

## ANNEX

### European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) Work Programme for 2017

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## **PART I - General Overview**

### **1. Background**

The EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation – EaSI – is established to contribute to the implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy, including its headline targets, integrated guidelines and flagship initiatives, by providing financial support for the Union’s objectives in terms of promoting a high level of quality and sustainable employment, guaranteeing adequate and decent social protection, combating social exclusion and poverty and improving working conditions.

The Programme supports:

- the Union's policies and laws, promoting evidence-based policy-making, raising employment participation, enabling social policy innovation and social progress, in partnership with the social partners, civil society organisations and public and private bodies;
- voluntary geographical and occupational mobility for workers on a fair basis and contributing to a high level of quality and sustainable employment information via information exchanges and dissemination and other forms of cooperation, such as cross-border partnerships;
- access to, and the availability of, financing for persons in vulnerable situation and supporting the development of the social investment market and facilitating access to finance for social enterprises.

As in previous years, the Work Programme 2017 aims to translate the EU's policy agenda and objectives into operational terms in the areas covered by EaSI.

The thematic distribution of the annual financial allocation is shown on table 1. The thematic distribution of the annual financial allocation is shown on table 1, section 4. In the 2017 work programme, the funding level of the third axis will be increased to satisfy the growing demand for the EaSI Guarantee financial instrument arising from the European Microfinance market that otherwise will remain greatly underserved before the end of the implementation period<sup>1</sup>.

### **2. The political context relevant of the 2017 work programme for EaSI**

#### **2.1 Overall economic background**

2017 will be the fourth year of the EaSI programme.

The main overall priority for the programme in 2017 will be to help the EU deliver jobs, growth, fairness and democratic change. The 2017 work programme will further spur the capacity of the programme to add European value to the activities it funds, their cost-effectiveness and strive for more and better results.

The EU is facing a nexus of economic, social and political challenges. Green shoots of recovery are starting to appear while new concerns emerge for the state of our economies. The social situation in

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<sup>1</sup> Since June 2015, almost EUR 70M out of 96M (total indicative EU Contribution currently available) has already been committed under the third axis

many countries continues to be worrisome. Four main social and employment trends are particularly relevant for the 2017 work programme of EaSI:

1. The far-reaching social consequences of the crisis may hamper opportunities for future growth and economic performance in the EU with still low productivity growth and stalling living standards in many countries. Unemployment is decreasing steadily, but long-term unemployment as well as the share of young people not in education, employment or training remains high. A quarter of the EU population - 122 million people- are at risk of poverty or social exclusion with single parents families and children being among the most exposed to poverty.
2. The current pace and extent of change in the world of work are further transforming employment conditions. Global production patterns and the organisation of work across borders were already affecting the European economy and its labour markets long before the financial crisis. New ways of working, together with technological change and the digitalisation of the economy, offer new opportunities, increase possibilities for self-employment and new types of activities, and make career patterns more diverse, yet also create new risks of "grey zones" in terms of labour rights, gender inequalities and access to welfare. There is an on-going shift in how economic value is created, and working lives are structured. Effective interplay between the EU internal and external policies is crucial for the internal job creation capacity as the latter is influenced by the global supply chains and the decent work agenda.
3. Because of demographic pressure, Europe's capacity to grow will increasingly rely on its ability to mobilise Europe's workforce. This includes women, whose employment rate is catching up but remains below that of men in most countries, and also Europe's youth and older workers. In addition, Europe also needs to boost productivity, which means supporting physical and intangible investment and supporting high-end growing sectors, and on making the most of Europe's human capital and the development of skills. Demographic trends together and the changes in the nature of work put pressure on social protection systems and their capacity to further reduce poverty and support the labour market integration. This means that solutions must be developed to ensure that social protection systems continue to exercise their functions in an effective, equitable and sustainable way, thus contributing to social fairness and economic prosperity.
4. Divergence in employment and social performances may weigh heavily on the performance of the euro area. During the crisis, the adjustment capacity of several Member States of the euro area showed severe limitations. This has increased employment and social disparities, and tested the resilience and stability of the euro area as a whole. In recent years, euro area Member States have agreed on stricter coordination of economic and fiscal policies, but such deeper integration within the Economic and Monetary Union also necessarily includes a social dimension.

In addition, the programme will continue to promote mobility. Intra-EU mobility has been increasing across the EU over the past two decades, particularly after the EU's enlargement to the east. Yet, EU mobility is low if compared to mobility in the US, for example: 4% of the EU's population aged between 15 and 64 years are living in an EU Member State other than their Member State of birth. Intra-EU mobility can have an overall positive impact on employment and improve labour market dynamics and labour allocation.

Further, the refugee crisis adds new political and operational challenges for the entire EU with implications for the solidarity among Member States, for their ability to move towards a more humane

and efficient European asylum policy and achieve a better managed legal migration policy. This challenge has also implications for the relations with EU neighbours, including on the need for decent job creation in neighbouring countries.

## **2.2 A new priority given to social policy**

Against this background, the 2017 work programme will contribute to important social policy initiatives. It will support the identification and exchange of good practices for the continued implementation of the 2013 Recommendation on investing in children. To support the strive towards upward social convergence in employment and social policies, the programme will invest, together with the OECD, in mapping of key structural shifts in the EU labour markets and their effect adequacy, efficiency and effectiveness of the social protection.

The 2017 work programme will also enhance the outreach of EaSI to civil society. The programme will support the dialogue organised around an Annual Convention for Inclusive Growth, prepared by a series of topical Strategic Dialogue meetings to be organised in the course of 2017. Members of the SPC, EMCO and the EaSI Committees will be also invited.

EaSI 2017 will also contribute to raising awareness about the EU activities for achieving better work-life balance, knowledge sharing and good practices among stakeholders. Building on the voluntary European Quality Framework for Social Services adopted by the Social Protection Committee in 2010, EaSI will also advance the development of a common methodology and policy indicators for measuring the quality of social services, encompassing criteria such as accessibility, availability, affordability and coverage. This will enable policy-makers in the social services sectors across Europe to develop quality standards for social services.

Having a job is essential for escaping poverty. In 2017 EaSI will identify the bottlenecks faced by employers in selected Member States in hiring people furthest away from the labour market and analyse what assistance and support employers need to recruit a more diversified labour force.

In 2017, the programme will in total increase - from EUR 12.8mIn to almost EUR 16mIn - its contribution to innovative projects, including at local level, supporting the labour market and social integration of refugees and third country nationals on the basis of the amendment of the 2016 work programme and on the basis of the direct grant to be awarded to the International Federation of the Red Cross for EUR 3mn. To contribute to this objective, the programme will also test flat rate payments for microloans to refugees and third country nationals to finance mentoring in order to increase the survival rates of businesses created by them (EUR 1mn). These actions will support the implementation of the European Agenda for migration.

Finally, the 2017 will start the process for developing a call for proposals to support social inclusion in suburban areas as part of the 2018 work programme of EaSI. This preparatory work in 2017 will include discussions with city authorities with proven experience in fighting social exclusion at cities' level in order to tailor the 2018 action to the real needs on the ground. The experience gained under the Urban agenda 2020 will be also taken into account.

In 2017, a comprehensive set of innovative and mutually reinforcing financial instruments will be deployed under the EaSI Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship axis to further boost its employment creation potential (see part II, section 1.6). These instruments range from the established guarantee as well as the newer capacity-building and funded instruments, to the novel equity instruments targeting social enterprises (hybrid equity instrument for incubators and social impact funds, social Business Angels co-investment facility) within the framework of the European Fund for Strategic Investments

(EFSI). Additional financial resources allocated to the Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship axis will be put to good use in light of the strong leverage effect of the EaSI budgetary contributions, the high market demand for the guarantee instrument since its launch in mid-2015 (72% of the total budget for the 2014-2020 period is expected to be exhausted by Q3 2016) and the deployment of the other financial instruments to further boost support for microfinance and social entrepreneurship<sup>2</sup>.

### 2.3 Support to the implementation of on-going initiatives

The 2017 EaSI work programme will specifically support recent Commission initiatives of relevance for the remit of the EaSI:

- the consultation process on a European pillar of social rights: a public consultation is launched with the aims to assess the present EU acquis, reflect on new trends in work patterns and societies and identify best practices and lessons from social innovation and finally gather views and feedback on the outline of the European Pillar of Social Rights and its underlying principles.
- the Council recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market and the need to swiftly make this recommendation deliver on its aims to : i) fight discouragement and rebuild trust on the part of the long-term unemployed so that they register with an employment service again; ii) simplify procedures for long-term unemployed people and reduce the number of those who fall into inactivity and poverty and iii) develop comprehensive services towards employers, such as post-placement support in the form of mentoring or workplace training.
- the Skills Agenda Package proposed several actions to make better use of existing skills, improve them and make them more relevant to the labour market and improve also the transparency and comparability of skills and qualifications.

### 3. Priorities for 2017 EaSI Work Programme by axis

Key principles for the definition of the 2017 EaSI Work Programme include:

- establishing the right balance between proposals supporting traditional actions and new actions for funding;
- emphasising the focus on results to get the best value for money;
- responding to new challenges in a more flexible and innovative way (such as the integration of refugees);
- developing complementarity with other EU instruments,

#### 3.1 Progress axis:

To respond to the more pressing challenges, the Progress axis will in 2017 support the integration of refugees and third country nationals in labour markets and societies at large by building the capacity of local authorities to welcome and integrate newly arriving refugees and third country nationals. This action will be complemented by a pilot on business development services for refugees, including finance mentoring, with the view to improve the survival rate of micro-loans to refugees. The 2017 work programme will prepare the ground for a significant action for social inclusion activities in economically

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<sup>2</sup>The activity per country under the third axis are to be found here:  
<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=983&langId=en>

disadvantaged urban areas. These two actions will also test and evaluate social innovative solutions in line with the overall philosophy of the programme to spur social innovation.

Where relevant, participation in actions funded from the Progress axis will be open to Member States, EEA countries, in accordance with the EEA Agreement, and EFTA member states, the candidate countries and potential candidate countries, in accordance with the general principles and the general terms and conditions laid down in the framework agreements concluded with them on their participation in Union programmes.

The target audience of the Progress supported actions includes but is not limited to : central, regional and local public authorities, international organisations, NGO(s), associations, business enterprises, employment and social services, national experts and policy-makers, the general public, journalists, media, social and economic partners, universities and research institutes. Each action will define its precise target audience at its launch.

### **3.1.1 Analytical activities:**

The programme will continue supporting:

- a) the implementation of the 2008 Active Inclusion Recommendation by developing a methodology for measuring social services' quality and accessibility, which can help to define quality standards for social services;
- b) The implementation of the Council recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed, including the publication of the first monitoring outcomes and initiating the evaluation of actions taken in response to the recommendation;
- c) the timeliness and quality of data (this includes a number of actions with EUROSTAT regarding data collection through surveys and other data collection tools, such as ESSPROS);
- d) gathering, assessing and analysing labour and social policies data and disseminating evidence on employment and social developments in Europe (including ensuring the data collection, including gender-disaggregated, and management of related labour market database);
- e) developing the Data warehouse, a tool to gather various sources on social statistics allowing users to assess specific research questions;
- f) The EUROMOD tax-benefit simulation model for the EU enabling researchers and policy analysts to calculate effects of taxes and benefits on household incomes;
- g) research cooperation with international organisations and other research entities;
- h) as a new action, DG EMPL intends to launch studies on the modernisation of social protection systems with the view to study ways of making them better responsive to the underlying structural shifts in the EU labour market and on the support of labour market transitions in light of new employment patterns and evolving employment contracts. The result of these studies will be also used for the European Pillar of social rights.
- i) The foreseen amendments of the Carcinogens Directive 2004/37/EC to add binding occupational exposure limit values for a number of substances are intended to reduce occupational exposure to carcinogens and mutagens in the EU, occupational diseases and work-related cancer cases, as

well as to reduce costs related to occupational cancer for economic operators and for social security systems. In 2017 the aim will be to further collect up-to-date information/data for legislative proposals to provide the Commission with the necessary information/data for preparing an Impact Assessment Report.

