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### **Summary document Target 134**

The summary document as agreed in the verification mechanism of the operational agreement, referring to the CID, explains and justifies how target 134 was reached.

The CID annex describes target 134 as:

“7 higher education institutions have benefitted from the Higher Education Advancement Fund.

Through the Higher Education Advancement Fund, higher education institutions, based on analyses of training portfolios, shall draw up action plans to adjust and reduce the existing offerings and, where necessary, create new ones. In addition, attention shall be paid to adapting programs, based on the requirements of the labour market and society.

All Flemish higher education institutions shall be eligible to suggest and submit projects under this call for projects. However participation in this call is not obligatory for higher education institutions, nor is submitting a plan a guarantee of acceptance.”

This summary document duly justifies how the target (including the relevant elements of the target, as listed in the description of target and of the three investment components of the corresponding measure in the CID annex) were satisfactorily fulfilled.

This document includes as an annex the following documentary evidence:

1. Copy of the relevant decision of the Flemish Government (‘Besluit Vlaamse Regering’) confirming the number of higher education institutions which have benefitted from the Higher Education Advancement Fund. *This is included as Annex 1.*
2. Spreadsheet listing all selected higher education institutions. *This is included as Annex 2.*
3. For each higher education institution: (i) the final report submitted by that institution, including the analyses of training portfolios and the action plans to adjust and reduce the existing offerings and, where necessary, create new ones and the period for future implementation and (ii) the jury report justifying that the chosen projects meet the criteria set out in the target and that the technical specifications of the chosen projects are fully aligned with the description and criteria as set out in the target and in the description of the measure. *The final reports are included in Annex 4, the jury reports in Annex 5.*



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To clarify the reporting, more annexes were added.

**Detailed justification:**

Requirement	7 higher education institutions have benefitted from the Higher Education Advancement Fund.
Justification	<p><i>On November 26, 2021 the Flemish Government decided to grant funding of the Higher Education Advancement Fund to 18 higher education institutions. This decision entered into force on November, 26, 2021.</i></p> <p><i>The decision was based upon the results of a published project call (see Annex 3) and the advice of an independent jury ( see Annex 6). All 18 higher education institution submitted projects for this call. The process is described in more detail in the accompanying “Nota van de Vlaamse Regering”.</i></p> <p><i>December, 12, 2021 the Flemish Government made an adaptation of this decision. This decision entered into force on December, 12, 2021. The decision was based upon the results of a second round of the project call ( see Annex 3) and the advice of an independent jury ( see Annex 6). 17 out of 18 higher education institutions submitted project proposals during this round of the call. The process is described in more detail in the accompanying “Nota van de Vlaamse Regering”.</i></p> <p><i>As mentioned in the decisions of the Flemish Government, that are mentioned above, the projects received 80% of the proposed budget in 2021.</i></p> <p><i>In 2023, all the projects have to submit a report, explain the accomplishments of the KPIs and the financial status of the projects. Subsequently, the project results will be submitted to an audit, both on KPI's and finances, and based upon the combined results, the institutions will receive the rest of the proposed budget, or will be asked to refund part of the budget.</i></p> <p><i>The audit of the KPI's was completed in 2023 but the financial audit is still ongoing. A final decision on the budget has not been taken at this moment.</i></p> <p><i>The two decisions of the Flemish Government are added in annex 1 to this document. A spreadsheet indicating all projects is attached as Annex 2.</i></p>

Requirement	'Through the Higher Education Advancement Fund, higher education institutions, based on analyses of training portfolios, shall draw up
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	action plans to adjust and reduce the existing offerings and, where necessary, create new ones.'
Justification	<p><i>This requirement can be underpinned by different elements:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>1. Call for project proposals. On July, 9, 2021 the Flemish Government decided to launch a project call, to offer all Flemish higher education institutions the possibility to submit projects in the Higher Education Advancement Fund. The call explained the purpose and regulations and was accompanied by a clarification document and two templates to file project proposals. The call entered into force on July, 9th 2021.</i> <i>The clarification of the call states at pg 2 that for the development of an agile and future proof training portfolio, 4 possible projects can be submitted:</i><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>i. Analysis of training portfolio on the level of an institution: Within this component, projects can be proposed on analysis, study, alignment and concertation as well as concrete development and, if feasible in terms of timing, realisations. Within the text there is a reference to the existing procedure for programming of new programmes, so this is included in the scope of the call.</i></li><li><i>ii. Analysis of training portfolio for a specific subject area (with multiple institutions)</i></li><li><i>iii. Analysis of training portfolio for a specific region (with multiple institutions)</i></li><li><i>iv. Renewal of the existing programme offer</i></li></ol></li><li><i>2. Submittance of project plans by the higher education institutions.</i> <i>Together the project proposals, all institutions had to submit a holistic plan, where they were asked to describe the institutions vision and coherence of the proposed project they submitted. More information can be found in the call and the accompanying document for clarification.</i></li><li><i>3. The final conclusions of the Higher Education Advancement Fund.</i> <i>At the end of the project, we asked the higher education institutions to submit a report on every project that was funded by the Fund, but we also asked a more holistic report on the impact of the Fund on their institutions. The higher education institutions were asked to give a detailed and specific image of</i></li></ol>



