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Part I – General Overview

1. Overall socio-economic context for the 2019 EaSI Work Programme

The 2019 annual work programme of EaSi is set up in the context of the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights. The Pillar was proclaimed at the Social Summit in Gothenburg in November 2017 jointly by the EU institutions and addresses the key social challenges we face today. Even though the implementation of the Pillar falls to a large extent in the remit of the Member States, the EU and notably the EaSI programme, can play an important supporting role.

- **Main employment and social developments**

The latest Employment and Social Developments in Europe review (ESDE) confirms the ongoing positive labour market trends as well as an improving social situation. The numbers of people in employment reached record levels. With almost 238 million people having a job, employment has never been higher in the EU. In 2017 over three and a half million more people were in employment than in 2016. Moreover, unemployment, and particularly youth unemployment, is receding fast and disposable incomes are rising. Since 2013, 10,5 million jobs have been created in the EU. As a result of the latest increases, the 75 % employment rate set as the "Europe 2020" target is still achievable, assuming that the recent trend continues. At the same time the crisis and the recovery have changed the structure of employment in the EU. Together with among others the technological advances and the informatisation of society, this has led to a shift of employment towards service activities and an increase in part-time jobs, including a rise in involuntary part-time work. The social situation in the EU continued to benefit from the economic recovery. From 2014 to 2016 incomes from work increased and, together with social transfers, led to a rise in the disposable incomes of households in the EU and in a large majority of Member States. In 2016, there were 5.6 million fewer people at risk of poverty or social exclusion than at the peak of 2012 even though the proportion of people at persistent risk of poverty increased. Severe material deprivation declined in almost all Member States, falling to an all-time low of 33.4 million in 2017 (roughly 16.1 million fewer than the peak of 49.5 million in 2012).

At the same time, important challenges remain. While the number of hours worked per person employed has grown in recent years, it is still below 2008 levels.

Moreover, youth unemployment, as well as long-term unemployment, continues to be sizeable in a number of Member States. Also, the structure of employment in the EU has been changing, particularly through a shift of employment towards service activities. Automation, digitalisation and global value chains are reshaping the world of work, leading to more frequent transitions between jobs and more varied forms of employment that need to be considered. This requires improving opportunities for regular upskilling, including in relation to digital skills.

Challenges also remain regarding the different positions on men and women in the labour market. There is a significant difference between the employment rates of men and women.

Women continue to be underrepresented in the labour market and face significant pay gap. Creating a fairer labour market and combating undeclared work require stepping up efforts since they are crucial in order to attain the social dimension of the EU and the trust of citizens for the EU policies.

- **Changing labour markets with new working conditions: future jobs, skills and earnings**

Enabling all people to be active in the labour market while fully using their skills and realising their potential is not only in the interest of working age people but of the whole society across generations. The income produced by people of working age sustains social protection, healthcare and educational systems – benefiting also the elderly and children – and thereby facilitates social mobility and intergenerational solidarity.

Looking beyond the overall social and economic progress, evidence shows that technological change is linked to two new trends: first, a faster improvement in the quality of capital to which labour needs to adjust, and, second, more flexibility in the organisation of the production process that brings about greater diversity in forms of work. Both have major implications for the EU's labour force and for social conditions (see ESDE 2018). The second trend, whose emergence has been greatly facilitated by the spread of innovative technology, can be witnessed by the increase in the number of non-standard (atypical) workers and a concomitant decrease in the number of full-time permanent employees. Furthermore, job polarisation has been observed in all Member States since 2002, though to different degrees. Low-paying and high-paying jobs have increased steadily, while middle-paying occupations are on a declining path. Job polarisation is consistent with the hypothesis that the process of technological change in recent years has led to lower demand for labour in jobs in which routine tasks predominate, while strongly increasing the demand for labour in jobs in which non-routine tasks predominate. This has especially increased the demand for highly skilled workers.

- **Securing pension adequacy**

Despite the overall favourable situation of elder generations, old-age poverty and social exclusion have remained nearly unchanged since 2013 in the EU on average, with improvement in 16 Member States and deterioration in 12. Women face a higher risk than men. As life expectancy improves, longer working lives will be vital for acquiring adequate pensions. People retiring in 2056 will have lower pensions compared to their work income than a similar career would have earned them in 2016. The pension gap between women and men is likely to persist.

2. Commission strategic policy priorities

The 2018 Annual Growth Survey (AGS) identifies the economic and social priorities for the European Union and its Member States for the year ahead. The "virtuous triangle" of boosting investment, pursuing structural reforms and ensuring responsible fiscal policies is delivering results. Structural reforms aimed at improving labour markets and social policies should help the workforce to acquire the skills needed and promote equal opportunities in the labour market, fair working conditions, increasing labour productivity to support wage growth, and

sustainable and adequate social protection systems. The external dimension of EU employment and social policies should also be promoted to help harness globalisation and promote international social and labour standards.

The European Pillar of Social Rights should be used as a compass. It provides a comprehensive framework for future actions on employment and social policies and it enables upward convergence. In line with the key priorities of the European Pillar of Social Rights, it is important to ensure that an appropriate framework is in place that allows the labour market to function properly and adapt to new challenges, while providing people with the necessary security, skills and support to face these new challenges and grasp the opportunities at hand.

Principle 15 of the European Pillar of Social Rights stresses the right of workers and the self-employed to a pension commensurate with contributions and ensuring an adequate income, the right of women and men to equal opportunities to acquire pension rights, and the right to resources that ensure living in dignity. Extending pension coverage to more people in non-standard or self-employment and adapting accrual conditions to diverse work patterns can help more people build up adequate pension rights.

- **Investments in high quality education, training, labour productivity growth and active labour market policies are crucial**

Empowering people and integrating them in the labour market remain the best vehicle out of poverty and social exclusion. It is essential to provide people with the right competences and skills and support them through effective labour market policies which increase their employment opportunities. Moreover, the “Council Recommendation on Key Competences for Lifelong Learning” clearly states that “It appears no longer sufficient to equip young people with a fixed set of skills or knowledge; they need to develop resilience, a broad set of competences, and the ability to adapt to changes”. Hence, people need both the right competences and the right skills for the labour market to tackle social exclusion. The development of digital skills is particularly necessary. Labour markets are showing signs of skills polarisation, with the potential for income polarisation and weaker social cohesion. It is therefore of paramount importance to have in place labour and social protection legislation that responds to these new realities in the labour market.

- **Europeans need affordable, accessible and quality services**

Services such as childcare, out-of-school care, education, training, housing, health services and long-term care are essential for ensuring equal opportunities for all. Adequate social housing and other housing assistance are also essential. This also entails protecting vulnerable people against unjustified forced eviction and foreclosures, as well as tackling homelessness.