### 3.1.2 Mutual-learning, awareness and dissemination activities

The programme will support:

- a) the Mutual Learning Programme (MLP) with the view to coordinate and encourage mutual learning between Member States in the employment and social policy areas, including in relation to the Youth Guarantee;
- b) Implementation of the Council recommendation on the Youth Guarantee will be continued. The upcoming Youth Guarantee report will identify key results but also potential challenges that still need to be addressed at the level of MS. Support will be required in 2017 to pursue implementation of the Youth Guarantee and in particular stimulate further mutual learning and exchange of best practices at EU level;
- c) The role of Public Employment Services (PES) is critical in supporting a well-functioning labour market. In order to improve cooperation between PES, a service contract was launched to implement evidence-based bench-learning among PES to compare, with appropriate methodology, the performance of their activities. To ensure that the bench-learning results feed into PES capacity-building, the Commission continues to implement an annual PES mutual learning programme, which includes peer review and support. These PES activities are carried out under the work programme of the European Network of PES;
- d) the European skills, competences qualifications and occupations (ESCO) which would enter into a continuous update mode. This could also comprise activities to support testing of ESCO and translation of new ESCO content. In parallel, DG EMPL stands ready to support Member States to map their national classifications to ESCO and support, where relevant, public and private actors that want to implement ESCO in their IT tools in skills and qualifications. Furthermore, through its inclusion in the Europass platform, ESCO could contribute to the objectives of the New Skills Agenda for Europe of making skills and qualifications more visible and comparable in Europe and by supporting skills intelligence and information for better career choices.
- e) A call for proposals will be published for awareness raising activities about the Skills Guarantee and its benefits, in addition to exchange of policy experience and good practice, PIAAC surveys and other events monitoring skills on the labour market and building tailored support for low skilled adults;
- f) in the area of working conditions, a new peer review will be organized on the issue of health and safety allowing Member States to compare their practices and policies and identify areas of improvement at EU level;
- g) As regards international activities, the 2017 WP will roll out the new approach to EU enlargement policy by supporting the integrated approach to economic, employment and social reforms and more effective socio- economic governance as well as the new EU neighbourhood strategy in East and South focussed on decent job creation in particular for youth, employability and effective social dialogue;

- h) The follow-up of the effective implementation of core labour standards by EU trade partners is a new activity responding to requests by EP, Council and stakeholders and implementing commitments under free trade agreements and GSP plus;
- i) The WP 2017 will also contribute to upstream preparation with EU MS and social partners of EU positions during international negotiations within the International Labour Conference and to the implementation of EU commitments on cooperation on EMPL issues with strategic partner countries (e.g. US, China, Japan). The programme will also support the increased cooperation with Council of Europe in the area of social rights as covered by 2015 Council conclusions.

### 3.1.3 Support with regard to:

Operating costs to:

- a) the non-governmental organisations working at EU level in the field of social affairs and continuing working through the European Social Network. To promote employment and inclusion, it is important to understand the difficulties and bottlenecks faced by employers when hiring people furthest away from the labour market, as well as better ways to engage employers in supporting the long-term unemployed.
- b) EU level NGO networks active in the area of microfinance and social entrepreneurship. The networks support the Commission in its research and outreach activities at EU, national and local level and help ensuring that the implementation of the financial instruments for microfinance and social entrepreneurship take into account the views of its members, thus providing DG EMPL with useful input for policy design in the area of access to finance.

Capacity building:

- a) The programme promotes analysis, debate and initiatives focusing on the modernisation of the legal, contractual and policy framework on working conditions, labour law and industrial relations, particularly in the context of labour market evolutions and emerging work patterns. The programme will support the meetings of the Directors General for Industrial Relations aiming to facilitate discussions between Member States and European Commission on these topics. The Commission has also set up experts groups meetings in the field of labour law related to specific Directives ( e.g. Information and consultation of the workers, European works councils...). Further expert work in the area of labour law and employment strategy might be required for the follow-up to the European Pillar of Social Rights.
- b) in the form of activities on "Supporting active inclusion of disadvantaged migrants in Europe", "Supporting the integration of refugees in society and in the labour market" and the ROMACT capacity building programme on the integration of Roma.
- c) in the form of technical assistance to microcredit providers allowing them to develop their businesses and permit a better reach-out to their clients in line with the Code of good conduct.

### 3.2 Eures axis

Through the 2017 work programme, support to the EURES network will cover improving automated matching and standards for interoperability between the Member States systems & the EURES portal and organisation of European online Jobdays. Support will also cover communication (development of national action plans and review of communication toolkit) and training (launch of the EURES Academy) and support for the publication of the new EURES regulation.

As far as new actions are concerned, a call for proposals for cross-border partnerships, for support to EEA countries and for support to European social partners as well as a call for proposals for targeted mobility schemes will be launched.

Where relevant, participation in actions funded from the Eures axis will be open to Member States, EEA countries, in accordance with the EEA Agreement, and the Swiss confederation, in accordance with the Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Swiss Confederation, of the other, on the free movement of persons. The participating bodies, actors and institutions need to be designated by a Member State or by the Commission fulfilling the conditions for participating in Eures including in particular national, regional and local authorities, employment services, social partner organisations and other interested parties.

The target audience of the Eures supported actions will be defined in each specific action at the moment of its launch but in addition target audience could also include the general public, associations, NGO(s), universities and research institutes or business enterprises.

### **3.3 Microfinance axis**

DG EMPL will continue supporting microfinance and social enterprise finance through guarantees, equity and loans. Work programme 2017 will see an increase of the appropriations for this axis because of a higher demand for the type of products provided by the microfinance axis. As far as the new actions are concerned, DG EMPL intends to launch hybrid financing instruments to respond to the specific needs of the market, especially in the area of social enterprise finance. The strong demand for microloans necessitates additional resources to this axis that will be provided in 2017.

Technical assistance to microfinance providers will also continue, country-specific knowledge gathering in the area of social enterprises and their ecosystems as well as EU level networks in the area of microfinance and social enterprise finance. An emphasis will be put on the gender equality in access to finance.

Where relevant, participation in actions funded from the Microfinance and social entrepreneurship axis will be open to Member States, EEA countries, in accordance with the EEA Agreement, and EFTA member states, the candidate countries and potential candidate countries, in accordance with the general principles and the general terms and conditions laid down in the framework agreements concluded with them on their participation in Union programmes. The target audience of the supported actions includes but is not limited to providers and users of microfinance products.

### **3.4 Cross-axis action**

Under the thematic priority of social experimentation, a new action in the form of a call for proposals will be supported jointly by the Eures and Progress axis in 2017. This cross-axis action will be introduced for the first time in the EaSI programme capitalising on the overall philosophy of the programme to support innovative policy approaches. The action aims at contributing to the first stage of the European Solidarity Corps announced in the 2016 State of the Union speech by President Juncker. The European Solidarity Corps will be launched by the end of 2016 with the aim of having its first 100,000 young Europeans taking part in its activities by 2020. The initiative, which responds to the call in the Bratislava Roadmap for the creation of better opportunities for youth, builds on the principle that young Europeans need

greater opportunities to express their solidarity, which is a value strongly held throughout European society. Many young people are committed to volunteer and work for a good cause and in projects where their help makes a difference. The European Solidarity Corps would offer them a new opportunity to put their ideals in practice, and their action would directly support the activity of NGOs, national and local authorities in dealing with various crises.

Taking part in the European Solidarity Corps would offer young people a unique opportunity to gather experiences, acquire knowledge and develop their skills. The European Solidarity Corps would open up a new opportunity to engage in a meaningful activity that could prove to be a stepping stone into employment. The support from the EaSI programme will be focussed on supporting, on a pilot basis, the occupational strand of the European Solidarity Corps, bearing in mind that the Corps would also include a strand of voluntary activities.

#### **4. Financial framework for EaSI 2017**

Draft allocation of operating expenditure by axis for 2017 including the EFTA contribution is shown in table 1.

**Table 1: Operating expenditure by axis for 2017**

	2017 Commitments Appropriations	
<b>EaSI-Progress Total</b>	<b>61.464.000</b>	<b>EUR</b>
<b>EaSI-EURES Total</b>	<b>23.128.903</b>	<b>EUR</b>
<b>EaSI-Micro-finance and Social Entrepreneurship Total</b>	<b>43.509.266</b>	<b>EUR</b>
<b>TOTAL EASI</b>	<b>128.102.169</b>	<b>EUR</b>

**Table 2: Thematic distribution of the proposed annual allocation for 2017**

EaSI Axis and Thematic sections	Financial Work Programme 2017		DRAFT BUDGET 2017
	Amount	Percentage	
<b>EaSI - Progress TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 61,464,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>€ 61,464,000</b>
a) PROGRESS Employment (min 20%)*	€ 14,945,000	24%	
b) PROGRESS Social protection (min 50%)	€ 26,529,896	43%	
c) PROGRESS Working conditions (min 10%)	€ 11,858,097	19%	
d) PROGRESS Cross-cutting issues	€ 8,131,007	13%	
EaSI - PROGRESS_Social policy experimentation (15-20%)	€ 9,843,895	16%	
<b>EaSI - EURES TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 23,128,903</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>€ 23,128,903</b>
a) EURES Transparency of job vacancies (min 32%)	€ 7,800,000	34%	
b) EURES Development of services (min 30%)	€ 6,528,903	28%	
c) EURES Cross-border partnership (min 18%)	€ 8,450,000	37%	
d) EURES Cross-cutting issues	€ 350,000	2%	
<b>EaSI-Micro-finance and Social Entrepreneurship TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 43,509,266</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>€ 43,509,266</b>
a) MF/SE Microfinance (min 45%)	€ 21,832,900	50%	
b) MF/SE Social Entrepreneurship (min 45%)	€ 21,612,562	50%	
c) MF/SE Cross-cutting issues	€ 63,804	%	
<b>TOTAL EaSI</b>	<b>€ 128,102,169</b>		<b>€ 128,102,169</b>

**\* These percentages apply over the programming period**

The 2017 budget for EaSI - PROGRESS\_Social policy experimentation and to a small extent the one for EURES Development of services are below the minimum required by the Regulation which provides minimum (and maximum) percentages on the whole period 2014-2020. This implies that 2018 – 2020 programming will have to compensate to comply with these thresholds.

