων - Έγκριση της Παράτασης της Ισχύος του Σχεδίου για Επιδότηση Νέων Επιχειρηματικών Δανείων	Business Loan Interest Grant Scheme - Approval of the Extension of the Validity of the New Business Loan Interest Grant Scheme	Ministry of Finance	No	Adopted	30/03/2021	The extension of the Plan for Subsidizing the Interest Rate of New Business Loans until 31/12/2021 from 30/06/2021 which was the previous approval. The increase of the lending limits for the new

						business loans to self-employed employees and companies. Business Loan Interest Subsidy Scheme – Approval of the Extension of the Validity of the Scheme for Interest Rate Subsidy of New Business Loans, Ministry of Finance, 2021 https://tinyurl.com/2nv34hu7
ACCESS TO MARKETS (e.g. market-specific support and business training activities, export credit insurance, missions – covering both the Single market and third countries)						
START-UP ENVIRONMENT						
SCALE-UP ENVIRONMENT						
NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS						
Επενδύσεις στις Οινοποιητικές Επιχειρήσεις	Encouraging Investment Activity and Enhancement of Competitiveness in the Wine sector	Ministry of Commerce, Energy and Industry	NO	Implemented	02/07/2021	The measure encourages investment activity by providing economic support in the form of a grant for tangible or intangible investments in winery infrastructure, marketing of wine, modern equipment and machinery in order to improve the overall performance of enterprises and enhance competitiveness in the wine industry. Call Budget: €1,650,000 Measure 3a "Investments in winemaking enterprises" 10th Call, Ministry of Commerce, Energy and Industry, 2021. https://tinyurl.com/3w6zntyn
Σχέδιο Χορηγιών για Ενίσχυση της Ανταγωνιστικότητας των Μικρομεσαίων	Grant Scheme to Enhance the Competitiveness of Small and Medium	Ministry of Commerce, Energy and Industry	No	Implemented	30/09/2021	The specific objectives of the scheme: · Support companies with the implementation of investments

Επιχειρήσεων του Μεταποιητικού Τομέα και άλλων Στοχευμένων Οικονομικών Δραστηριοτήτων σε Περιοχές εντός των Βρετανικών Βάσεων	Enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector and Other Targeted Economic Activities in Areas Within the UK Bases					<p>that will improve their technological level, production process and productivity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Create new units and the stimulation of entrepreneurship. · Create new jobs. <p>Call Budget: €1,000,000</p> <p>Grant Scheme to Enhance the Competitiveness of Small and Medium Enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector and Other Targeted Economic Activities in Areas Within the UK Bases, Ministry of Commerce, Energy and Industry, 2021.</p> <p>https://tinyurl.com/ykmtfecn</p>
Σχέδιο Χορηγιών για Ενίσχυση της Ανταγωνιστικότητας των Μικρομεσαίων Επιχειρήσεων του Μεταποιητικού Τομέα και άλλων Στοχευμένων Οικονομικών Δραστηριοτήτων	Grant scheme to Enhance the Competitiveness of Small and Medium Enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector and Other Targeted Economic Activities	Ministry of Commerce, Energy and Industry	No	Implemented	30/09/2021	<p>Its specific objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Support companies with the implementation of investments that will improve their technological level, production process and productivity. · Create new units and the stimulation of entrepreneurship. · Create new jobs. <p>Call Budget: €50,000,000</p> <p>Grant scheme Plan to Enhance the Competitiveness of Small and Medium Enterprises in the Manufacturing Sector and Other Targeted Economic Activities, Ministry of Commerce, Energy and Industry, 2021.</p> <p>https://tinyurl.com/4ihjkfuk</p>
Σχέδιο Ενίσχυσης Εγχώριου Τουρισμού	Domestic Tourism Support Plan	Deputy Ministry of Tourism	No	Implemented	01/05/2021	<p>Its specific objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Ensure affordable prices in tourist accommodation so that people living permanently in Cyprus have the opportunity for some days of rest.

						<p>. Reactivate and enhance the occupancy of the hotel companies for the period from 1 June 2021 until 30 June 2021 and for the period from 1 September 2021 until 30 November 2021.</p> <p>. The consequent strengthening of tourist areas in off-peak months.</p> <p>Extension of the Domestic Tourism Support Plan for the period from the 1st June 2021 until the 31st June 2021 and from the 1st September 2021 up to and up to the 30th November 2021. Deputy Ministry of Tourism, 2021 https://tinyurl.com/32xf44z6</p>
Σχέδιο Επιχορήγησης Μέρους του Κόστους της Δαπάνης για Έργα Αναβάθμισης των Προσφερόμενων Υπηρεσιών σε Κέντρα Αναψυχής	Grant Scheme for Upgrading the Offered Services in Leisure Centers	Deputy Ministry of Tourism	No	Adopted	31/08/2021	<p>The project exclusively addresses companies of the restaurant/tavern category which operate throughout Cyprus and are proven to offer only traditional Cypriot cuisine. The plan aims to assist and encourage the improvement of approved kitchen areas, indoor dining areas and customer restrooms. Call Budget: €420,000</p> <p>Grant Scheme for Upgrading the Offered Services in Leisure Centers, Deputy Ministry of Tourism, 2021 https://tinyurl.com/2jxd88cd</p>
Σχέδιο Καταβολής Ενίσχυσης Ήσσονος Σημασίας (De Minimis) για	De Minimis Aid Payment Scheme to Support the Print Press (Newspapers)	Ministry of Finance	No	Implemented	12/11/2021	<p>The main objectives of the plan are to support and maintain pluralism in traditional media to protect diversity of views,</p>

Στήριξη του Έντυπου Τύπου (Εφημερίδων)						freedom of expression, democracy and the right of citizens to quality information. De Minimis Aid Payment Scheme to Support the Print Press (Newspapers), Ministry of Finance, 2021. https://tinyurl.com/pwivk453
OTHER RELEVANT TOPICS (e.g. second chance for honest bankrupt entrepreneurs, bankruptcy prevention, entrepreneurship education, public procurement)						