- **Equal opportunities**

Despite the positive signs of economic recovery and social outcomes, recovery is still not reaching all parts of society and the economy. Most Member States are taking steps to narrow the gender pay gap, better integrate disadvantaged groups into the labour market and raise the quality of jobs and of the working environment.

- **Effective active labour market policies are important to reduce youth and long term unemployment**

It is essential to provide support for job search, training and re-qualification for those out of work, while protecting those unable to participate. The mobility of workers across jobs, sectors, and locations should be promoted, while ensuring the full respect of existing rights. It is important also to work towards more effective and tailor-made public employment services as well as ensuring fair and equal treatment regarding working conditions. Dynamic and inclusive labour markets are essential for creation of quality jobs, social inclusion, incentivising entrepreneurship and supporting labour market transitions. Short-term efforts to integrate refugees and migrants in the labour market should be replaced by comprehensive, longer term strategies to upskill them and integrate them in the labour market. This also improves the host country's growth prospects and will enable the EU to capitalise on the potential of refugees and migrants and their families and their strong motivation to be active members of society.

Social partners are an essential stakeholder in the reform process. The new forms of work pose significant challenges to collective bargaining and further support is needed so that social partners continue to make their contribution towards achieving effective and inclusive labour markets.

- **Social protection and inclusion to tackle inequality and poverty**

Social protection systems should provide adequate and well-targeted income support, foster labour market participation and ensure equal access to quality services and social inclusion. Social protection and labour market policies must also adapt to evolving forms of employment and increased labour mobility. Reforms of health care and long-term care systems need to be pursued to enhance their cost-effectiveness, ensure their fiscal sustainability and ensure quality, affordable access.

- **Innovation and competitiveness**

New production technologies and services are changing European industry and its ability to grow and compete globally. Economic growth, employment and social development are equally important for better innovation and competitiveness.

Social innovations and social experimentation are means for developing new ideas, services and models to better address social issues by testing innovative solutions with a view to their scaling-up. Social enterprises are powerful tools for social innovation because they generate a positive impact for society by employing people from disadvantaged groups or providing social services and/or goods to vulnerable persons, and bringing value to mainstream business.

3. Overall political priorities and activities for EaSI

The overall political priority underpinning the EaSI activities for 2019 is the implementation of the European Pillar of social rights. As stated in section 1, the Pillar illustrates a shared commitment to foster equal opportunities, to improve access to the labour market, to fair working conditions and social inclusion, to supporting people in the face of changing realities of work and to achieving new and more effective rights for Europeans.

Accordingly, the EaSI 2019 Work Programme will:

Foster equal opportunities and social inclusion:

- Implement the Social protection and inclusion dimension of the Pillar by promoting affordable and quality long-term care
- Address poverty and inequality by promoting the integration of marginalised people in society and in the labour market (notably, integration of refugees and vulnerable migrants, homeless and Roma communities)
- Support access to finance for micro-entrepreneurs (including vulnerable groups) and social enterprises, building up social enterprise finance markets
- Promote dialogue with civil society and public and private stakeholders

Access to the labour market and to fair working conditions

- Focus on precarious work, health and safety at work and efficient Active Labour Market Policies (ALMPs), Long Term Unemployed (LTU) and Youth Guarantee (YG), Work Life Balance (WLB), Active Inclusion (AI) and promoting Social Innovation
- Promote social dialogue for better jobs and safer workplace
- Promote an EU integrated market for labour mobility

Support people in the face of changing realities of work

- Address the implications of the transformations of labour markets and society in the context of the "Future of Work", including implications for skills development, ALMP measures and social protection
- Implement the skills agenda through better skills strategies ensuring anticipation, validation and visibility of skills
- Further support the international dialogue on social policies in relation to third countries, especially the Western Balkans, harnessing globalisation through strengthening the level playing field for the benefit of both employers and workers

Under all priorities, some actions will aim at developing evidence based policy making, mutual learning, exchanges of good practices and awareness rising.

The table below shows the indicative distribution of the resources per axis:

	DB 2019	EFTA*	Repayments	Credits Appropriations: total
PROGRESS	EUR 77 373 225	EUR 1 841 483	n/a	EUR 79 214 708
EURES	EUR 28 626 491	EUR 681 310	n/a	EUR 29 307 801
Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship	EUR 20 811 339	EUR 29 136	8 044 525	EUR 28 885 000
	EUR 126 811 055	EUR 2 551 929	8 044 525	EUR 137 407 509

*Proportionality factor for the 2019 Budget: 2.24 % for Norway, 0.14 % for Iceland and 0.04% for Liechtenstein.

a) **PROGRESS**

The overall operational funding of the Progress axis in 2019 will reach EUR 79.2 million compared to 77.6 million in 2018.

4.1 In the area of social protection and inclusion, the following actions are highlighted:

- Social protection
 - a. Studies and analysis related to the implications of the "Future of Work" on the financing of social protection and citizens' perception on adequacy of social protection
 - b. Enhance mutual learning through peer reviews in the field of social protection and social inclusion
 - c. Network of Public Authorities for Minimum Income Schemes
 - d. Modernising procedures for mobile workers/citizens as regards individual social security rights
 - e. Supporting Member States in connecting and carrying out electronic exchanges within the Electronic information Exchange system in the Social Security field (EESSI) (by June 2019)
 - f. Innovative solutions to promote affordable and quality long-term care
 - g. Awareness raising actions in the area of work-life balance for women and men
 - h. Ensuring a regular dialogue with civil society on all DG EMPL's political priorities
- Addressing poverty, social exclusion, inequality and integration of marginalised people
 - a. Analysis of intergenerational patterns of poverty and inequalities
 - b. Supporting the inclusion of refugees and vulnerable migrants, both women and men, in society and in the labour market (i.e., through information, education and training at local level)
 - c. Supporting the socio-economic integration of people with disabilities and of vulnerable and marginalised people, in particular Roma
 - d. Supporting the prevention of radicalisation and violent extremism, through social inclusion (conferences and seminars with stakeholders and Member States, exchange of best practices and experiences in this area and information sharing on possible support from Structural Funds)

