

EN

E-002595/2025

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(3.9.2025)

The subgroup on Financing under the Critical Raw Materials Board has met twice so far, with minutes of both meetings available on the Commission website¹. The second meeting included a presentation of the 47 selected Strategic Projects in the EU and a discussion on how they can be supported financially. The minutes list the observers that attended the meetings of the subgroup, which also included financial institutions.

The status of Strategic Project under the Critical Raw Materials does not give automatic access to financing. Every financial institution in the subgroup will need to conduct their own due diligence procedure if they were to invest in such projects. Similarly, to receive support under the Innovation Fund², Strategic Projects need to apply in open call for proposals, fulfil all requirements of the Fund and score sufficiently high to be awarded grants.

The Commission monitors all selected Strategic Projects and has recalled to project promoters that it can withdraw the recognition as a Strategic Project following the requirements under Article 7(11) of the Critical Raw Materials Act³.

¹ https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/raw-materials/areas-specific-interest/critical-raw-materials/critical-raw-materials-act/board_en.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:02019R0856-20231121>.

³ Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulations (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020 (Text with EEA relevance).