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| **2.7.**  **Start-up aid for producer groups and organisations in the forestry sector** |

1. Please confirm that no aid is granted either to:

1) production organisations, entities or bodies, such as companies or cooperatives, the objective of which is the management of one or more forestry holdings and which are therefore in effect a single producer, or

2) other forestry associations which undertake tasks, such as mutual support and forestry management services, in the members' holding without being involved in the joint adaptation of supply to the market.

yes  no

1. Please confirm that only producer groups or organisations that have been officially recognised by the competent authority of the Member State concerned on the basis of a submission of a business plan are eligible for aid:

yes  no

1. Is the Member State obliged to verify that the objectives of the business plan have been reached within a period of five years from the date of recognition of the producer group or organisation?

yes  no

1. Please confirm that the agreements, decisions and other behaviour concluded in the framework of the producer group or organisation comply with the competition rules as they apply by virtue of Articles 206 to 210a of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013:

yes  no

1. Is aid granted producer groups or organisations or, up to the same overall amount, directly to producers to offset their contributions to the costs of running the groups or organisations during the first five years following the formation of the group?

yes  no

1. Please indicate whether the eligible costs concern:

(a) the rental of suitable premises;

(b) the acquisition of office equipment, administrative staff costs, overheads, legal and administrative fees, the acquisition of computer hardware and the acquisition or usage fees of computer software, cloud and similar solutions;

1. Where premises mentioned in question X are purchased, are the costs limited to rental costs at market rates?

yes  no

1. Please confirm that no aid will be paid in respect of costs incurred after the fifth year from the recognition of the producer group or organisation by the competent authority of the Member State on the basis of its business plan:

yes  no

1. Where the aid is paid in annual instalments, will Member States pay the last instalment only after having checked the correct implementation of the business plan?

yes  no

1. Please confirm that the maximum aid intensity is 100% of eligible costs and that the total amount of aid is limited to EUR 500 000:

yes  no

1. In case of providing aid directly to producers to offset their contributions to the cost of running the group or organisations during the first five years following the formation of the group or organisation, can you confirm that the aid may be granted up to the same overall amount?

yes  no

**OTHER INFORMATION**

Please indicate any other information considered relevant to the assessment of the measure concerned under this Section of the Guidelines.

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