	<p><i>the impact of the Fund on their training portfolio, the development of new programmes and the possible termination of existing programmes. These reports were added as attachments to the vision paper, including the results of the Fund, that was endorsed by the Flemish Government on Feb, 2, 2024.</i></p> <p><i>The project call, the document for clarification and the templates are added in annex 3 to this document.</i></p> <p><i>Annex 4 gives an overview of the 18 project plans, one for each participating higher education institution, as submitted by the institutions in reaction to the project call (see annex 3).</i></p> <p><i>The vision note of the Flemish Government and its attachments, including the final reports submitted by all higher education institutions, which include the information on the analyses of training portfolios and the action plans to adjust and reduce the existing offerings and, where necessary, create new ones and the period for future implementation , are added as Annex 5.</i></p>
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Requirement	<p><i>‘In addition, attention shall be paid to adapting programs, based on the requirements of the labour market and society.’</i></p>
Justification	<p><i>In the project call, as launched by decision of the Flemish Government on July, 9, 2021, this is mentioned on:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>- Pg 2: as a general requirement of all projects on training portfolios</i></li><li><i>- Pg 3: analysis of a training portfolio for a specific region</i></li><li><i>- Pg 5: the possibility of creating new offer for vulnerable groups</i></li><li><i>- Pg 11: as an element of the assessment of the jury</i></li></ul> <p><i>The project call, the document for clarification and the templates are added in Annex 3 to this document.</i></p>

Requirement	<p><i>‘All Flemish higher education institutions shall be eligible to suggest and submit projects under this call for projects.’</i></p>
Justification	<p><i>The project call, as launched by decision of the Flemish Government on July, 9, 2021, was open to all Flemish higher education institutions. This is mentioned explicitly on pg 6 of the call.</i></p> <p><i>The project call, the document for clarification and the templates are added in Annex 3 to this document.</i></p>



Requirement	'However participation in this call is not obligatory for higher education institutions, nor is submitting a plan a guarantee of acceptance.'
Justification	<p><i>The project call, as launched by decision of the Flemish Government on July, 9, 2021, mentions explicitly at pg 6, that all universities and university colleges of the Flemish Community can submit a plan and project proposals. There was no obligation to participate.</i></p> <p><i>Pg 10 - 16 of the call describe a detailed selection process for all submitted proposals. This includes two selection rounds by an independent jury, based upon predetermined criteria. More information on the selection process can also be found in the decisions of the Flemish Government of Nov, 26 2021 and Dec 17, 2021 on funding projects of the Higher Education Advancement Fund, like explained in the first requirement.</i></p> <p><i>The two decisions of the Flemish Government are added in annex 1 to this document.</i></p> <p><i>The project call, the document for clarification and the templates are added in Annex 3 to this document.</i></p> <p><i>The reports of the independent jury are added in Annex 6.</i></p>

### **Annexes:**

Annex 1. Copy of the relevant decision of the Flemish Government ('Besluit Vlaamse Regering') confirming the number of higher education institutions which have benefitted from the Higher Education Advancement Fund.

- Decision of the Flemish Government, November 26, 2021, to grant funding of the Higher Education Advancement Fund to 18 higher education institutions.
- Decision of the Flemish Government, December 12, 2021, adapt the decision of November 21, 2021, to grant funding of the Higher Education Advancement Fund to 18 higher education institutions.

Annex 2. Spreadsheet listing all selected higher education institutions.

Annex 3. Decision of the Flemish Government, July, 9, 201, to launch a project call for the Higher Education Advancement Fund, clarification document and templates.



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Annex 4. the 18 project plans, one for each participating higher education institution, submitted as part of the application to the project call, as mentioned in Annex 3.

Annex 5. Vision note, endorsed by the Flemish Government, on Feb, 2, 2024, proposed by the Minister of education, with a reflection on the Higher Education Advancement Fund, including the final reports submitted by all higher education institutions. including the analyses of training portfolios and the action plans to adjust and reduce the existing offerings and, where necessary, create new ones and the period for future implementation

Annex 6. The jury reports, part of the selection process, described in the call ( see Annex 3) and the decisions of the Flemish Government (see Annex 1), that show the results of the check of the criteria for the project call, including the technical specifications.



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**Annex 2: Spreadsheet listing all selected higher education institutions.**





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**Annex 3: Decision of the Flemish Government, July, 9, 201, to launch a project call for the Higher Education Advancement Fund, clarification document and templates.**



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**Annex 4: the 18 project plans, one for each participating higher education institution, submitted as part of the application to the project call, as mentioned in Annex 3.**



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**Annex 5: Vision note, endorsed by the Flemish Government, on Feb, 2, 2024,  
proposed by the Minister of education, with a reflection on the Higher Education  
Advancement Fund, including the final reports submitted by all higher education  
institutions. including the analyses of training portfolios and the action plans to  
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**Annex 6: The jury reports, part of the selection process, described in the call ( see Annex 3) and the decisions of the Flemish Government (see Annex 1), that show the results of the check of the criteria for the project call, including the technical specifications.**