

Commission Regulation (EC) No 718/2007 of 12 June  
2007 implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006  
establishing an instrument for pre-accession assistance (IPA)

PART II

**SPECIFIC PROVISIONS**

TITLE IV

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT**

CHAPTER I

**Object of assistance and eligibility**

*Section 5*

***Eligibility and specific requirements under Priority Axis 3***

*Article 179*

**Improvement and development of rural infrastructure**

1 Assistance referred to in Article 171(4)(a), may be provided to investments aimed at improving and developing rural infrastructure by:

- a addressing regional disparities and increasing the attractiveness of rural areas for private individuals and entrepreneurial activity;
- b providing conditions for the development of the rural economies.

2 Priority shall be given to investments in water and energy supply, waste management, local access to information and communication technologies, local access to roads of particular importance for local economic development, and, fire protection infrastructures where justified by the risk of forest fires.

3 Where local rural development strategies as referred to in Article 171(3)(b) have been established, the investments supported under this Article must be in line with those strategies.

*Article 180*

**Diversification and development of rural economic activities**

1 Assistance referred to in Article 171(4)(b), may be provided to investments aimed at diversification and development of rural economic activities by:

- a raising of the economic activity;
- b creation of employment opportunities;

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*Status: Point in time view as at 12/06/2007.*

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 718/2007, Section 5. (See end of Document for details)*

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c diversification into non-agricultural activities.

2 Priority shall be given to investments for the creation and development of micro and small enterprises, crafts and rural tourism, with a view to promoting entrepreneurship and developing the economic fabric.

3 Where local rural development strategies as referred to in Article 171(3)(b) have been established, the investments supported under this Article must be in line with those strategies.

### *Article 181*

#### **Improvement of training**

1 Assistance may be granted to contribute to the improvement of the occupational skills and competence of persons engaged in the agricultural, food, and forestry sectors and other economic actors operating in the fields covered by this component.

Assistance shall not be granted to courses of instruction or training which form part of normal programmes or systems of education at secondary or higher levels.

2 Beneficiary countries shall elaborate a training strategy for the implementation of the operations envisaged under paragraph 1. The strategy shall include a critical assessment of the existing training structures, an analysis of the training needs and objectives. It shall also establish a set of criteria for the selection of training providers.

**Status:**

Point in time view as at 12/06/2007.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 718/2007, Section 5.