

ISMEA / Italy

Total outstanding guarantee volume increases by **6.2%** of H1 2020 and reaches **bEUR 16.9**

143,091 supported SMEs (+4.6%) in portfolio (H1 2020)

New production (in units) in H1 2020 is **7.464**

The Institute of Services for the Agricultural and Food market (Istituto di Servizi per il Mercato Agricolo Alimentare - **ISMEA**) has set up an overall package of measures to counter the damage inflicted upon undertakings impacted by the outbreak of the COVID-19 crisis.

Already in March 2020, **ISMEA** adopted the following measures:

- Suspension of all loan instalments falling due in 2020.
- Exclusion of the period between 1 March 2020 and 31 July 2020 from the calculation of the pre-amortisation duration of the investment plans authorised by the Institute.
- Automatic extension of ISMEA's guarantees on all guaranteed loans for which an extension of the duration of the amortisation plans was requested, without additional charges for companies.
- Settlement of expenses incurred by companies for work progress in simplified mode.
- Suspension of the deadlines for the implementation of business plans whose expiry date is between 1 March 2020 and 31 July 2020.
- Suspension until 31 July 2020 of all non-performing and certification activities pursuant to art. 13 of Decree Law 193/2016.

Further, **ISMEA** has implemented the so-called **Loan guarantees and grants under the ISMEA Guarantee Fund** according to the Temporary Framework for State aid measures. The measure provides aid to the eligible beneficiaries in the form of:

1) Guarantees under Section 3.2 of the Temporary Framework.

The beneficiaries of the measure are SMEs operating in the agricultural, forestry, fishery and aquaculture sectors and the guarantees are provided to the financial intermediaries, banks and mutual guarantee institutions, in relation to new and existing working capital or investment loans.

The maximum loans' maturity is set at six years while the amount of the loan per undertaking does not exceed the amounts specified in the TF. The maximum guaranteed amount is mEUR 5. The duration of the guarantees matches that of the loans and is limited to a maximum of six years.

Under this measure, **ISMEA** issued a total number of 1,018 guarantees with a total value disbursed of around mEUR 229.

2) Guarantees under Section 3.1 of the Temporary Framework.

These guarantees are provided in relation to new loans, whereas the guarantee premiums are zero. The duration of the guarantees matches that of the loans and is limited to a maximum of six years having a coverage rate of 100%.

The loan maximum amount does not exceed the amounts specified in the TF with a 30,000 euros cap.

Under this measure, **ISMEA** issued a total number of 35,500 guarantees with a total value disbursed of around mEUR 688.

Finally, **ISMEA** has also provided **Loans in favour of undertakings of the agricultural and fishery sector affected by the COVID-19 outbreak**. The scheme provides aid to SMEs in the form of interest free loans under Section 3.1 of the TF, with a maximum nominal amount of loans of kEUR 30. The maximum loans' maturity is set at five years. This duration includes a grace period of 24 months.

Until the end of December 2020, **ISMEA** issued a total number of 3,162 loans with a total value disbursed of mEUR 80.

More information on **ISMEA** measures can be found under the following link:
<http://www.ismea.it/istituto-di-servizi-per-il-mercato-agricolo-alimentare>

Latest update: 5th January 2021