## 1.1. INTRODUCTION

On the basis of the objectives given in legal basis mentioned under the different appropriations this work Programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2017 as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (1.2): **EUR 42.033.895**
- for prizes (implemented under direct management (1.3.) N/A
- for procurement (implemented under direct management) (1.4): **EUR 43.895.812**
- for actions implemented under indirect management mode (1.5): **EUR 1.000.000**
- for Financial instruments (indirect management) (1.6): **EUR 40.445.462**
- for other actions (1.7): **EUR 727.000**

Any action under this work programme shall respect and shall be implemented in line with the rights and principles enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

**1.2 GRANTS**

Indicative budget breakdown:

<b>Budget Line</b>		<b>Amount</b>
<b>04.030201</b> EaSI - PROGRESS — Supporting the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Union employment and social policy and legislation on working conditions 1.2.1 to 1.2.16		<b>EUR 22.890.000</b>
<b>04.030203</b> EaSI – PROGRESS	1.2.17 Call for Proposals on the professional strand for the European Solidarity Corps	<b>EUR 4.243.895</b>
<b>04.030202</b> EaSI – EURES		<b>EUR 4.000.000</b>
<b>04.030202</b> EaSI – EURES – Promoting workers geographical mobility and boosting employment opportunities 1.2.18 to 1.2.21		<b>EUR 7.900.000</b>
<b>04.030203</b> EaSI – MICROFINANCE AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP - Increasing access, and the availability of, financing for legal and physical persons, especially those furthest from the labour market, and social enterprises 1.2.22		<b>EUR 3.000.000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>EUR 42.033.895</b>

**LEGAL BASIS**

04.030201 EaSI - PROGRESS — Supporting the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Union employment and social policy and legislation on working conditions.

Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on a European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation ('EaSI') and amending Decision No 283/2010/EU establishing a European Progress Microfinance Facility for employment and social inclusion (OJ L 347, 20/12/ 2013, p. 238–252).

Directive 2014/67/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the enforcement of Directive 96/71/EC concerning the posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services and amending Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012 on administrative cooperation through the Internal Market Information System ( 'the IMI Regulation' ) (OJ L 159, 28.05.2014, p.11)

Decision (EU) 2016/344 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on establishing a European Platform to enhance cooperation in tackling undeclared work (OJ L 65, 11.03.2016, p. 12)

### 1.2.1 Grants for the organisation of Presidency Events

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Conferences will be organised to support the EU objectives under both EU Presidencies in 2017. The topics will be related to promoting a high level of quality and sustainable employment, guaranteeing adequate and decent social protection, combating social exclusion and poverty and improving working conditions. The Commission intends to co-fund these conferences that will address on the one hand, issues in relation with social security coordination, public employment services and cooperation between labour inspectorates and on the other hand topical issues in relation with both Presidency priorities and Commission Work Programme to be defined a few months before the start of each Presidency in agreement with the Commission.

DG EMPL will support ten presidency events in the frame of both 2017 Presidencies which cost will range from 50.000€ to 300.000€ per event.

Changes in the order of rotating presidencies in 2017 may lead to subsequent changes in the events organised by the Presidencies with the support of this programme

Description of the activities

The Presidency conferences and meetings will notably take place on the subjects of: Mutual Information System on Social Protection (MISSOC), Public Employment Services (PES) and Committee Senior Labour Inspectorates Committee (SLIC) meetings for exchange of good practices. Besides, thematic topics supporting the implementation of the EU Presidencies priorities and as well as the Commission Work Programme and Priorities will be discussed in 2017.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Grants to be awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Art. 190.1 (c) Rules of Application of the Financial Regulation (RAP).

These events, which are highly political in nature and which need representation at the highest level both from national Authorities and European representatives, are to be organised exclusively by the Member State holding the Presidency. Given the unique role of the Presidency in the framework of EU activities, the Member State responsible for the organisation of the event is considered as a de jure monopoly.

The potential beneficiary shall be invited to submit an application, which shall be evaluated according to the following main award criteria:

-The extent to which the proposed action is in line with the objectives and the priorities for the year and the extent to which the proposed outputs present added value.

-The financial quality of the proposal including a reasonable and realistic budget and a sound cost-effectiveness ratio.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs: 80%

Indicative timetable and amount:

Date of the signature	Amount
2017 Q1-Q4	EUR 790.000

**1.2.2 Direct grant to the OECD: Programme for International Assessment of Adult Competences (PIAAC) (2017\_04.030201\_125)**

LEGAL BASIS

PROGRESS — Supporting the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Union employment and social policy and legislation on working conditions

BUDGET LINE

04.030201

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The objective is to support the update and improvement of survey instruments intended for the next wave of PIAAC survey as well as the analysis of the results, implementation processes and the policy impact of previous waves of the survey. The result will be a report on the development and analysis activities carried out.

Description of the activities to be funded

The project aims to analyse data from previous round of the survey as well as preparatory activities to launch a new round of international survey of adult skills supporting the Commission in monitoring of guidelines on skills. The preparation of the survey was also supported in previous years.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Essential eligibility criteria

According to Art. 190.1 (f) of the RAP, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals. The OECD has the expertise, legitimacy and contacts with the data providers (MS administrations) to support the EU in this project. The individual award decision substantiating this situation will be adopted at a later stage.

Award criteria

The beneficiary will be invited to submit an application which will be evaluated according the following main criteria:

- The extent to which the proposed action is in line with the objectives and the priorities for the year and the extent to which the proposed outputs present added value in this context;
- The financial quality of the proposal including a reasonable and realistic budget and a sound cost-efficiency ratio.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 80%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q3	500.000

### **1.2.3 Call for proposals to undertake awareness raising activities in Member States on the proposed Skills Guarantee (2017\_04.030201\_128)**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The overall objective is to support the upskilling of adults with low basic skills as part of a New Boost for Jobs, Growth and Investment, one of the ten priorities of President Juncker's Political Guidelines and as part of the New Skills Agenda for Europe, launched by the Commission on 10 June 2016.

Foreseen results:

The call for proposal aims to mobilise and engage stakeholders in the delivery of the proposed Skills Guarantee and therefore to increase the take up of upskilling opportunities by low skilled adults.

This action will complement the support targeted on low skilled adults through the European Social Fund, by assisting Member States to develop outreach, information sharing and communication strategies as part of coherent strategies for increasing the skills levels and qualifications for adults without an upper secondary education. This action should complement related activities (ongoing or future) taking place at national, regional or local levels in a given Member State.

Description of the activities to be funded

Type of activities:

- Outreach, information sharing and communication activities related to the proposed Skills Guarantee and upskilling opportunities available in a given Member States;
- mapping of the population that may be eligible for support under the proposed Skills Guarantee and design and deliver targeted outreach measures;
- Actions aiming at the creation and improving of networks, cooperation mechanisms and exchange of good practices among adult education and training provision and governance stakeholders;
- Conferences, seminars;
- Training activities.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

#### Essential eligibility criteria

Applicants

To be eligible, the applicants must:

- be legal persons properly constituted and registered in one of the EaSI participating countries.

Applicants (Lead applicants in case of consortia) must be:

- public entities in charge of national policies and actions for upskilling adults.

Any co-applicants must be:

- public or private entities (profit or non-profit making) involved in the organisation, financing or provision of services such as skills assessment, validation, education and training and guidance targeted to adults.

#### Selection criteria

- Financial capacity – Lead and co-applicants shall have access to sufficient funding to maintain their activities throughout the implementation period of the action.

The verification of financial capacity will not apply to public bodies.

- Operational capacity – lead and co-applicants shall possess operational resources (e.g. technical, management) and adequate professional skills and qualifications necessary for proper implementation of the action. The applicants shall also have a strong experience and competences in awareness raising activities and the field of adult education, in particular those without an upper secondary education.

#### Award criteria

Relevance of the proposal to the objectives of the call.

Quality of the methodology – including clarity of the activities and workplan, of the expected outcomes, and appropriateness of the stakeholder involvement and impact /outcome evaluation method.

Expected Impact

Cost efficiency – based on the financial quality of the proposal including a reasonable and realistic budget and a sound cost-efficiency ratio.

Taking into account the quality of the proposals, only one grant may be awarded per country.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 80 %

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q2	1.000.000

#### **1.2.4 Direct grant to OECD: Developing Social Protection Systems (SPS) responsive to the structural changes in the labour markets** (2017\_04.030201\_135)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Comparative cost-effectiveness of Social Protection systems

Description of the activities to be funded

Building on the results of the 2015 joint Social Protection Committee-Commission report on the financing and effectiveness/efficiency of SPS, this new study will seek to identify the key structural shifts in the EU labour markets, analyse the challenges these pose to the adequacy, efficiency and effectiveness of the SPS and propose possible policy responses.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

#### Essential eligibility criteria

According to Article 190.1.f) of the Rules of Application, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to particular bodies for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence; its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals. The grant is to be awarded to the OECD, as it is the only international body with the technical capacity for carrying out this research. The award decision justifying the direct award will be adopted at a later stage.

#### Award criteria

The potential beneficiaries will be invited to submit an application which will be evaluated according to the following main award criteria:

- The extent to which the proposed action is in line with the objectives pursued and the extent to which the proposed outputs present added value in this context;
- The financial quality of the proposal including a reasonable and realistic budget, as well as its sound cost-efficiency ratio.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 80%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q1	500.000

### **1.2.5 Call for proposals to support EU level Social NGO Networks to contribute to Europe 2020 Strategy (2017\_04.030201\_146)**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The primary aim of the grants is to establish long-term cooperations with European-level non-governmental organisations active in the areas of social inclusion with a view of increasing their capacity to contribute to the Europe 2020 goals.

The grants will allow the Commission to benefit from the organisations' expertise to support its outreach activities at EU and national level with the aim of ensuring awareness or an easier implementation of EU level policies in the mentioned areas, including through research or thematic events.

Furthermore, the grants will help improving the organisational capacities and management of the selected networks as well as their advocacy and campaigning skills to support EU objectives and priorities at EU and national level.

Moreover, thanks to the grant support, the networks will be better able to voice the concerns of the needs of people exposed to social exclusion, difficult access to employment, discrimination and inequalities and the expectations of the member organisations providing the Commission with input for policy design in the area of social inclusion.

Finally, the grants will also better enable the networks to integrate cross-cutting issues (e.g. gender, poverty, disability, non-discrimination and job-creation) in their day-to-day work.

Description of the activities to be funded

The call aims at setting up 3-year Framework Partnership Agreements with networks in the area of social inclusion for the period 2018-2020 and awarding of Annual Operating Grants Agreements for the financial year 2018.

The activities to be funded contain, among others, outreach activities, mutual learning among members, research activities and input for policy design.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

#### Essential eligibility criteria

Applicant organisations must be European-level organisations:

- (a) which are properly constituted and registered legal entities established in one of the EaSI participating countries for at least three years;

- (b) which are non-governmental, non-profit-making, and independent of industry, commercial and business or other conflicting interests, whose members are mainly non-profit organisations;
- (c) whose mission falls under the objectives and scope of the relevant priorities of the applicable Call for Proposals, namely the fight against social exclusion, the promotion of social inclusion, the promotion of access to employment and the strengthening of social protection;
- (d) which have national member organisations in at least fifteen (15) Member States of the European Union;
- (e) which are mandated by their members, through a Management Board or other administrative forum, to represent these members at the EU level and to be responsible for the activities of the network.

#### Selection criteria

Only organisations with the necessary financial and operational capacity may be awarded a grant.

- Financial capacity: applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the three-year period.
- Operational capacity: applicants must have a sound administrative and financial management structure, the operational resources (technical, management, etc.) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed work programme, as well as the ability to implement it. The applicants or its members must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field.

#### Award criteria

##### *Award criteria for the Framework Partnership Agreements for the period 2018-2020:*

- coherence and consistency with the relevant EaSI objectives and the needs for the period concerned;
- added value and relevance at European level of the programme proposed as well its dissemination and availability to all countries involved in the EaSI Programmes;
- quality and impact of the proposal;
- efficiency and feasibility of the work organisation.