4.2 In the areas of employment and working conditions the following key actions are highlighted:

- Addressing structural labour market problems and support productivity growth
 - a. Analysis of the evolution of work and its impact on the design of ALMPs policies, as well as of Health & Safety at work
 - b. Various conferences, meetings, evaluations, studies and impact assessments concerning the implementation of several pieces of legislation, linked with the OSH Communication
- Labour law monitoring and implementation
 - a. Expert network in European Centre of Expertise (ECE) joining labour law and labour market areas, including also enlargement countries
 - b. Organising Commission expert groups and various relevant labour law groups
 - c. Communication on labour law topics as needed for ex. organisation of workshops, surveys, or IT solutions
- Employment
 - a. PES (Public Employment Services) Network support and meetings
 - b. Peer reviews
 - c. Support to the implementation of the Youth Guarantee (mutual learning, awareness raising and dissemination activities)
- International dimension
 - a. Implementation of international labour standards in third countries
 - b. Supporting initiatives by some international organisations like ILO on the Future of Work, the UN Sustainable Development Goals and Decent work initiative, (including in global supply chains)
 - c. Supporting initiatives and events with selected trade and strategic partners and in Western Balkans
- Increasing the level of skills
 - a. Supporting the development of National Skill Strategies, notably through mutual learning/peer review activities
 - b. Further developing the classification of European Skill, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations (ESCO) and , in coordination with OECD, providing further support to the development of the International Assessment of Adult Competences (PIAAC)
 - c. Supporting the implementation of the Council recommendation on Upskilling Pathways

b) EURES

In 2019, the projected funding for the EURES axis will be EUR 29.3 million, compared to 23.7 million in 2018 and it will support the following key actions coherent with the EURES Regulation 2016/589:

- Management of the EURES portal to support transparency of job applications
- Implementation of an integrated targeted mobility scheme
- Technical and, where possible, financial support to the implementation of the EURES regulation by national administrations, in particular as regards the mapping of the national classification of professions

c) MICROFINANCE AND ENTREPREUNERSHIP

In 2019, the funding available in fresh appropriations for the third axis will decrease to EUR EUR 20.8 million while it reached EUR 27 million in 2018. Yet, it is to be noted that the axis

will benefit from repayments (EUR 8 million) from the former Progress financial instrument (Article 209 (3) of the FR). The total amount for this axis will therefore reach EUR 28.9 million. The split between the two financial instruments for 2019 will be as follows: EUR17.6 million for microfinance and EUR10.1 million for social enterprises.

Part II – Grants, Procurements, Indirect Management, Financial Instruments and Other Actions

1. Introduction

On the basis of the objectives given in the 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., this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2019 as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (point 2): EUR 65 267 000
- for prizes (implemented under direct management) (point 3): N/A
- for procurement (implemented under direct management) (point 4): EUR 41 493 509
- for actions implemented under indirect management (point 5): EUR 165 000
- for contributions to trust funds (point 6): N/A
- for financial instruments (point 7): EUR 27 700 000
- for contributions to blending facilities (point 8): N/A
- for other actions or expenditure (point 9): EUR 2 782 000

2. Grants

The global budgetary envelope for grants under this work programme amounts to EUR 65 267 000

Budget line 04.030201 (PROGRESS): 42 167 000 EUR

Budget line 04.030202 (EURES): 22 100 000 EUR

Budget line 04.030203 (Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship): 1 000 000 EUR

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).

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)

Budget line

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

2.1. Grants for events organised by the Presidency of the Council of the EU (2019) (2019_04.030201_27), (2019_04.030201_62), (2019_04.030201_63), (2019_04.030201_48)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The programme will support the deepening of the EU employment and social agenda during the two terms of the rotating Presidency of the Council of the EU with a series of events to be organised by the two presidencies in 2019.

Description of the activities to be funded

Conferences to provide a platform for Member States and relevant stakeholders to exchange information and good practice in the field of occupational safety and health; thematic Days on information-sharing between National Labour Inspectorates on their experience on how to enforce the EU Acquis on occupational health and safety; Exchange of good practice between labour inspectorates at EU level is an instrument to improve their efficiency; meetings of the Public Employment Services network board to support the implementation of the EU Presidencies priorities and general support to the implementation of the EU2020 strategy; meetings of the Mutual Information System on Social Protection (MISSOC) network to provide citizens and professional users with up-to-date, consistent and user-friendly information about social protection legislation in EU and EFTA countries

Type of applicants

These events will fall in two main categories: a) Presidency conferences and b) meetings of permanent EU networks and Committees under the Presidency auspices. The Member State holding the Council Presidency is the beneficiary of the grant. The form, topic and expected results are established by the Presidency in agreement with the Commission. Description of the activities to be funded awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195(c) FR. 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.

Implementation

Directly by the DG throughout the year

2.2. Direct grant to the OECD: Policies to support inclusive and social entrepreneurship (2019_04.030201_131)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Entrepreneurship is a key for job creation and has unused potential for developing more inclusive economy, notably through social and inclusive entrepreneurship. It is important to improve the evidence base at EU level and provide policy guidance to Member States on enabling framework conditions in this field. This can include both thematic as well as country specific analyses which generate useful evidence for the national level and can also feed in to the European Semester process.

Description of the activities to be funded

Co-operation with the OECD on inclusive and social entrepreneurship policies including country-specific and comparative analysis, thematic policy guidance and dissemination of the knowledge amongst Member States, their local and regional authorities and other stakeholders. The grant will cover activities during a three year period 2019 - 2021.

Type of applicants

According to Art. 195(f) of the Financial regulation, 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 proven expertise and unique legitimacy to support the EU in the analyses and policy guidance work in this field. The direct award will be duly substantiated in the individual award decision which will be adopted at a later stage.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q1

2.3. Direct grant to the OECD: Programme for International Assessment of Adult Competences (PIAAC) (2019_04.030201_35)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The objective is to support the improvement of survey instruments intended for the next wave of PIAAC survey, including the development of a PIAAC-linked employer survey module, 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 the first cycle of the survey as well as support the implementation of the second cycle of international survey of adult skills, supporting the Commission in monitoring of employment guidelines on skills, education and training. The development and analytical activities of the OECD linked to PIAAC survey was also supported in previous years.

Type of applicants

According to Art. 195 (f) of the Financial regulation, 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 direct award will be duly substantiated in the individual award decision which will be adopted at a later stage.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q3

2.4. Joint OECD EU Analysis of Labour Market Policies (2019_04.030201_15)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

This activity aims to collect qualitative information on Labour Market Policies, to analyse it and provide input in regular reports. This activity aims to support the analytical capability of DG EMPL. This analysis provides analytical and policy input to regular reports such as the Joint Employment Report, the ESDE report and the quarterly report. OECD analysis can enrich the policy discussion under the European Semester and contribute to DG EMPL work towards the Europe 2020 objectives.

