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Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis
on behalf of the European Commission
(17.1.2025)

Under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), Member States received up to 13% of their total grant allocation as pre-financing in 2021 to support early efforts to implement measures. Since then, funds are disbursed to Member States upon the satisfactory fulfilment of pre-defined milestones and targets that track important steps in the implementation process of reforms and investments. Member States can submit payment requests twice per year. The speed of disbursements is determined by the pace of implementation, which is fully under control of the Member States. When facing implementation issues, due for example to supply chain disruptions, Member States can request to amend their Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP) to remove bottlenecks.

The Commission supports Member States in identifying and addressing challenges, through continuous bilateral discussions but also through the informal RRF expert group, where horizontal guidance is provided and Member States exchange good practices. The Commission has taken steps to facilitate implementation, for example through updated written guidance to Member States, which explains how Member States may propose to modify measures in case they can be implemented with a lower administrative burden¹. The Technical Support Instrument provided additional support to Member States in enhancing administrative capacity. The Commission also published its payment suspension methodology, thereby providing legal certainty to the Member States on how partial payments will be made when only a part of the milestones and targets of a payment request has not been fulfilled. The Commission will continue to support Member States in implementing their RRP.

¹ OJ C/2024/4618 available at https://commission.europa.eu/publications/updated-guidance-recovery-and-resilience-plans_en