##### *Award criteria for the Specific Operating Grants for the annual work programme 2018:*

- coherence and consistency, i.e. the extent to which the proposed programme (i) takes into consideration the relevant EaSI objectives, (ii) responds appropriately to actual needs for the period concerned, and (iii) ensures coherence between the multiannual and the annual work programmes.
- added value and relevance at European level of the programme proposed as well its dissemination and availability to all countries involved in the EaSI Programmes;
- quality and impact of the programme and each of its modules;
- efficiency and feasibility of the work organisation / methodology including a clear description of the allocation of human resources in relation to the individual tasks or activities and the timetable;
- financial quality of the programme, including the existence of a clear, detailed, and reasonable budget which is coherent with the actions proposed.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 80 %

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q2	9.000.000

**1.2.6 Direct grant to [UNHCR] or [INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS] to support the integration of refugees in society and in the labour market through the establishment of municipal integration centres providing information and training (2017\_04.030201\_147)**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

This action will contribute to the European Agenda on Migration, in particular support the integration process leading to access to the labour market. It will aim at helping municipalities receiving asylum seekers and refugees to address challenges specific to them, in particular those related to the lack of experience and capacity.

Description of the activities to be funded

This action will aim at supporting the establishment at municipal level of Integration Centres providing information and training to asylum seekers and refugees to facilitate their integration in society and the labour market. This action will include the following activities: setup and operation of Integration Centres, including preparation of information and training material and training of staff. The action will mainly target cities – in countries participating in the Progress axis - which receive significant numbers of asylum seekers and refugees but currently lack the capacity to provide effective integration services to them.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

According to Article 190.1.f) of the Rules of Application, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to particular bodies for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals. The award decision justifying the direct award will be adopted at a later stage.

The potential beneficiary will be invited to submit an application which will be evaluated according to the following main award criteria:

- The extent to which the proposed action is in line with the objectives pursued and the extent to which the proposed outputs present added value in this context;
- The financial quality of the proposal including a reasonable and realistic budget, as well as its sound cost-efficiency ratio.

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs: 90%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Signature date	Amount
2017 Q2	EUR 3.000.000

**1.2.7 Direct grant to Council of Europe: Building capacity at local level for the integration of Roma (2017\_04.030201\_148)**

### Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

This capacity building programme aims at promoting structural reforms at local level and at improving the absorption of EU funds for that purpose. Local public authorities are encouraged to change their social policy approach and move from the delivery of passive social benefits towards social investment, through an integrated provision of inclusive services and benefits in the areas of education, healthcare, employment, social housing and infrastructure. Thanks to these reforms, citizens will benefit from more inclusive, personalised and integrated benefits, better responding to their needs.

### Description of the activities to be funded

Continuation and expansion of the on-going ROMACT capacity building programme to help local authorities implementing social investment strategies for most disadvantaged people, notably to address poverty migration issues.

### Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

According to Article 190 f) of the RAP, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals. The Council of Europe has a unique expertise in dealing with capacity building for Roma integration. The individual award decision substantiating this situation will be adopted at a later stage.

#### Award criteria

The potential beneficiary will be invited to submit an application which will be evaluated according the following main criteria:

- The extent to which the proposed action is in line with the objectives and the priorities for the year and the extent to which the proposed outputs present added value in this context;
- The financial quality of the proposal including a reasonable and realistic budget and a sound cost-efficiency ratio.

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs: 90%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Signature date	Amount
2017 Q2	EUR 700.000

### **1.2.8 Preparing the Senior Labour Inspectors' Committee (SLIC) Campaign 2017-2018** (2017\_04.030201\_92)

### Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Supporting COM Decision 95/319/EC as amended and COM Decision 2013/C 43/08 - This activity allows for MS to dedicate common efforts to the enforcement issues of a specific topic contributing thus to promote an effective and equivalent enforcement of OSH. The activity is also contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 (COM(2014) 332) acquis in EU-

### Description of the activities to be funded

It is an activity organized by the Labour Inspectorates of one Member State or other appropriate public body duly designated by the MS concerned. The campaign will be prepared in 2017-2018.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Grants to be awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Art. 190.1 (f) Rules of Application of the Financial Regulation, i.e. for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the project does not fall under the scope of a call for proposals.

The beneficiary shall be invited to submit an application, which shall be evaluated according to the following main award criteria:

-The extent to which the proposed action is in line with the objectives and the priorities for the year and the extent to which the proposed outputs present added value.

-The financial quality of the proposal including a reasonable and realistic budget and a sound cost-effectiveness ratio.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 80%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q1	300.000

### **1.2.9 Call for proposals in the field of undeclared work (2017\_04.030201\_167)**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The priority for this call is to co-finance actions fostering joint activities and cross-border projects of enforcement authorities improving their technical capacity in the field of preventing and deterrence of undeclared work. This will further enhance on-going cooperation between Member States enforcement authorities in line with Decision (EU) 2016/344 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on establishing a European Platform to enhance cooperation in tackling undeclared work.

Cooperation may cover the following areas:

1. Common training courses for staff involved in enforcement activities;
2. Joint inspections and exchange of staff of enforcement authorities;
3. Provision of technical assistance;
4. Information exchange systems; and
5. Collaborative work in form of sharing of information and mutual learning between enforcement authorities.

The main objective of this call for proposals is to develop and fund initiatives which shall contribute to enhancing the implementation, application, knowledge and better enforcement of EU and national law in the area of undeclared work, thus contributing to the reduction of undeclared work and to the emergence of the formal jobs. The knowledge gained from these projects should also help building up evidence-based knowledge for better policy design.

The expected results are the improved transnational cooperation between Member States' different authorities to prevent and deter undeclared work, increased mutual trust among the stakeholders and

the increased public awareness on the urgency of action and encouraging Member States to step up their efforts in dealing with undeclared work.

#### Description of the activities to be funded

Actions addressing at least one of the areas of action identified above must ensure coverage of at least 3 Member States and focus on:

##### 1. Technical implementation

This includes facilitating and promoting training, good practice initiatives and innovative approaches, such as exchanges of staff and joint activities; exchange of information and mutual learning. Information exchange systems could be addressed through the joint establishment of protocols, agreements and the development of IT-based systems.

##### 2. Analytical elements

In addition to implementing the activities described above, another deliverable of projects under this call for proposals is the capacity to spell out success and failure factors and parameters for joint activities, partnership working and cross-border projects. These should be documented in the form of findings and conclusions deriving from a thorough evaluation of the actions undertaken. The evaluation shall help the beneficiaries to draw lessons learned and to establish, deriving from this experience, building blocks for a successful and sustainable cooperation between enforcement authorities and to contribute to the work of the European Platform. The proposal should detail how this output will be achieved.

The Union funding per project is estimated to be not less than EUR 400.000. The project duration may be between 12 and 18 months.

#### Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

##### Essential eligibility criteria

To be eligible, applicants (lead applicants and co-applicants) must:

- be legal entities properly constituted and registered in an EU Member State or another EaSI-PROGRESS participating country. In derogation from this requirement, international organisations whose registered headquarters are outside the eligible countries are also eligible. Organisations of social partners without legal personality under the applicable national law are also eligible provided that the conditions of the Financial Regulation related thereto are met.
- be non-profit making, and
- Fall into one of the following categories: Public enforcement authorities such as labour inspectorates, social security inspectorates, tax authorities, customs authorities, migration bodies, ministries in charge of tackling undeclared work, the police and the public prosecutor's office. Social partners can become lead-applicant if they are officially involved and entitled by law or institutional agreement to carry out enforcement tasks. Other social partners can be co-applicants.
- Lead applicants who are not officially appointed by Member States to the European Platform tackling undeclared work must present a letter of support issued by the respective senior representative in the Platform.

##### Selection criteria

Only organisations with the necessary financial and operational capacity may be awarded a grant.

Financial capacity: the applicants and co-applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. (The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to public bodies).

Operational capacity: the applicants and co-applicants must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it.

Main award criteria

Relevance of the proposal to the call objectives, in particular innovative character

Quality of the methodology and of the activities proposed;

Impact of the proposal;

Visibility of the proposed activities;

Cost efficiency of the operation

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs: 80%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q2	EUR 1.000.000

**1.2.10 Call for proposals in the field of posting of workers: enhancing administrative cooperation and access to information** (2017\_04.030201\_23)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The specific objectives of this call for proposals are the following:

- a) To promote transnational cooperation among public authorities and stakeholders, including the promotion of the use of IMI and sharing experiences and best practices in this respect.
- b) To increase the accessibility, transparency and quality of the information concerning the terms and conditions of employment to be respected and the existing practises in the Member States to monitor and enforce the provisions of the Posting of Workers Directive;
- c) To promote the evidence basis through the collection and evaluation of original data, analysis and information specific to the posting process, including through the collaboration between universities across various disciplines, research centres and institutes, and stakeholders.

Description of the activities to be funded

The context of the call is the implementation, application and enforcement of the Directive 96/71/EC concerning the posting of workers in the framework of provision of services and its Enforcement Directive 2014/67/EU. This call intends to support the Commission and the Member States to understand existing and new challenges and develop initiatives in the field of posting of workers and a decent work agenda.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Essential eligibility criteria

Eligible applicants:

Applicants (lead and co-applicants) must be properly constituted and registered legal entities, having their registered office established in:

- one of the Member States of the European Union;

- one of the EFTA/EEA countries, in accordance with the EEA Agreement, participating in the EaSI Progress Axis 2016 (Iceland and Norway);
- Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro, Turkey
- In derogation from the requirement with regard to legal entities and pursuant to Article 131 of the Financial Regulation, the organisations of social partners without legal personality under the applicable national law are also eligible provided that the conditions of the Financial Regulation related thereto are met.

Eligible applicants (lead and co-applicants) must fall in one of the following categories:

- public authorities;
- social partners organisations;
- international organisations;
- non-profit organisations (private or public);
- research centres/institutes;
- higher education establishments and civil societies' organisations.

Eligible applicants must act in a consortium composed of a minimum of 4 organisations established in at least four different EU28 Member States or other EaSI-Progress participating countries as indicated above (i.e. applicant and at least 3 co-applicants established in different countries).

To be eligible, actions must cover at least 7 eligible countries

#### Selection criteria

- Financial capacity: applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. (The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to public bodies).
- Operational capacity to complete the proposed action: applicants must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. Applicants must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

#### Award criteria

- Relevance of the proposal to the call objectives
- Quality of the methodology and of the activities proposed;
- Impact of the proposal;
- Visibility of the proposed activities;
- Cost efficiency of the operation.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 80%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2017 Q2	2.700.000

**1.2.11 Call for proposals to support the networks active on the demand or supply side of microfinance or social enterprise finance markets (2017\_04.030201\_61)**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The primary aim of the grants is to establish long-term cooperations with European-level non-governmental organisations active in the areas of the demand and supply side of the microfinance and social enterprise finance markets with a view of increasing their capacity to contribute to the Europe 2020 goals.

The grants will allow the Commission to benefit from the organisations' expertise to support its outreach activities at EU and national level with the aim of ensuring awareness or an easier implementation of EU level policies in the mentioned areas, including through research or thematic events.

Furthermore, the grants will help improving the organisational capacities and management of the selected networks as well as their advocacy and campaigning skills to support EU objectives and priorities at EU and national level.