Description of the activities to be funded

The OECD will conduct an international review and comparison of labour market policies and their effect using the LMP database, other administrative data in Member States and complementing it with OECD data, using OECD's specific and unique expertise in the area. OECD will analyse what the data show, which LMP work and why. It allows for a broader international comparison of labour market policies beyond EU Member States which is relevant in the current labour market context

Type of applicants

According to article 195 (f) of the Financial regulation, 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 individual award decision substantiating the monopoly situation will be adopted at a later stage.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q3

2.5. Direct Grant to the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) (2019_04.030201_64)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Providing information and up-dated scientific information to maintain Directive 2013/35/EU adapted to the scientific developments. The ICNIRP, an independent research organization, provides a unique scientific advice and guidance on the health effects of non-ionizing radiation (NIR) to protect people, including workers, from detrimental NIR exposure. The work and independency of ICNIRP are recognised worldwide and meet the criteria of expertise expected from them within the limits of available scientific knowledge and evidence. The action proposed by ICNIRP will contribute to keeping scientific knowledge and evidence-base in the area of NIR up-to-date and, consequently, to underpinning policy developments in this field.

Description of the activities to be funded

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

Type of applicants

According to article 195 (f) of the Financial regulation, 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.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q1

2.6. Direct grant to the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Monographs Programme (2019_04.030201_69)

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.

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. The IARC Monographs are

of high value to the work of the Commission and its associated scientific committees, by providing updated and reliable scientific evaluations on risks derived from exposure to carcinogenic substances. The scientific committees then produce recommendations and opinions on limit values for chemicals based on IARC Monographs (among other relevant literature). Those recommendations are further used by the Commission to propose European objectives in the form of indicative or binding occupational exposure limit values for the protection of workers from chemical risk.

Type of applicants

According to article 195 (f) of the Financial regulation, 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.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q1

2.7. Direct grant to the Council of Europe: Building capacity at local level for the integration of Roma (2019_04.030201_84)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

This capacity building programme aims at promoting 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 ROMACT capacity building programme to help local authorities implementing social investment strategies for most disadvantaged people, notably to address poverty and migration issues. This programme contributes to the implementation of several principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights, in particular the right to equal treatment and opportunities regarding employment, social protection, education, and access to goods and services available to the public.

Type of applicants

Grant Awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 195 (f) of the Financial regulation. Given that this action has specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, and as this action does not fall within the scope of a call for proposals, a grant will be awarded to the Council of Europe, which has a unique expertise in dealing with capacity building for Roma integration. The direct award will be duly substantiated in the

individual award decision which will be adopted at a later stage.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q2

2.8. Direct grant to the International Federation of Red Cross: Building capacity at local level for the integration of refugees (2019_04.030201_92)

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 better access to the labour market. It aims at helping municipalities receiving asylum seekers and refugees to address challenges specific to them and their integration in the society, in particular those related to the lack of experience and capacity.

Description of the activities to be funded

Continuation capacity building programme to help local authorities implementing social investment strategies for refugees. This programme contributes to the implementation of several principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights, in particular (3) the right to equal treatment and opportunities regarding employment, social protection, education, and access to goods and services available to the public.

Type of applicants

Grant Awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 195 (f) of the Financial regulation. Given that this action has specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, and as this action does not fall within the scope of a call for proposals, a grant will be awarded to the International Federation Of Red Cross, which has a unique expertise in dealing with capacity building for refugees socio-economic integration. The award decision justifying the direct award will be adopted at a later stage.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q3

2.9. Direct grant to International Labour Office (ILO): Trade, supply chains and labour (2019_04.030201_23)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The objective is to address decent work deficits in global supply chains and improving effectiveness of labour provisions in trade and investment agreements and in evolving trade. There is also an important interplay between Trade and Employment opportunities and challenges. Fair and open trade is a key priority. 31 million jobs in the EU depend on external trade and according to the International Labour Office (ILO) data 1 in 3 jobs in the EU are directly or indirectly affected by global supply chains. The initiative will include analysis and identification of good practises and will focus on EU and international stakeholders and

selected third countries.

Description of the activities to be funded

Analysis, data collection and identification of good practices on the implementation of recent trade and investment agreements in relation to labour provisions and Employment . Analysis, data collection and identification of good practices on decent work deficits in global supply chains. The initiative will include analysis and identification of good practices and will focus on EU and international stakeholders and selected third countries

Type of applicants

According to article 195 (c) of the Financial regulation, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly. Commitments on the effective implementation of a number of ILO conventions is part of the EU free trade agreements as well as of the EU trade GSP plus scheme. In addition the most recent EU Free trade agreements include provisions on responsible supply chains references to implementation of the ILO tripartite declaration on multinational enterprises and social policy. The ILO mandate as specified in the 2008 ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization specified that ILO has a mandate on trade, labour and impact on employment. The October 2015 "EU Trade for all" Commission communication as well as the May 2017 Commission Reflection Paper on "harnessing globalization" underlines the importance of cooperation with ILO on the interface between employment, labour and trade. Therefore the ILO is the best placed to implement this action through a direct grant.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q2

2.10. Direct grant to International Labour Office (ILO) - Vision Zero Fund (VZF) on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) (2019_04.030201_24)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The VZF has been established by the G7 and it is managed by the International Labour Office (ILO). The European Commission is part of the steering committee. The Vision Zero Fund (VZF) helps the EU achieve objectives to promote a level playing field and to address decent work deficits across global supply chains as established by the Council conclusions on 12 May 2016, the 2015 Commission Communication "Trade for All: Towards a more responsible trade and investment policy" and the Commission reflection Paper on Harnessing Globalisation of 10 May 2017. It is also in line with commitments the EU undertook in G7 (2015) and G20 (2017) contexts. In addition, the VZF helps the Commission "to address, notably jointly with the ILO, OSH deficits in the global supply chain and contribute to G20 initiatives on safer workplaces in this regard" according to the "EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020".

Description of the activities to be funded

The activities will cover NEW initiatives decided by the Vision Zero Fund (VZF) steering committee where the Commission is a full member. This could include research,

identification and development of good practices, advice to legislators, implementing authorities, social partners and private sector actors, information and training manuals, outreach, training and capacity building.

Type of applicants

According to article 195 (c) of the Financial regulation, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly. ILO has been designated by G7 members and the EU as the sole organisation to manage the Fund (G7 Leaders' Summit 2015, Elmau). No other entity but ILO is in charge of the VZF management. Furthermore, the ILO's unique mandate, its tripartite constituency, the ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy and its significant contribution to OSH governance through its standard setting activities and its normative approach to development makes it best placed to support dialogue, interaction and coordination between the multiple stakeholders involved in the VZF, including governments, social partners and the civil society, to progress in advancing mutually supporting roles and responsibilities for OSH governance in global value chains and beyond.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q2

2.11. Direct grant to Member States: Labour Force Survey 2020 ad-hoc module on safety and health at work (2019_04.030201_5)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

European statistics are needed for the programming and implementation of EU policies in the area of employment, skills, social affairs and labour mobility. The priorities in 2019 will include the continued cooperation with EUROSTAT based on a MoU to further develop the analytical capacity of the DG's priorities for quality statistics allowing monitoring of developments and trends in the EU in the following areas: employment and labour markets, poverty and social exclusion, health and disability, efficiency and effectiveness of the welfare state, skills and training. In this context, timeliness of the data, as well as availability of data on dynamic aspects of labour markets and poverty is of particular importance. The data collected provide input to the European Semester and the work of EMCO and SPC, and the collection of labour market policy statistics and expansion of the data collection cover new arising needs.

