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P-001758/2024

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Vestager
on behalf of the European Commission
(6.11.2024)

The Commission can approve public funding at national level under EU state aid rules and in line with the objectives set out in the Chips Act¹. It has so far approved state aid for the following projects:

- STMicroelectronics (ST) in Catania, wafer plant: EUR 730 million² investment, with EUR 292 million aid;
- ST in Catania, integrated plant: EUR 5 billion³, with EUR 2 billion aid;
- ST and GlobalFoundries in Crolles: EUR 7.4 billion⁴, with EUR 2.9 billion aid;
- European Semiconductor Manufacturing Company⁵ in Dresden: EUR 18 billion⁶, with EUR 5 billion aid.

Further, the Commission approved state aid for 68 projects in the ‘Important project of common European interest on microelectronics and communication technologies’, with up to EUR 8.1 billion in public funding, which is expected to unlock a total investment of EUR 21.8 billion⁷.

The Commission is bound to respect confidentiality and is unable to divulge specifics on other projects that are under assessment.

Public support for all projects above and those currently in the pipeline is provided exclusively by Member States. The amount of public funding can only be estimated for the projects where aid has been approved so far, and that is approximately equivalent to one third of the overall committed investment.

At EU level, the Commission contributes financially to the Chips Joint Undertaking⁸, with an allocation of EUR 4.175 billion. Under the Chips Joint Undertaking, large enterprises receiving research grants typically match public support, with a private contribution share of at least 50%.

Further, at EU level, support is provided to startups through the Chips Fund⁹, with equity amounting to EUR 550 million, which is expected to mobilise over 2.5 billion private investments.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1781/oj>

² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_5970

³ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_2994

⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_2447

⁵ European Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (ESMC) is a joint venture between Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC) Limited, Robert Bosch GmbH, Infineon Technologies AG and NXP Semiconductors N.V.

⁶ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4287

⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_3087

⁸ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1782/oj>

⁹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1781/oj>