Moreover, thanks to the grant support, the networks will be better able to tackle the needs of people having difficult access to finance and the expectations of the member organisations providing the Commission with input for policy design in the area of supply side of microfinance or social enterprise finance markets.

Finally, the grants will also better enable the networks to integrate cross-cutting issues (e.g. gender, poverty, disability, non-discrimination and job-creation) in their day-to-day work.

Description of the activities to be funded

The call aims at setting up 3-year Framework Partnership Agreements with networks in the area of microfinance /social enterprise finance for the period 2018-2020 and awarding of Annual Operating Grants Agreements for the financial year 2018.

The activities to be funded contain, among others, outreach activities, mutual learning among members, research activities and input for policy design.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Essential eligibility criteria

Applicant organisations must be European-level organisations

- (a) which are properly constituted and registered legal entities established in one of the EaSI participating countries;
- (b) which are non-governmental, non-profit-making, and independent of industry, commercial and business or other conflicting interests, whose members are mainly non-profit organisations;
- (c) whose mission falls under the objectives and scope of the relevant priorities of the applicable Call for Proposals, namely the demand or supply side of microfinance or social enterprise finance markets;
- (d) which have national member organisations in at least twelve (12) Member States of the European Union;

(e) which are mandated by their members, through a Management Board or other administrative forum, to represent these members at the EU level and to be responsible for the activities of the network.

#### Selection criteria

Only organisations with the necessary financial and operational capacity may be awarded a grant.

- Financial capacity: applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the three-year period
- Operational capacity: applicants must have a sound administrative and financial management structure, the operational resources (technical, management, etc.) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed work programme, as well as the ability to implement it. The applicants or its members must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field.

#### Award criteria

##### Award criteria for the Framework Partnership Agreements for the period 2018-2020:

- coherence and consistency with the relevant EaSI objectives and the needs for the period concerned;
- added value and relevance at European level of the programme proposed as well its dissemination and availability to all countries involved in the EaSI Programmes;
- quality and impact of the proposal;
- efficiency and feasibility of the work organisation.

##### Award criteria for the Specific Operating Grants for the annual work programme 2018:

- coherence and consistency, i.e. the extent to which the proposed programme (i) takes into consideration the relevant EaSI objectives, (ii) responds appropriately to actual needs for the period concerned, and (iii) ensures coherence between the multiannual and the annual work programmes;
- added value and relevance at European level of the programme proposed as well its dissemination and availability to all countries involved in the EaSI Programmes;
- quality and impact of the programme and each of its modules;
- efficiency and feasibility of the work organisation / methodology including a clear description of the allocation of human resources in relation to the individual tasks or activities and the timetable;
- financial quality of the programme, including the existence of a clear, detailed, and reasonable budget which is coherent with the actions proposed.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 80 %

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q2	1.500.000

#### **1.2.12 Direct grant to the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Monographs Programme (2017\_04.030201\_88)**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Support the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in order to continue to provide authoritative, up-to-date evaluations of environmental and occupational exposures that may present carcinogenic hazards to human beings, and to disseminate the results world-wide as printed books and in electronic form by online internet access.

This initiative supports the goals set out in the of EU-OSH Strat. FW (COM(2014)332) - This activity supports the Commission in collecting up-to-date scientific information on occupational carcinogens.

Description of the activities to be funded

Provide and distribute authoritative, up-to-date evaluations of environmental and occupational exposure that may present hazards to human health, and to disseminate the results world-wide as printed books and in electronic form by online internet access.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

According to Article 190.1.(f) of the Rules of Application, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals. The IARC Monographs are of high value to the work of SCOEL (Scientific Committee on Occupational limits) by providing updated and reliable scientific evaluations on risks derived from exposure to carcinogenic substances. SCOEL produces Recommendations on limit values for chemicals based on IARC Monographs (among other relevant literature). The SCOEL Recommendations are further used by the Commission to propose European objectives in the form of indicative occupational exposure limit values for the protection of workers from chemical risk. The individual award decision substantiating the specific characteristics will be adopted at a later stage.

#### Award criteria

The potential beneficiary will be invited to submit an application which will be evaluated according to the following award criteria:

- The extent to which the proposed action is in line with the objectives and the priorities for the year and the extent to which the proposed outputs present added value in this context;
- The financial quality of the proposal including a reasonable and realistic budget and a sound cost-efficiency ratio.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 5%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q1	60.000

#### **1.2.13 Direct grant to the International Programme on Chemical Safety of WHO (2017\_04.030201\_89)**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Support the International Chemical Safety Programme of the World Health Organisation (WHO) in order to continue to provide authoritative, up-to-date evaluations of environmental and occupational exposures to hazardous chemicals, and to disseminate the results world-wide. These may be used as

appropriate by the Commission for developing evidence based policy in the field of workers' health protection against chemical risks.

This initiative supports the goals set out in the of EU-OSH Strat. FW (COM(2014)332) - This initiative develops and updates information relevant to prevent occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals.

#### Description of the activities to be funded

Development of authoritative risk assessment documents, in particular:

- International Chemical Safety Cards (IPCS)
- Concise International Chemical Assessment Documents (CICADs)
- Running the WHO Chemical Risk Assessment Network

#### Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

According to Article 190.1.(f) of the Rules of Application, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals.

The World Health Organization, through its International Programme on Chemical Safety, makes a valuable contribution to the work of SCOEL (Scientific Committee on Occupational limits) by providing updated and reliable scientific evaluations on risks derived from exposure to chemicals. SCOEL produces Recommendations on limit values for chemicals using the WHO evaluations, among other relevant literature. The SCOEL Recommendations are further used by the Commission to propose European objectives in the form of indicative occupational exposure limit values for the protection of workers from chemical risks. The individual award decisions substantiating the specific characteristics will be adopted at a later stage.

#### Award criteria

The potential beneficiary will be invited to submit an application which will be evaluated according to the following award criteria:

- The extent to which the proposed action is in line with the objectives and the priorities for the year and the extent to which the proposed outputs present added value in this context;
- The financial quality of the proposal including a reasonable and realistic budget and a sound cost-efficiency ratio.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 80%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q1	165.000

#### **1.2.14 Direct Grant to the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP)** (2017\_04.030201\_90)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

This activity supports the existing Directive (2013/35/EU) on EMF. - Providing information and up-dated scientific information to maintain Directive 2013/35/EU adapted to the scientific developments.

Description of the activities to be funded

Disseminate of information and advice on the potential health hazards of exposure to non-ionising radiation.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

According to Article 190.1.(f) of the Rules of Application, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals.

ICNIRP is an independent organization consisting of high level internationally recognized multinational experts. ICNIRP has a unique expertise and it gives recommendations on limiting exposure for the frequencies in the different non-ionising radiation (NIR) subgroups. It develops and publishes Guidelines, Statements, and reviews which are used by national and international bodies, such as the European Commission (for Electromagnetic Fields Directive 2013/35/EU, for example) and World Health Organization. WHO does not have sufficient expertise in this area as they also use information produced by ICNIRP. The individual award decisions substantiating the specific characteristics will be adopted at a later stage.

#### Award criteria

The potential beneficiary shall be invited to submit an application which shall be evaluated according the following award criteria:

- The extent to which the proposed action is in line with the objectives and the priorities for the year and the extent to which the proposed outputs present added value in this context;
- The financial quality of the proposal including a reasonable and realistic budget and a sound cost-efficiency ratio.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 55%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q1	25.000

#### **1.2.15 Subdelegation to EUROSTAT: Direct Grant to Members States for the European system of integrated social protection statistics (ESSPROS) (2017\_04.030201\_50)**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The activity supports the development of the ESSPROS (European system of integrated social protection statistics) data collection with a focus on improvements in timeliness, the links between ESSPROS and National Accounts, on methodological questions. In addition, the possibility of collecting data on beneficiaries of benefits other than pensions should be explored. The aim is to produce better data for the monitoring of social protection policies in the Member States, as well as the effectiveness and efficiency of social protection systems. Such information is particularly relevant for the European Semester.

Grants will be awarded to Member States, candidate countries and EEA countries to help them improve the efficiency of the production of ESSPROS statistics and of its interface with Eurostat, in order to speed up the delivery of ESSPROS data to the agreed voluntary deadlines.

#### Description of the activities to be funded

The activities may include projects for improving the timeliness of the data and enhancing the integration and consistency of social protection statistics and national accounts. For example, the activities may include:

- Projects for more efficient data compilation and data transmission;
- Early estimates of the main ESSPROS aggregates;
- Further work on validation rules based on comparison of ESSPROS data with National Accounts;
- Further work on clarifications concerning the distinction between social protection, education and other borderline cases.

#### Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Implementation of grants by Eurostat is possible via restricted invitations to members of the European Statistical System, in accordance with Article 5 of the Regulation (EC) 223/2009.

According to Article 190.1.d) of the Rules of Application, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to particular bodies for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals.

The individual award decisions substantiating the specific characteristics of the action and the particular technical competence, high degree of specialisation or administrative power of the beneficiary will be adopted at a later stage by EUROSTAT.

The potential beneficiaries will be invited to submit an application which will be evaluated according to the following main award criteria:

- The extent to which the proposed action is in line with the objectives pursued and the extent to which the proposed outputs present added value in this context;
- The financial quality of the proposal including a reasonable and realistic budget, as well as its sound cost-efficiency ratio.

Implementation: Subdelegation to EUROSTAT

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs: 80%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

<b>Signature date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2017 Q3	EUR 1.500.000

### 1.2.16 Subdelegation to DG ECFIN: Direct grant to Euronews for reporting on employment and social affairs related issues via Real Economy Magazine (2017\_04.030201\_174)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

To contribute to public awareness on employment, social affairs, labour mobility and inclusion topics in the EU and the impact of EU policies and funding, namely the ESF and EaSI, in these areas.

Description of the activities to be funded

The action will take the form of an action grant concluded under the framework partnership agreement with Euronews and is intended to present and raise awareness among the general public of DG EMPL related activities and topics in 2017 in the TV magazine "Real Economy". The planning of the episodes to be broadcasted will be done in close cooperation with Euronews and the other participating DGs (ECFIN, REGIO) who are also contributing to finance the magazine "Real Economy".

Horizontal objectives and specific target groups:

How to fight against Long-term unemployment; specific target groups are: long-term unemployed, employers, people working in public employment agencies

Work-life balance ensuring adequate leave arrangements for women and men; specific target groups are women, men, families, elderly, children.

Pillar of social Rights focusing future challenges in the field of employment and social policy; specific target groups are workers, employers, young people, families, trade unions, public authorities, companies, civil society NGOs.

These are EMPL's proposed themes and objectives. Euronews is free to adapt these objectives and target groups to the editorial concept of the Real Economy Magazine.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

A direct grant will be awarded to Euronews in accordance with the Article 190 (1)(f) of RAP of the FR in order to cover the production of episodes for the Real Economy Magazine, that will illustrate topical issues and impact of EU policies and funding in the area of employment and social affairs.

The justification of Euronews being selected for its technical competence and high degree of specialisation in relation to the objective pursued will be elaborated in the award decision.

Award criteria

The potential beneficiary shall be invited to submit an application which shall be evaluated according to the following award criteria:

- the extent to which the proposal is in line with and relevant for EMPL communication priorities 2017
- the extent to which the proposed outputs present an added value for the EU
- the impact of the proposed action on citizens

Implementation: by DG ECFIN who will give a direct grant to Euronews

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs: 95%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q2	150.000

**1.2.17 Call for Proposals on the occupational strand for the European Solidarity Corps**

## LEGAL BASIS

04.030201 EaSI - PROGRESS — Supporting the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Union employment and social policy and legislation on working conditions.

Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on a European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation ('EaSI') and amending Decision No 283/2010/EU establishing a European Progress Microfinance Facility for employment and social inclusion (OJ L 347, 20/12/ 2013, p. 238–252).

04.030202 EaSI - EURES — Promoting workers' voluntary geographical mobility and boosting employment opportunities

Council Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68 of 15 October 1968 on freedom of movement for workers within the Community (OJ L 257, 19.10.1968, p. 2).

Commission Decision 2012/733/EU Implementating Regulation (EU) n°492/2011 of the European Parliament and the Council as regards the clearance of vacancies and applications for employment and re-establishment of EURES (OJ L 328, 28/11/2012, p21).

Regulation (EU) No 492/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on freedom of movement for workers within the Union (OJ L 141, 27.5.2011, p. 1).

Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on a European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation ('EaSI') and amending Decision No 283/2010/EU establishing a European Progress Microfinance Facility for employment and social inclusion (OJ L 347, 20/12/ 2013, p. 238–252).

## Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The occupational strand of the Corps aims at providing young people with the opportunity of a job, traineeship or apprenticeship in sectors that are engaged in solidarity activities and have a demand for highly motivated and socially-minded young people.

The overall objective is to test and apply selection and matching processes and to secure 4000 crossborder placements under the professional strand of the Corps within the 24 months of the projects' duration.

## Description of the activities to be funded

The activities aim at developing consortia which will carry out outreach and information activities, provide assistance and guidance to candidates and organisations who have registered under the occupational strand, manage direct financial support for candidates and the organisations with a view to facilitating the placements, ensure appropriate certification of the learning outcomes and monitor implementation challenges, report on targets and results achieved and identify recommendations for improvements, where appropriate.

The activities will be outcome driven, i.e. the expected outcome must be quantified in terms of expected placements. The projects will provide activities which are open to candidates from all EU Member States and ensure the implementation of the cross-border placements in at least five different eligible countries.

The action aims to place young people aged 18-30 in another EU country in a job, traineeships or apprenticeship in sectors that are engaged in solidarity activities. Such cross-border placements must be compliant with national labour and social protection laws, subject to open and transparent information

on rights and obligations of parties, ensure pay (i.e. a salary) and a written contractual relationship. They may be full-time or part-time but have to be at least 50% full time equivalent.

The activities will cover the provision of direct services to the candidates and organisations providing opportunities under the professional strand notably

- information, matching and placement, using the central Corps registration tool provided by the Commission,
- pre- and post-placement support to young candidates (e. g. profiling and pre-selection, pre-departure training, on the job training, mentoring support)
- where necessary, direct financial support to young candidates and the organisations recruitment them (such as job interview, relocation trip and return trip costs, recognition of qualifications, supplementary costs in case of specific needs such as for disabled persons).

The use of the allocation of direct financial support is optional and it may be left to the partners in the consortium to decide whether it is necessary to have recourse to all the support to secure placements depending on the circumstances relating to the individual placement.

#### Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

##### Essential eligibility criteria

To be eligible, lead applicants and co-applicants must be:

- legal entities properly constituted and registered in an EU Member State.

To be eligible applications must:

- be presented by a consortium (lead applicant and co-applicants) composed of a minimum of five organisations established in at least five different Member States.
- include in the consortium at least two Public Employment Services (PES) at central level with a mandate for cross border matching and placement in the EU, being either the National Coordination Office or the PES appointed as a Member of the EURES network in accordance with Article 10 of the EURES Regulation.

The consortium may also involve other member organisations in the EURES network (Members and Partners according to the EURES Regulation), Private Employment Services, humanitarian NGOs, employers' organisations, public bodies, third sector organisations with a social mission and international organisations such as the Red Cross.

International organisations whose registered office is outside the EU Member States are also eligible.

In addition, associate organisations may also be involved in the action.

##### Selection criteria for applicants and co-applicants:

- Financial capacity to carry out the action: the applicant must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. (The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to public bodies).
- Operational capacity to complete the proposed action: the applicant must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. The applicant must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

##### Award criteria

- Relevance of the proposal to the call objectives
- Quality of the methodology and of the proposed activities (including demonstration that the activities are open to candidates from all 28 MS, the rapidity of the launch of actual placement activities and the extent to which the cross-border placements involving at least five countries is ensured)
- Impact of the proposal
- Visibility of the action
- The cost-effectiveness of the operation

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 95%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2017 Q1	PROGRESS 4.243.895 EURES 4.000.000

**EURES****LEGAL BASIS**

04.030202 EaSI - EURES — Promoting workers' voluntary geographical mobility and boosting employment opportunities

Regulation (EU) No 492/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on freedom of movement for workers within the Union (OJ L 141, 27.5.2011, p. 1).

Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on a European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation ('EaSI') and amending Decision No 283/2010/EU establishing a European Progress Microfinance Facility for employment and social inclusion (OJ L 347, 20/12/ 2013, p. 238–252).

Regulation (EU) 2016/589 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 April 2016 on a European network of employment services (EURES), workers' access to mobility services and the further integration of labour markets, and amending Regulations (EU) No 492/2011 and (EU) No 1296/2013 (OJ L 107, 22.04.2016, p. 1)

**1.2.18 Call for Proposals for EURES support to cooperation with EEA countries** (2017\_04.030202\_10)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Support intra-EU labour mobility in the EEA countries. Participation of the EEA countries in the EURES network will result in a better implementation of worker mobility in the EEA as well as in a better functioning of the EEA labour market.

Description of the activities to be funded

Continuation to facilitate labour mobility between Member States and the EEA countries and support the implementation and operation of the EURES network in the EEA countries.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

**Essential eligibility criteria**

Eligible lead applicants must be the National EURES Coordination Offices of Norway and Iceland.

Co-applicants may be EURES member and/or partners from those countries. In addition, eligible proposals may include also social partners, public or private employment services, third sector organisations or other relevant actors active on the EEA labour market which can be involved as well as co-applicants, affiliated entities or associated partners.

**Selection criteria**

- Financial capacity: applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. (The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to public bodies).

- Operational capacity to complete the proposed action: applicants must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. Applicants must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

**Award criteria**

- Relevance of the proposal to the call objectives

- Quality of the methodology and of the activities proposed;
- Impact of the proposal;
- Visibility of the proposed activities;
- Cost efficiency of the operation.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 90%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q2	300.000

### **1.2.19 Call for Proposals on Targeted mobility scheme: Your first EURES job (2017\_04.030202\_16)**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The action is deemed to support the implementation of customised employment services and innovative working methods to foster the placement and integration of mobile young workers in the host country(ies), combined with financial incentives. The activities will be outcome driven, i.e. the expected outcome must be quantified in terms of expected placement/integration numbers and hard to fill vacancies involved. The overall objective is to ensure around 2000 placements over the duration of the action in economic sectors with hard to fill vacancies.

The action being strongly result-oriented, it may contribute to: a) enhance the service catalogue of the EURES organisations; b) foster public-private partnerships and, c) address labour market needs in line with the bottom lines of the EURES reform.

Description of the activities to be funded

This activity shall support the implementation of the targeted mobility scheme "Your first EURES job" in the Member States and the EaSI-EURES participating countries. The action aims to help young people aged 18-35 to find a job, traineeship or apprenticeship in another EU/EEA country. The action targets the filling of hard to fill vacancies as identified in national/EU labour market studies or data sources.

The activities will cover the provision of direct services to young jobseekers or job changers and employers notably:

- information, recruitment, matching and placement
- pre- and post-placement support to customers (e. g. profiling and pre-selection of candidates, language training or other training needs, mentoring support for trainees and apprentices)
- direct financial support to young jobseekers and SMEs (interview or relocation trip costs, language trainings, recognition of qualifications, induction training programmes by SMEs).

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

#### Essential eligibility criteria

Eligible applications:

- Be presented by a consortium composed of a minimum of five organisations established in at least five different EU28 Member States or EaSI-EURES participating countries. At least three of these

organisations must be EURES member organisations. Besides the lead applicants members of the consortium can be co-applicants and associate organisations;

- Demonstrate that the proposed activities are fully carried out in the EU28 Member States or EaSI-EURES participating countries and ensure the implementation of the action in at least five different eligible countries;

To be eligible, lead applicants and co-applicants must be:

- legal entities properly constituted and registered in an EU Member State or another EaSI-EURES participating country.

To be eligible, lead applicants must be:

- EURES National Coordination Offices which are placed in organisations whose main mission is to ensure the provision of employment and placement services to jobseekers, job changers, trainee/apprentice candidates and employers covering jobs and/or work-based trainings. Those services must include information, recruitment, matching and pre- and post-placement support;

To be eligible, co-applicants must be:

- EURES member organisations (i.e. National Coordination Offices, EURES Members and Partners), public or private labour market actors (including the third sector);
- Providing the same services as lead applicants and/or complementary customer-oriented services in other expertise fields such as information, training, education, career guidance, mentoring, legal advice, integration support or other equivalent.

#### Selection criteria for applicants and co-applicants:

- Financial capacity to carry out the action: the applicant must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. (The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to public bodies).
- Operational capacity to complete the proposed action: the applicant must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. The applicant must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

#### Award criteria

- Relevance of the proposal to the call
- Quality of the methodology and of the proposed activities
- Impact of the proposal
- Visibility of the action
- The cost-effectiveness of the operation

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 95%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q2	3.000.000

#### **1.2.20 Call for Proposals on EURES Cross-border partnerships** (2017\_04.030202\_18)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Support fair mobility for frontier workers in the cross-border regions. The activities will provide concrete data on obstacles to mobility in the cross-border region as well as improve the cross-border labour market. The activities will contribute to the national work plan of the NCOs of the countries involved and their result will be part of the annual activity report of the NCOs involved.

#### Description of the activities to be funded

This activity supports cross-border partnerships in implementing EURES objectives as set up by the EURES NCOs and contributes to the development of a more integrated labour market in cross-border regions and to providing services to frontier workers. The activities may cover the provision of direct services to employers, workers and jobseekers in:

- information on working and living conditions in cross-border areas and on the specific situation of frontier workers
- information on the situation of the labour market in cross-border regions including obstacles
- pre/post-recruitment services, matching and placement;
- employer engagement in cross-border regions (special attention to SMEs)

Strand 2, (max. 10% of the available budget) is dedicated to innovative new partnerships, also allowing social partners to lead consortia. Activities under strand 2 intend covering experimentation on new approaches/regions/services.

#### Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

##### Essential eligibility criteria

##### Eligibility of applicants - Strand 1:

Lead applicants must be the relevant National EURES Coordination Office(s) as designated in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/589 (EURES Regulation) and/or the EURES partner(s) of the regions involved with the endorsement of the National Coordination Office.

Co-applicants must be EURES members and/or partners. In addition, eligible proposals shall include social partners; public or private employment services, third sector organisations or other relevant actors active on the EU/EEA labour market can be involved as well as co-applicants, affiliated entities or associated partners.

##### Eligibility of applicants - strand 2

Applicants (lead and co-applicants) must fall in one of the categories listed below:

- the relevant National EURES Coordination Office(s) as designated in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/589 (EURES Regulation)
- the EURES partner(s)/member(s) of the regions involved with the endorsement of the National Coordination Office
- social partners
- public or private employment services
- third sector organisations
- other relevant actors active on the EU/EEA labour market

##### Eligibility of applications – Strands 1 and 2

Eligible applications must represent entities established in at least two neighbouring Member States.