Description of the activities to be funded

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is an important source of information on the situation and trends in the EU labour market. The LFS ad hoc modules aim to provide users with statistics on a specific topic concerning the labour market by adding each year a set of variables to supplement the core EU-LFS. National questionnaires are used to collect the EU-LFS data. The LFS survey is directed to households, designed to obtain information on the labour market and related issues through a series of personal interviews. The LFS 2020 ad-hoc module will feed into the purpose of monitoring progress towards the common objectives set out in the Europe 2020 strategy. The Commission should receive from Member States a comprehensive set of data on accidents at work and work-related health problems that allows

comparisons to be made between Member States.

Type of applicants

To be eligible, applicants must: - be National Statistical Institutes (NSI) and other National Authorities as designated by the Member States members and being members of the European Statistical System and - be properly constituted and registered in one of the EU Member States or EFTA countries. According to article 195 (f) of the Financial regulation, 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 individual award decisions substantiating the specific characteristics of the action and the particular technical competence, high degree of specialisation or administrative power of the beneficiaries will be adopted at a later stage by EUROSTAT.

Implementation

Through a cross-delegation to Eurostat in Q1

2.12. Direct Grant to Members States for the European system of integrated social protection statistics (ESSPROS) (2019_04.030201_6)

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 EFTA countries to help them: - improve the quality of ESSPROS statistics (delivery of ESSPROS data, including early estimates, to the agreed voluntary deadlines and links with National Accounts); - 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. In particular the activities planned are: - 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.

Type of applicants

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 195 (f) of the Financial regulation, 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.

Implementation

Through a cross-delegation to EUROSTAT in Q1

2.13. Direct grant to Euronews for reporting on employment and social affairs related issues via Real Economy Magazine (2019_04.030201_115)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

EMPL's proposed themes and objectives are the following : a) the future of work; and b) the promotion of the European Pillar of Social Rights; and c) the coordination of social security. Euronews is free to adapt these objectives and target groups to the editorial concept of the Real Economy Magazine.

Description of the activities to be funded

Present and raise awareness among the general public of DG EMPL related activities, and topics in 2019 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".

Type of applicants

A direct grant will be awarded to Euro news in accordance with article 195 (f) of the Financial regulation 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.

Implementation

DG EMPL through a cross-delegation to ECFIN in Q1

2.14 Call for proposals: Support networks active in the area of social enterprise / microfinance support (2019_04.030201_94)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The networks support the Commission in its outreach activities at EU, national and local level with the aim of ensuring the implementation of the financial instruments for microfinance and social entrepreneurship support under the EaSI axis on microfinance and

social entrepreneurship. The work programmes of the networks contain certain tasks like exchanges of good practices and research activities that the Commission needs and would otherwise have to carry out (or contract out) on its own. Moreover, the networks voice the concerns and expectations of its members, providing DG EMPL with input for policy design in the area of the demand or supply side of microfinance or social enterprise finance markets

Description of the activities to be funded

The action aims to provide specific operating grants to the organisations that have signed a 4-year Framework Partnership Agreement, i.e. networks in the areas of microfinance and social enterprise support. The activities to be funded contain, among others, outreach activities, mutual learning among members, research activities and input for policy design.

Type of applicants targeted by the call

Restricted to networks that have signed a framework partnership agreement with the Commission.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q2

2.15. Call for proposals on social innovation and national reforms - Long term care (2019_04.030201_51)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The European Pillar of Social Rights has put the right to affordable long-term care services of good quality among its principles. Most of the tools to deliver on the principle are in the hands of national and local authorities, social partners and the civil society at large. The call for proposals aims to support governmental, non-governmental actors and social partners in delivering on the right to long-term care enshrined in the Pillar through social innovation and national reforms, including as regards home-care and community based services. Long-term care is understood as a range of services and assistance for people who, as a result of mental and/or physical frailty and/or disability over an extended period of time, depend on help with daily living activities and/or are in need of some permanent nursing care. The daily living activities for which help is needed may be the self-care activities that a person must perform every day (Activities of Daily Living, or ADLs, such as bathing, dressing, eating, getting in and out of bed or a chair, moving around, using the toilet, and controlling bladder and bowel functions) or may be related to independent living (Instrumental Activities of Daily Living, or IADLs, such as preparing meals, managing money, shopping for groceries or personal items, performing light or heavy housework, and using a telephone).

Description of the activities to be funded

The activities supported should aim to prepare and/or implement national policy reforms aimed at strengthening the adequacy, affordability and quality of long-term care, including home care and community-based services, in line with the Pillar principle 18 on long-term care.

Type of applicants targeted by the call

Mono or Lead applicant and co-applicants must be properly established and registered in one of the EaSI-PROGRESS participating countries. Mono or lead applicant must be the competent national public authority, such as the ministry responsible for social protection, or a public agency expressly mandated in writing by the competent national authority to assume responsibility for the implementation of the action. Co-applicant(s) must be national public bodies, for profit or non-profit-making private entities. The action may involve consortia. Affiliated entities are not eligible under this call.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q2

2.16. Call for proposals to support EU level Social NGO Networks to contribute to Europe 2020 Strategy (2019_04.030201_99)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The call aims at providing specific annual operating grants to organisations in the area of the promotion of social inclusion and poverty reduction having previously signed a 4-year Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) with the Commission. The networks support the Commission in its outreach activities at EU, national and local level with the aim of ensuring awareness, contribution to and implementation of EU level policies and initiatives in the areas of the promotion of social inclusion and poverty reduction, as foreseen among others, under the EaSI Progress axis, the Europe 2020 Strategy, the Social Investment Package (SIP), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Description of the activities to be funded

The networks' work programmes directly support objectives of promoting social inclusion and poverty reduction with a view of increasing their contribution to the Europe 2020 goals, the reinforcement of the social dimension of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU), including the European Pillar of Social Rights and the European Semester. The call aims at awarding operating grants in the area of social inclusion to EU level NGOs and networks who have signed a Framework Partnership Agreement. The activities to be funded contain, among others, analytical activities, outreach activities, mutual learning among members, awareness-raising and dissemination activities, research activities, training activities, and input for policy design.

Type of applicants targeted by the call

The call is restricted to applicants networks having previously signed a Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) with the Commission deriving from the call for proposals VP/2017/015.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q3

2.17. Call for proposals: Posting of workers: enhancing administrative cooperation and access to information (2019_04.030201_66)

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 and of its 2018 revision; c) To promote the knowledge basis through the collection and evaluation of original data, and the analysis specific to the posting process and posted workers' working conditions, including through the collaboration between universities across various disciplines, research centres and institutes, competent national authorities and stakeholders.

Description of the activities to be funded

The call supports the implementation, application and enforcement of the Directive 96/71/EC and its 2018 revision concerning the posting of workers in the framework of provision of services, as well as its Enforcement Directive 2014/67/EU. Activities aim at supporting competent authorities in Member States and social partners in administrative cooperation as well as in increasing access to essential information for posted workers and posting undertakings.

Type of applicants targeted by the call

Applicants (lead and co-applicants) must be properly constituted and registered legal entities, having their registered office established in the participating countries of the Progress axis. Lead applicants, co-applicants and affiliated entities must fall in one of the following categories:

- Public authorities;
- International organisations;
- Non-profit organisations (private or public);
- Research centres/institutes;
- Higher education establishments;
- Civil society organisations,
- social partner organisation at European , national or regional level (in application of Article 197 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)

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q1

2.18. Call for proposals in the area of finance market for social enterprise
(2019_04.030201_98)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The objective of the call is to identify, develop, promote and disseminate good practices in supporting social enterprises in accessing finance, in particular with a view to feeding the pipeline for the EaSI financial instruments. The expected result of the call is the cooperation between public and / or private entities of any type with the aim to ease access to finance for social entrepreneurs and of developing the investment readiness of social enterprises to ensure social enterprises are able to take on repayable finance.

Description of the activities to be funded

The activities to be funded will consist of developing feasible, suitable and reliable schemes or funds providing finance to social enterprises as well as support structures providing business development services and networking facilities to improve social enterprises' investment readiness. Those actions must be fully carried out in EaSI participating countries.

Type of applicants targeted by the call

Applicants and co-applicants (public or private entities of any type) must be legally established in one of the EaSI participating countries. For actions dealing with design or implementation of finance mechanisms for social enterprises (the supply side of social finance), applicants must implement the action in cooperation with at least 2 co-applicants. In these cases, the lead-applicant or one of the co-applicants must be a (potential) investor.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q2

2.19. Call for proposals: "Supporting the development of tailored learning provision in the implementation of "Upskilling Pathways" (2019_04.030201_114)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The overall objective is to support participating countries in their implementation of the "Upskilling Pathways" Recommendation (December 2016). This should be done in particular by putting in place coherent pathways including the three key steps of the "Upskilling Pathways" initiative i.e.: skills assessments; provision of a tailored, flexible and quality learning offer; and validation and recognition of skills acquired. The Upskilling Pathways established should also meet the enabling conditions mentioned in the Recommendation: outreach, guidance and support measures for the target group; and stakeholders coordination and partnership. This call complements the support for provision for low-skilled adults that is provided through the European Social Fund and the Erasmus+ programme, by assisting each focus participating country to develop a coherent strategy for raising the levels of skills and qualifications of adults who lack an upper secondary education or who lack proficiency in basic skills. This call should also complement related activities (ongoing or future) taking place at national, regional or local levels.

Description of the activities to be funded

Proposals must be centred around activities ensuring that the three “Upskilling Pathways” steps are available to low skilled and /or low qualified adults, including priority groups as defined by countries, where relevant. Proper linkages should be built between these steps, to enable the learner to access and to progress along a coherent pathway. Users should be able to undertake these steps in order to smoothly reengage with learning; acquire a minimum level of literacy, numeracy and digital competence and possibly wider skills; and have these skills recognised and if they so wish, progress towards a qualification at EQF level 3 or 4 depending on national circumstances. In addition applicants can, if they so wish, include in their proposals activities related to key enabling conditions of Upskilling Pathways.

Type of applicants targeted by the call

Applicants must: be legal persons properly constituted and registered in one of the EaSI participating countries. Mono applicants, lead applicants (in case of consortia) or co-applicants must be: public or private entities (profit or non-profit making) involved in the organisation and/or financing and/or provision of services to adults such as skills assessment, validation of competences, education and training, orientation and guidance. If the mono/lead applicant is not a public entity in charge of national or regional policies and actions for upskilling adults, such an entity must be at least a co-applicant in the consortium of the proposal submitted. Actions may involve affiliated and associated entities. Actions may involve consortia at regional, national or transnational level. In the case of an action to be implemented by a transnational consortium, the application must make clear which country will be the focus country of the project. A focus country is the country in which each project's activities should be concentrated – and this should be clearly defined in the proposal.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q2

EURES

Legal basis

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)

Budget line

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

2.20. Call for proposal: support to national classification inventories and innovative national online services for mobile workers (2019_04.030202_113)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Under Article 19(5) of the 2016 EURES Regulation, Member States have the obligation to establish an inventory to map their national, regional and sectoral classification to and from the European classification. Article 19(5) states that the Commission shall provide technical and, where possible, financial support to Member States when they establish this inventory. Thus the action aims at fulfilling this task and enable multi-lingual automated matching which is one of the main objectives of the EURES Regulation.

Description of the activities to be funded

The action aims at providing financial assistance to all Member States who flag a financial need, beyond the technical support already provided by the Commission, so that they can complete the mapping within the legal 3-year deadline, to start with the adoption by the Commission of the implementing decision, planned for mid-2018.

Type of applicants targeted by the call

Applicants must be: legal persons properly constituted and registered in one of the EU Member States, Iceland or Norway, in accordance with the EEA Agreement; EURES member organisations (i.e. National Coordination Offices, EURES Members and EURES Partners), or other public or private employment services or organizations (duly mandated by the relevant national authority) with responsibility for classification of occupations, skills and competences and their mapping to the European classification.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q1

2.21. Call for proposals: EURES Cross-border partnerships (2019_04.030202_82)

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 National Coordination Offices (NCO) 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

The activities cover support services to employers, frontier workers and jobseekers: 1) guidance on working and living conditions in cross-border areas and on the specific situation of frontier workers; 2) labour market intelligence in cross-border regions including on mobility obstacles; 3) pre/post-recruitment services, matching, placement; 4) employer engagement in cross-border regions.

Type of applicants targeted by the call

To be eligible, applicant organisations: - must be legal persons properly constituted and registered in one of the EU Member States, Iceland or Norway in accordance with the EEA Agreement; - In application of Article 197 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.