To be eligible, applicant organisations:

- must be legal persons properly constituted and registered in one of the EU Member States or in one of the countries participating in the EURES axis of the EaSI programme at the time of launching the call;
- In application of Article 131 of the Financial Regulation, social partner organisations without legal personality are also eligible provided that the conditions of the Financial Regulation related thereto are met.

Selection criteria for applicants and co-applicants:

- Financial capacity: applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain their activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. (The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to public bodies).
- Operational capacity: applicants must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. Applicants must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

Award criteria

- Relevance of the proposal to the call objectives
- Quality of the methodology and of the activities proposed;
- Impact of the proposal;
- Visibility of the proposed activities;
- Cost efficiency of the operation.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 90%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q2	4.450.000

**1.2.21 Call for proposals on EURES support to social partners** (2017\_04.030202\_19)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Better coordination of the social partners activities in the EURES network by the European level Social Partners organisations should lead to stronger involvement of national, regional and local employers organisations and trade unions in EURES, to better and increased EURES services provided by social partners organisations, to fair mobility in the cross-border regions as requested by the EP, the identification and abolishment of mobility obstacles, and the better functioning of cross-border labour markets, thus contributing to economic growth.

Description of the activities to be funded

The activity aims to support the social partners, in particular those represented in the Advisory Committee on free movement for ensuring close cooperation between the Member States in matters concerning the freedom of movement of workers and their employment, in accordance with current EU legislation and to coordinate the social partners' activities within EURES. European level Social Partners organisations should mobilise their national, regional and local member organisation to contribute to the delivery of EURES.

## Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Essential eligibility criteria

Eligible applicants must be social partners, established at European level and represented in the Advisory Committee on Free Movement of Workers.

Selection criteria

- Financial capacity: applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain their activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary.
- Operational capacity: applicants must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. Applicants must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

Award criteria

- Relevance of the proposal to the call objectives
- Quality of the methodology and of the activities proposed;
- Impact of the proposal;
- Visibility of the proposed activities;
- Cost efficiency of the operation.

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs: 90%

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q2	150.000

**MICROFINANCE AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP****LEGAL BASIS**

04.030203 –Increasing access, and the availability of, financing for legal and physical persons, especially those furthest from the labour market, and social enterprises

**1.2.22 Call for proposals: Transaction cost support for social enterprise finance (2017\_04.030203\_172)**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

- The underlying objective is to further support the development of the social investment market and facilitate access to finance for social enterprises through grants, complementing financial instruments, e.g. under the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) SME Window equity product.
- The envisaged activities are based on the fact that the most important funding gap for social enterprises is below EUR 500 000. However, the transaction costs for such small tickets can be high which gives an incentive to social impact fund managers to focus on higher amounts in order to preserve the fund's sustainability. This can lead to a mismatch between needed and sustainable ticket sizes.

- This activity allows for a combination of grants with financial instruments to address a market failure by catalysing smaller risk-capital investments, of below EUR 500 000 in particular, in social enterprises that would otherwise not happen.

#### Description of the activities

The grant is aimed at financial intermediaries that undertake long term risk capital investments in ticket sizes of less than EUR 500 000 in the form of equity, preferred equity, hybrid instruments, other type of mezzanine financing to social enterprises in the EaSI Participating Countries. It will serve to lower the transaction costs, such as travel cost, lawyers' fees, costs for carrying out the due diligence and business development support e.g. to coach enterprises if they still need help with business plan support, etc. for these small investment tickets and thus help overcome a market failure in the social investment market.

#### Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

##### Essential eligibility

To be eligible, the applicant (lead and co-applicants in case of a consortium) must:

- be a legal entity properly constituted and registered in a one of the EaSI Participating Countries
- be an investment fund, a Fund-of-Funds, a (co-) investment scheme in any form (including managed accounts and other types of contractual arrangements), a special purpose vehicle, in any form, established or to be established or a foundation;

##### Selection criteria

Only organisations with the necessary financial and operational capacity may be awarded a grant.

##### Award criteria

The beneficiary will be invited to submit an application which will be evaluated according to the following main criteria

- A. Relevance for the objectives of the call and added value
- B. Quality of the activities and expected outcomes
- C. Development potential and sustainability
- D. Cost-effectiveness

Implementation: Directly by the DG

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs: 80%

Indicative timetable and amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q2	EUR 3.000.000

## 1.4 PROCUREMENT

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for procurement contracts in 2017 amounts to EUR 43.895.812:

- Budget line 04.030201 (PROGRESS): EUR 32.653.105
- Budget line 04.030202 (EURES): EUR 11.178.903
- Budget line 04.030203 (Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship): EUR 63.804

It is foreseen to launch in 2017 two call for tenders with a view to concluding a new Framework Contract for the provision of services related to:

- The provision of technical assistance and mutual learning support in the area of entrepreneurship and job creation.
- The Better Regulation Guidelines, including evaluations and studies supporting impact assessments.

The maximum duration of both contracts will be 4 years.

It is also foreseen to launch another call for tenders with a view to concluding a new Framework Contract for the provision of secured IT services for EESSI (Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information) and SFC (Shared Funds Coordination) systems to allow fulfilling the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 and COM(2011) 615 final - 2011/0276 (COD). The procedure in use for this tender will be an open procedure for a framework contract of duration of 2 years, renewable once.

### PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES FOR PROGRESS

#### LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on a European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation ('EaSI') and amending Decision No 283/2010/EU establishing a European Progress Microfinance Facility for employment and social inclusion (OJ L 347, 20/12/ 2013, p. 238–252).

#### Budget Line

04.030201 EaSI - PROGRESS — Supporting the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Union employment and social policy and legislation on working conditions.

#### Subject matter of the contracts envisaged

In 2017, the Commission intends to undertake actions through contracts following public procurement (call for tenders and framework contracts) or administrative arrangements to support the following priorities:

#### **1.4.1 - Thematic Section: Employment**

The actions under this thematic section have as objective to support analytical, mutual-learning, exchange of good practices, awareness raising, communication, dissemination and capacity-building activities in relation with the implementation of the EU 2020 strategy on national and Union's employment policies notably in the following fields.

The actions will be mainly in the area of youth employment (i.e. Youth Guarantee), long term unemployment, jobs creation, entrepreneurship, skills including mutual recognition and transparencies of competences, occupations and qualifications) expert networks, Public Employment Services and are expected to provide data, information, statistics, etc...to strengthen and better target employment and social policies.

Type of contracts: Service

Indicative number of contracts envisaged:

- Specific contracts based on an existing framework contract: 24 (2017 Q1 to Q4)
- Contract Renewal: 3 (2017 Q2-Q3)
- Direct contract: 13 (2017 Q1-Q2)

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL.

#### **1.4.2 Thematic Section: Working Conditions**

The actions under this thematic section have the objective to support analytical (including evaluation), mutual-learning, exchange of good practices, communication, dissemination and capacity-building activities in relation with Health and Safety at work (including occupational diseases), EU labour law, undeclared work, posting of workers, labour inspectors (SLIC).

The expected results are the availability of data, awareness raising, contribution to the better working conditions in the EU and refining and improving legislation body on working conditions in the Member States.

Type of contracts: Service

Indicative number of contracts envisaged:

- Specific contracts based on an existing framework contract: 33 (2017 Q1)
- Direct contract: 2 (2017 Q1-Q2)

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL.

#### **1.4.3 Thematic Section: Social Protection**

The actions under this thematic section have the objectives to support analytical (research, policy advice), mutual-learning, exchange of good practices, awareness raising, communication, dissemination and capacity-building activities in relation with the implementation of the EU 2020 strategy on smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, the social innovation needs, the identification of new social needs, income distribution, alleviation of poverty, modernisation and reforms of social protection systems including pension (adequacy and sustainability of pensions) and long term care systems.

The expected results are an improvement and alignment of the social protection and pension systems in the Member States.

Type of contracts: Service

Indicative number of contracts envisaged:

- Specific contracts based on an existing framework contract: 27 (2017 Q1-Q2)
- Direct contract: 4 (2017 Q1-Q2)
- Contract Renewal: 2 (2017 Q1-Q2)

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL

#### 1.4.4 Thematic Section: Cross-cutting issues

Investment priorities under EaSI which combine one or more thematic sections such as studies supporting policy analysis and the writing of the quarterly and annual reviews of the employment and social situation.

The actions under this thematic section have the objectives to: a) monitor and evaluate the performance of the EaSI programme; b) ensure the data and document storage and management of the DG; c) cover the Communication activities of the DG (publications, web, etc...) and d) dialogue and conferences with third countries or regional organisations.

The expected results are a better monitoring and management of the EaSI programme by the Commission and better management of the communication and information about employment and social policies.

Type of contracts: Service

Indicative number of contracts envisaged:

- Specific contracts based on an existing framework contract: 40 (2017 Q1 to Q4)
- Direct contract: 1 (2017 Q3)

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL.

#### PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES FOR EURES

Legal basis

Articles 19 to 24 Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013

Budget Line

04.030202 - Promoting workers' voluntary geographical mobility and boosting employment opportunities

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged

In 2017, the Commission intends to undertake actions through contracts following public procurement (call for tenders and framework contracts) or administrative arrangements to support in the following priorities:

#### 1.4.5 - Thematic Section: Development of services

The actions under this section for services for the recruitment and placing of workers have the following objectives: communication and promotion of EURES as well as the maintenance of the networks through the organisation of conferences with relevant stakeholders.  
The expected results are a better communication and promotion of EURES.

Type of contracts: Service

Indicative number of contracts envisaged:

- Specific contracts based on an existing framework contract: 35 (2017 Q1-Q4)

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL.

#### 1.4.6 - Thematic Section: Transparency of job vacancies

The actions under this thematic section have the objectives to ensure notably the management and functioning of the EURES portal and helpdesk, web communication, translations and relevant trainings in relation with EURES.

The expected results are a good dissemination of and access to information, quality translation and trainings.

Type of contracts: Service

Indicative number of contracts envisaged:

- Specific contracts based on an existing framework contract: 38 (2017 Q1-Q3)
- Direct contract: 2 (2017 Q1)

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL. In addition, one action for EUR 500.000 will be subdelegated to DG DIGIT.

#### 1.4.7 - Thematic Section: Cross-cutting issues

The actions under this thematic section have the objective to support the communication activities of EURES (through web, intranet, videos...) as well as the audit activities on EURES.

The expected results are to get good and various communication products and have a control through audit on EURES activities.

Type of contracts: Service

Indicative number of contracts envisaged:

- Specific contracts based on an existing framework contract: 14 (2017 Q1-Q2)

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL.

### PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES FOR MICROFINANCE AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

#### Legal basis

Articles 25 to 31 Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013

Budget Line

04.030203 –Increasing access, and the availability of, financing for legal and physical persons, especially those furthest from the labour market, and social enterprises

**1.4.8 - Thematic Section: Cross-cutting issues**

The actions under this thematic section focus on the communication activities related to Microfinance (publication, web, intranet, etc...) Their overall objectives are to combat long-term unemployment and fight against poverty and social exclusion.

The expected results are the promotion and communication of the microfinance activities managed by DG EMPL and the adaptation of relevant IT tools to the need of DG EMPL for the implementation of the third axis of EaSI.

Type of contracts: Service

Indicative number of contracts envisaged:

- Specific contracts based on an existing framework contract: 2 (2017 Q1-Q2)

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL.