Eligibility - 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 or partners. In addition, social partners; public or private employment services, third sector organisations or other relevant actors active on the EU/EEA labour market can also be involved as co-applicants, affiliated entities or associated partners.

Eligibility - strand 2: Applicants (both 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 – Strands 1 and 2; To be eligible applications must have the involvement of entities established in at least two neighbouring EU Member States, i.e. proposals must have the involvement of the lead applicant and at least one EURES member or partner established in a neighbouring Member State as co-applicant.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q1

2.22. Call for proposals: EURES support to social partners (2019_04.030202_107)

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

This activity is supporting those social partners who are represented in the Advisory Committee on Free Movement and are observers in the EURES Coordination Group for ensuring cooperation in matters concerning the freedom of movement of workers and EURES.

Type of applicants targeted by the call

Applicants (lead and co-applicants) must be social partners, established at European level and represented in the Advisory Committee on the Free Movement of Workers, i.e.; the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC); the Confederation of European Business (BusinessEurope); the European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (UEAPME); the European Centre of Employers and Enterprises providing Public Services and Services of general interest (CEEP).

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q2

2.23. Call for proposals: Support to cooperation with EEA countries
(2019_04.030202_105)

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.

Type of applicants targeted by the call

Proposals under this strand may be submitted either by one single applicant or by a consortium of several applicants (lead and co-applicant(s)). Eligible lead applicant (s) must be the National EURES Coordination Offices of Norway and Iceland respectively. Co-applicants may be EURES members and/or partners from the above-mentioned respective two countries. In addition, social partners, public or private employment services, third sector organisations or other relevant actors active on the EEA labour market may be involved as co-applicants, affiliated entities or associate organisations

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q2

2.24. Call for proposals: Targeted mobility scheme and Mobility Exchange programme for SME staff (2 lots) – European Mobility Scheme (EMS)
(2019_04.030202_104)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The action is aimed to ensure the continuity of implementation and further development of three intra-EU job mobility schemes: (1) "Your first EURES job"(YFEJ), helping young jobseekers under 35 to find a job, traineeship or apprenticeship in another Member State, (2) "Reactivate", similar scheme dedicated to the age group above 35 years, as well as (3) "MobiliseSME", a scheme supporting short term cross-border secondments for employees, managers and/or (co-) owners, in particular from small and medium companies. The first two

will constitute Lot 1 of calls for proposals and the third one will be Lot 2 of the European Mobility Scheme call for proposals. Being strongly result-oriented, the action under Lot 1 aims to improve the conditions for jobseekers, workers to exercise their right of freedom of movement across the EU and to address labour markets' imbalances and skills shortages (Lot 1). The Lot 2 scheme aims at providing employees, managers and (co-)owners of European SMEs with the opportunity to develop their skills and capacities in host companies ('learning objective'), as well as for companies to enhance their business either by establishing new contacts abroad, or by strengthening their already existing partnerships ('international business opportunity for SME'). The overall objective of the 2019 call is to grant 2 to 4 projects to ensure around 1200 placements in Lot 1 and to grant 1 to 2 projects to ensure around 250 placements in Lot 2.

Description of the activities to be funded

Lot 1. Building on the YFEJ and a preparatory action Reactivate features and objectives, the new EMS aims to be an innovative extension of both schemes. It will be featured as an EU labour market activation measure, combining tailor-made recruitment, matching, training and placement services with financial incentives. The support measures may vary according to labour market needs but should at least include provisions for interviews in another Member State, relocation, linguistic training as well as work and country integration support. The end beneficiaries will be jobseekers and job changers, trainees and apprentices as well recruiting enterprises, including SMEs. Both individuals and enterprises may receive direct financial support in the form of targeted allowances. Placements may, inter alia, take place in the context of regional cross-border initiatives and/or projects dedicated to particular sector(s).

Lot 2. Building on the successful pilot scheme "MobiliseSME" implemented between 2015 and 2017, this lot aims at (1) enhancing a proper identification of the sending and hosting companies, including targeting sectors with a high international or cross-border activities and employees, managers and/or (co-)owners ready for secondment, (2) further developing of the outreach and matching strategy, (3) enhancing mechanisms of co-operation and dissemination, engaging the employer organisations as facilitators, participating companies and employees and (4) developing rules and procedures to make secondments beneficial for all parties involved, this may include drafting a brief plan for the secondment, summarising the motivations of both sides and clear description of the conditions and requirements. The secondments should be built around a learning plan to be agreed on by the sender, host and employer before the exchange. The action should be based on support by associations representing enterprises (the applicants). Their task should be to establish the infrastructure, roles and responsibilities of different participating parties and to help overcome the obstacle for the participating companies as defined above throughout the whole lifespan of the secondments process.

Type of applicants targeted by the call

Only consortia are eligible (i.e. lead applicant and at least 1 co-applicant)

Lead and co-applicants must be: - legal entities properly constituted and registered in an EU Member State, Iceland and Norway in accordance with the EEA Agreement

Lead applicants must be: - Lot 1: private or public employment services or organisations specialised in work-based placements whose core activity is the provision of information,

recruitment, matching, placement and pre- and post-placement support to jobseekers, job changers, trainees and employers. - Lot 2: associations representing the employers' interest or employers organisations established at European level

Co-applicants must be: - private or public organisations, including social partners , providing the same services as lead applicants and/or complementary customer-oriented services in other support fields such as information, training, education, career guidance, mentoring, legal advice, integration support or other equivalent.

Consortia must be: - composed of a minimum of two organisations (i.e. lead applicant and at least 1 co-applicant) established in at least two different EaSI-EURES participating countries;

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q2

MICROFINANCE AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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

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

2.25. Call for proposals: pilot grant to support microfinance institutions' digitalisation investments (2019_04.030203_129)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The objective of this action is to support building up the institutional capacity of microfinance institutions through grants aimed at funding part of their digitalisation investments on a pilot basis. The use of digital technologies can help microfinance institutions to achieve efficiency gains and reduce the costs of providing financial and business development services, thereby increasing their outreach to target final recipients i.e. vulnerable persons wishing to start up or develop their business and micro-enterprises, in particular those that employ persons emanating from a vulnerable background. The envisaged action seeks to address the existing dichotomy between financial sustainability and outreach faced by microfinance institutions which often leads to sub-optimal outreach in terms of access to finance and business development services. For this reason, digitilisation as means to build up an organisation's capacity and reduce its operating costs, can contribute to facilitating access to microfinance, including business development services, for target vulnerable persons and micro-enterprises.