**1.5. INDIRECT MANAGEMENT****1.5.1. Pilot on business development services for refugees and migrants**

## LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on a European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation ('EaSI') and amending Decision No 283/2010/EU establishing a European Progress Microfinance Facility for employment and social inclusion (OJ L 347, 20/12/ 2013, p. 238–252).

Budget Line

04.030201 EaSI - PROGRESS — Supporting the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Union employment and social policy and legislation on working conditions.

## Implementing entity

The activity will be linked to the EaSI Microfinance instruments which are implemented by the European Investment Fund. Choosing an implementation through indirect management by the same implementing entity as the financial instruments will create synergies and allow to offer the entire support package (financing under the EaSI financial instruments as well as the grant element) under a "one-stop-shop".

## Overall objective and purpose of the action

Under EaSI microfinance instruments, the provision of business development services to micro-borrowers is a requirement for intermediaries. However, no financing is provided at EU level to support these relatively costly services that are needed to make the businesses of the most dis-advantaged groups successful. Therefore, a long-standing request of the European microfinance sector is a contribution to the financing of such services by the European Union.

The sector has again stressed this need in the context of the current refugee crisis as the mentoring, coaching and training is even more needed for this particularly vulnerable group which is facing many additional hurdles (e.g. language, lack of knowledge about administrative steps etc).

The objective of the action is thus to financially support business development services provided by EaSI microfinance intermediaries on a pilot basis.

Indicative timetable and amount:

Date	Amount
2017 Q3	EUR 1.000.000

## 1.6 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### Legal basis

Articles 25 to 31 Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013

### Budget Line

04 03 02 03 – Increasing access, and the availability of, financing for legal and physical persons, especially those furthest from the labour market, and social enterprises

The objectives of these financial instruments have been described in the Regulation 1296/2013 and can be found under Article 4: General objectives:

e) promote employment and social inclusion by increasing the availability and accessibility of microfinance for vulnerable people who wish to start up a micro-enterprise as well as for existing micro-enterprises, and by increasing access to finance for social enterprises.

These objectives are further specified under Article 26: Specific objectives:

(a) increase access to, and the availability of, microfinance for:

(i) vulnerable persons who have lost or are at risk of losing their job, or have difficulty in entering or re-entering the labour market, or are at risk of social exclusion, or are socially excluded, and are in a disadvantaged position with regard to access to the conventional credit market and who wish to start up or develop their own micro- enterprises;

(ii) micro-enterprises in both start-up and development phase, especially micro-enterprises which employ persons as referred to in point (i);

(b) build up the institutional capacity of microcredit providers;

(c) support the development of the social investment market and facilitate access to finance for social enterprises by making equity, quasi-equity, loan instruments and grants of up to EUR 500 000 available to social enterprises with either an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 30 million, or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 30 million which are not themselves a collective investment undertaking.

The indicative targets for the implementing period of EaSI Financial Instruments (financed under the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework) are 41.000 microloans given to final beneficiaries and 1.350 loans given to social enterprises. The target for microfinance has been based on the past experience with the Progress Microfinance. The target for social enterprises has been based on the total volume of the guarantees and funded instruments funds, multiplied by the expected leverage and divided by an average investment size of 200.000 euros per social enterprise. For the funded instruments, an expected co-investment of 20 million euros was taken into account. These targets are subject to change, as the final budget, the required leverage and potential co-investments are unknown at this stage.

In line with the Guidelines for the selection of entrusted entities and Dedicated Investment Vehicle managers for new financial instruments, the European Investment Fund was selected for implementation of EaSI Financial Instruments

DG EMPL has commissioned two studies in 2013, namely "Study on imperfections in the area of microfinance and options how to address them through an EU financial instrument" by Evers&jung and "Study on imperfections in the social investment market and options on how to address them" by the Zeppelin University. These studies have been conducted in line with the requirements listed in Article 224 RAP. They served as ex-ante evaluations for the EaSI financial instruments. The Delegation Agreement for guarantees has been signed on 22.06.2015, while the other financial instruments (i.e. funded instrument) are under negotiation with the EIF.

### **1.6.1 - Social entrepreneurship finance instrument, EaSI microfinance and capacity-building activities for microfinance and/or social entrepreneurship actors**

Objectives to be fulfilled and the foreseen results

Financial instruments dedicated to microfinance

Objectives:

(a) increase access to, and the availability of, microfinance for:

(i) vulnerable persons who have lost or are at risk of losing their job, or have difficulty in entering or re-entering the labour market, or are at risk of social exclusion, or are socially excluded, and are in a disadvantaged position with regard to access to the conventional credit market and who wish to start up or develop their own micro- enterprises;

(ii) micro-enterprises in both start-up and development phase, especially micro-enterprises which employ persons as referred to in point (i).

(b) build up the institutional capacity of microcredit providers

Financial instruments in support of social enterprises.

Objectives:

Support the development of the social investment market and facilitate access to finance for social enterprises by making e.g. equity, quasi-equity, loan instruments and grants of up to EUR 500 000 available to social enterprises with either an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 30 million, or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 30 million which are not themselves a collective investment undertaking.

The amount allocated to the financial instrument: **32.945.462 EUR**

Implementation mode: Indirect management by the European Investment Fund.

Indicative timetable: 2017 Q1 – Q4

### **1.6.2 Subdelegation to DG RTD: Contribution to the First Loss Piece (FLP) tranche of the Early Stage Window of the EFSI SMEW Equity Product built on the revised Horizon 2020 InnovFin SME Venture Capital product (IFE) (2017\_04.030203\_173)**

Overall objective and purpose of the action

The objective is to support the development of the social investment market and facilitate access to finance for social enterprises by co-financing the First Loss Piece (FLP) of the Early Stage Window of the EFSI SMEW Equity Product built on the revised Horizon 2020 InnovFin SME Venture Capital product (IFE).

This activity allows the Commission to allocate an amount from the EaSI programme's Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship axis – that will be matched by an equivalent amount from Horizon 2020 InnovFin – dedicated to targeting early-stage social enterprises as part of the eligible final recipients under the revised Horizon 2020 InnovFin SME Venture Capital product (IFE) structured as risk-sharing

mechanism where EaSI and Horizon 2020 InnovFin contributions will act as FLP, with the objective to leverage EUR 30 million of investments through Financial Intermediaries linked to incubators, accelerators and/or that provide incubation services to social enterprises.

Amounts: EaSI contribution to IFE first-loss piece for investments through Financial Intermediaries linked to incubators, accelerators and/or that provide incubation services to social enterprises- **7.500.000 EUR**

Implementation mode: Sub-delegation to DG RTD followed by indirect management by the European Investment Fund

Indicative timetable: 2017 Q1

## 1.7. OTHER ACTIONS

### LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on a European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation ('EaSI') and amending Decision No 283/2010/EU establishing a European Progress Microfinance Facility for employment and social inclusion (OJ L 347, 20/12/ 2013, p. 238–252).

Budget line

04.030201: PROGRESS — Supporting the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Union employment and social policy and legislation on working conditions

### 1.7.1 Subdelegation to EUROSTAT – Development of European Statistics on Occupational Diseases (2017\_04.030201\_103)

Description and objective of the implementing measure

Regulation (EC) 1338/2008 specifies in art. 2: "Member States shall supply to the Commission (Eurostat) statistics on the following domains: (...) occupational diseases and other work-related health problems and illnesses, as defined in Annex V". Annex V has so far not been put into force mainly because of the poor quality of the underlying data on occupational diseases. The difficulties encountered indicate that EODS data collection would require first a convergence of concepts and a simplification of the data collection to cover all MSs to allow for a better comparability of data in line with the action foreseen in the EU OSH Strategic FW 2014-2020. The amount sub-delegated in 2016 will both serve the methodological work on the simplified EODS data collection (establishing a short list of diseases recognised in all MS and simplified list of causal agents) as well as certain ESAW developments (work on under-reporting and under-coverage), in line with the EU OSH Strategic FW 2014-2020.

Amount: **187.000 EUR**

Type of contract: Service contract.

Indicative number of contracts envisaged: 1

Implementation: Subdelegation to DG EUROSTAT.

Indicative timetable: 2017 Q1

**1.7.2 Reimbursement of Expert-Evaluators (2017\_04.030201\_153)**

Description and objective of the implementing measure

DG EMPL has more than 10 Calls for Proposals to implement in Direct Management each year in highly technical fields requiring a very specific and specialized knowledge.

Therefore, DG EMPL has put in place a cross-cutting "AMI-type" list like other DGs in order to be able to assist its Calls'evaluation committees with assessors with highly technical expertise.

A call for expression of interest has been published, in view to open to registration to natural persons as potential remunerated external experts, for assisting the DG EMPL in the evaluation of grants. In the frame of this procedure, the registration to specific lists of experts, will be open for a maximum duration of 5 years. All relevant description of lists and skills, participating conditions and fixed remunerations has been announced in the call for interest.

On the basis of the specific lists of experts, the DG EMPL may select remunerated external experts following Art. 287 RAP for assisting the evaluation of complex and highly technical projects.

Amount: **200.000 EUR**

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL.

Indicative timetable: 2017 Q2

**1.7.3 Labour Inspectors' Exchange Programme 2017 (2017\_04.030201\_91)**

Overall objective and purpose of the action

Specific Objective:

The Commission supports actively the work of the Committee of Senior Labour Inspectors (SLIC) at EU level with a view to:

- improving the effectiveness of control and monitoring of the application of EU law;
- facilitating cooperation between labour inspectorates; and
- stepping up joint action with regards to specific sectors or risk.

Evaluation of the National Labour Inspection Systems

The basic purpose of evaluation is to review the capability of the labour inspection system in the country to be evaluated (the host country) to implement and enforce EU Directives on health and safety at work.

The wider purposes of evaluation are to promote exchanges of information, ways of working and experience between Member States, and thereby to promote greater consistency.

The evaluation exercise is intended to be of benefit to both the country being evaluated and those carrying it out. It aims at identifying common issues among Member States.

Exchanges between National Labour Inspectorates

This action enables one or more objectives of the Committee of Senior Labour Inspectors, in particular "promoting the exchange of inspectors between national administrations and the development of training programmes for inspectors" [Article 3(4) of the Commission Decision of 12 July 1995 setting up a Committee of Senior Labour Inspectors (95/319/EC), OJ No L 188, 9.8.95, p.11]

Individual labour inspectors visits are arranged to visit a National Labour Inspectorate in another Member State to study a particular issue. Afterwards a mission report is prepared by the inspector taking

part in the programme including a short report for publication in order to highlight good practices in the host country.

Implementation: Reimbursement by PMO

Indicative amount: **90.000 EUR**

Indicative timetable: 2017 Q3-Q4

#### **1.7.4 Subdelegation to OPOCE - Communication Publications activities (OPOCE) (2017\_04.030201\_58)**

Overall objective and purpose of the action

OPOCE distribution and storage printing.

Amount: **200.000 EUR**

Implementation: Sub-Delegation to OPOCE.

Indicative timetable: 2017 Q1

### **EURES**

#### **LEGAL BASIS**

Articles 19 to 24 Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013

Budget line

04.030202 - Promoting workers' voluntary geographical mobility and boosting employment opportunities

#### **1.7.5 EURES External experts evaluators (2017\_04.030202\_17)**

Description and objective of the implementing measure

This activity will help to evaluate the proposals received under the Calls launched in 2016 under EURES following Art. 287 RAP.

Amount: **50.000 EUR**

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL.

Indicative timetable: 2017 Q2