Description of the activities to be funded

The action aims to provide grants on a pilot basis directly to microfinance institutions in order to partially cover the costs of their digitalisation investments. These include, inter alia, adopting digital solutions for a more efficient loan application and approval process, improving management information systems and customer relationship management tools, and enabling online services to facilitate access to and the availability of business development services. This grant is intended as a complementary measure to reinforce EU-level support to microfinance institutions, including the support already provided through the EaSI financial instruments and EaSI Technical Assistance.

Type of applicants targeted by the call

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

- a) a legal entity that is properly established and operating in one of the EaSI participating countries;
- b) a non-bank microfinance institutions that has signed up to the European Code of Good Conduct for Microcredit Provision and which has benefited from or been selected under the EaSI Technical Assistance programme.

Implementation

Directly by the DG in Q1

3. Prizes

N/A

4. Procurement

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for procurement contracts in 2019 amounts to EUR 41 493 509.

Budget line 04.030201 (PROGRESS): EUR 34 150 198

Budget line 04.030202 (EURES): EUR 7 129 175

Budget line 04.030203 (Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship): EUR 214 136

PROGRESS

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 2019, 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:

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, IT, communication, dissemination and capacity-building activities in relation with the implementation of the EU 2020 strategy on national and Union's employment policies.

The actions will be mainly in the area of youth employment (i.e. Youth Guarantee), long-term unemployment, job 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, and statistics to strengthen and better target employment policies.

Type of contracts

Service

Implementation

Directly by the DG and where relevant through a co-delegation to DIGIT

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, IT, communication, dissemination and capacity-building activities in relation to Health and Safety at work (including occupational diseases), EU labour law, undeclared work, posting of workers, labour inspectors (SLIC).

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

Type of contracts

Service

Implementation

Directly by the DG and where relevant through a co-delegation to DIGIT

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, exchange of social security information, IT 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 responding to challenges of the new reforms of works in the Member States.

Type of contracts

Service

Implementation

Directly by the DG

4.4 - Thematic Section: Cross-cutting issues

Investment priorities under EaSI which combine one or more thematic sections such as studies supporting policy analysis, the writing of the quarterly and annual reviews of the employment and social situation and the support to the international social agenda and relevant EU coordination.

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.
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The <u>expected results</u> 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

Implementation

Directly by the DG

EURES

Budget line

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

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged

In 2019, 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:

4.5 - Thematic Section: Development of services

The actions under this section for services for recruiting and placing of workers have the following objectives: communication, thematic meetings, peer reviews with relevant stakeholders.

The expected results are a better communication and support to EURES within the frame of the transition and transfer to ELA of the corresponding activities.

Type of contracts

Service

Implementation:

Directly by the DG

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 and translations. The expected results are a good dissemination of and access to information.

Type of contracts

Service

Implementation:

Directly by the DG and co-delegation with DIGIT

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

Implementation:

Directly by the DG

MICROFINANCE AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged

In 2019, 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:

4.8 - Thematic Section: Social Entrepreneurship

The actions under this thematic section aim at building up the capacity of social enterprise finance providers to develop and deliver needs-based financial services and as well at disseminating best practices within the European social enterprise finance space. Targeted support services will be offered to European social enterprise finance providers, inter alia, in the form of tailored trainings, investment readiness trainings, workshops, peer-to-peer training activities and study visits.

Type of contracts

Service

Implementation:

Directly by the DG

4.9 - 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 implementing the third axis of EaSI.

Type of contracts

Service

Implementation:

Directly by the DG and co-delegation with DIGIT

Actions implemented in indirect management

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

5.1. Delegation agreement with WHO on the International Programme on Chemical Safety

Implementing entity

The tasks will be entrusted to WHO by DG EMPL. The World Health Organization, through its International Programme on Chemical Safety, makes a valuable contribution by providing updated and reliable scientific evaluations on risks derived from exposure to chemicals. These evaluations are 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.

Description

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

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 strategy (COM(2014)332) – This initiative develops and updates information relevant to prevent occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals.

6. Trust funds

N/A

7. Financial Instruments implemented in direct or indirect management

BUDGET LINE

04.030203 Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship — Facilitating access to finance for entrepreneurs, especially those furthest from the labour market, and social enterprises

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for financial instruments in 2019 amounts to EUR 27 700 000 million.

7.1. EaSI Financial Instruments:

Specific financial instrument to be used

Developing the social investment market and enhancing access to finance for social enterprises

Amount allocated per financial instrument

EUR 10 095 750

Description

The instrument aims at supporting 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 complying social enterprises.

Implementation

Indirect management by the EIF

7.2. EaSI Financial Instruments:

Specific financial instrument to be used

Enhancing access to and availability of microfinance

Amount allocated per financial instrument

EUR 17 604 250

Description

The instrument aims at increasing access to, and the availability of, microfinance for: (i) vulnerable persons who 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.

Implementation

Indirect management by the EIF

8. Contribution to blending facilities

N/A

9. Other Actions or expenditure

PROGRESS

Budget line

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

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for other actions in 2019 amounts to EUR 2 782 000 million.

9.1. Sub-delegation to JRC and Eurostat: Support to EUROMOD- Transition, use and transfer to the Commission

Amount

EUR 992 000

Description

The action contributes to a gradual transition of EUROMOD from its current host organisation, the University of Essex, to the Commission. EUROMOD is a microsimulation tool that has become increasingly important for various Commission services to assess the impact of tax-benefit reforms and, in the future, for obtaining more timely data on income distribution and poverty thanks to flash estimates to be produced by Eurostat. The action is planned to allow Commission services to continue to work on a number of countries in close cooperation with the University of Essex and EU Member States, thereby ensuring the continuity of EUROMOD.

9.2. Various meetings of standing, ad-hoc committees and other events

Amount

EUR 910 000

Description

To support events and meetings organised by the DG in particular in relation to the promotion of the European Pillar of social rights (meetings with professional medias from all Member states), meetings of advisory committees for safety and health at work, senior labours inspectors committee and for establishment or revision of indicative occupational exposure limit values in accordance with Article 3(2), 2nd indent of Directive98/24/EC,

Implementation: by the DG and/or co-delegation to PMO

9.3. Scientific support for evaluation of chemicals at work

Amount

EUR 600 000

Description

Future updates of Directives 98/24/EC and 2004/37/EC.

Implementation: service level agreement with ECHA

9.4. Co-delegation: Communication activities OPOCE

Amount

EUR 200 000

Description

Communication activities OPOCE.

9.5. Reimbursement of Expert evaluators

Amount

EUR 30 000

Description

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 evaluation committees with assessors with highly technical expertise.

EURES

Budget line

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

9.6. EURES external expert evaluators (AMI)

Amount

EUR 50 000

Description

Use of external experts through the DG EMPL AMI list for evaluation of all calls for proposals.