



DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Annual work programme of grants and contracts for 2013 (First update)

[Commission Decision C(2013) 6256 of 27 September 2013]

SUMMARY

DG EMPL's annual work programme of grants and contracts for 2013, serving as a financing decision

This draft follows Decision C(2013)1833¹. It constitutes an amendment to this decision which concerns the appropriations added by the Budgetary Authority upon adoption of the budget for the implementation of one pilot project and three preparatory actions (new lines 04 03 08, 04 04 01 16, and 04 04 01 17). The other changes have no financial implications, since they involve only a reallocation of the appropriations within the budget lines concerned. These changes are taken into account in this amendment because they are considered to be substantial.

This amendment aims to make some adjustments to DG EMPL's work programme in order to incorporate the actions to be financed by these new appropriations, and to introduce changes which are essential to the proper implementation of DG EMPL's work programme in order to optimise the use of the available appropriations.

The draft Decision concerns the following budget lines:

- 04 03 03 01 Industrial Relations and Social Dialogue
- 04 03 03 03 Information, consultation and participation of representatives of undertakings
- 04 03 04 EURES (European Employment Services)
- 04 03 05 Free movement of workers, co-ordination of social security schemes and measures for migrants, including migrants from third countries
- 04 03 07 Analysis of, studies and awareness raising in connection with the social situation, demographics and the family
- 04 03 08 Pilot project – Promoting protection of the right of housing
- 04 03 13 Preparatory action: Your first EURES job
- 04 03 16 Preparatory action: Information centres for posted workers and migrant workers
- 04 04 01 01 Progress – Employment
- 04 04 01 02 Progress – social protection and social inclusion
- 04 04 01 03 PROGRESS – Working conditions
- 04 04 01 06 PROGRESS – Support For the implementation of the programme
- 04 04 17 Preparatory action: Activation measures targeting young people – implementing Youth on the Move initiative

¹ Commission Decision C(2013)1833 of 03.04.2013 adopting DG EMPL's annual programme of grants and contracts, serving as a financing decision for 2013.

- 04 04 18 Preparatory action: Social innovation driven by social business and young Entrepreneurship

The appropriations available under these budget lines will be used for:

- awarding grants and
- public procurement

The Annex to the draft amending Decision sets out, for each budget line concerned, the details of the various actions scheduled by DG EMPL for 2013 to be financed from the appropriations earmarked for the promotion of initiatives in the fields 'Youth on the move', 'Agenda for New Skills and New Jobs' and the 'European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion'.

ANNEX

The Annex is amended as follows:

- (1) The summary table on page 1 is replaced by the following table:

“SUMMARY TABLE - OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2013 WITH THE CORRESPONDING AMOUNTS

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
Grants	93,845,000
Calls for proposals	63,620,000
De jure monopoly	1,040,000
De facto monopoly	15,685,000
Grants to partners	13,500,000
Contributions to agencies	34,542,980
Procurement	37,826,034
Joint management	7,885,000
Subdelegations	27,406,174
Indirect centralised management	1,100,000
Other interventions	1,409,000
TOTAL AMOUNT	204,014,188

“

- (2) Chapter **04 03 03 01 – INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND SOCIAL DIALOGUE** is amended as follows:

- (a) Point 1.1.1. indicative timetable is replaced by:

"The call for proposals will be launched in the first half of 2013 and will foresee a single deadline for the submission of applications in June 2013."

(3) Chapter **04 03 03 03 – INFORMATION, CONSULTATION AND PARTICIPATION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF UNDERTAKINGS** is amended as follows:

(a) Point 1.2.1. indicative timetable is replaced by:

"The call for proposals will be published in the first half of 2013 and will foresee a single deadline for the submission of applications."

(4) Chapter **04 03 04 – EURES (EUROPEAN EMPLOYMENT SERVICES)** is amended as follows:

(a) Point 1.1.1. The data of Denmark in the PES table are replaced by:

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Denmark	Styrelsen for Fastholdelse og Rekruttering - Danish Agency for Labour Retention and International Recruitment
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"

(b) Point 2.1.2. is amended as follows:

"2.1.2. *Maintenance, enhancement and continuous development of the EURES IT platform* to further develop the EU Job Mobility Portal and the related IT platform. To be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG DIGIT framework contracts such as ESP-DESI II n° DI/6760 to DI/6777 concluded on October 2010 for a period of 12 months, renewable 3 times. Software and other licenses will be purchased through DG DIGIT framework contracts such as SACHA II no. DI/06820. Specific orders may also be concluded on the basis of the DG EMPL framework contract for ESCO VC/2012/015. It is intended to sign about 15 specific contracts. Certain equipment necessary for the organisation of online job days and other virtual events may be purchased (a maximum of 5 contracts will be concluded in the second semester)."

(c) Point 2.1.3. is replaced by:

"2.1.3. *Network support activities* for appropriate interaction with client groups (job seekers and employers), co-operation and interaction between all organisations in the network, information and communication to the public, to the social partners and other relevant actors on mobility, as well as the communication aspects of the "European Mobility Day" and the "European Job Days". To be implemented through specific service orders on the basis of the DG EMPL framework contract for EURES information and communication activities (2 lots - VC/2011/001 and VC/2011/002), renewed under ref. VC/2012/0303 and VC/2012/0377, on the new DG EMPL contract on horizontal support measures for the EURES network activities launched in 2013, on the DG ECFIN framework contract Lot 1 "Work involving writing, graphic design, the web and strategic communication advise as part of information and communication campaigns, contract number: ECFIN-038-2013 and/or on the new DG EMPL framework contract for services in support of communication activities in the field of employment, social affairs and inclusion concluded on 27/04/2012 (VC/2012/034) for a period of 24 months, renewable once. It is intended to sign about 5 specific contracts."

(d) Point 2.1.7 is amended as follows:

"2.1.7. Ex-post evaluation of the EURES programme covering the period 2009-2013

This activity will be implemented through the conclusion of a specific service order based on the DG EMPL Multiple Framework Contract for the provision of services related to evaluation, evaluative studies, analysis and research work, including support for impact assessment activities, signed on 22 05 2013 (2 lots -VC/2013/0012, VC/2013/0017, VC/2013/0081 - VC/2013/0085), for a duration of 2 years, renewable once.

The EURES charter (2010/C 311/05) stipulates that the Commission will initiate an external evaluation of the operation of EURES at least once every three years. As the last evaluation completed concerned the period 2006-2008, the new evaluation will cover the period 2009-2013. It will examine to what extent the EURES network has been able to achieve the provisions of Part II of the Regulation (EEC) 1612/68, (with codification in 2011 in Regulation (EU) No 492/2011). The results of this assessment will serve as input to the Commission's two-yearly report to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and Social Committee required by Article 17 (3) of the regulation. The results generated by this evaluation will also be used by the EURES Co-ordination Office and the members of EURES to prepare further the network with the reform of EURES as described in the Commission implementing Decision 2012/733/EU which will enter into force on 1 January 2014."

(e) Point 2.1.8. is replaced :

"2.1.8. Creation of an online platform - a market place - for youth opportunities, closely connected to the EURES and the European Job Days portals.

The platform will provide a market place for youth opportunities. Any accompanying contents provision and communication activities, will be coordinated with relevant online Commission initiatives such as Your Europe Citizens² and the EU Youth Portal³ in order to enhance synergies and avoid duplications. It will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts or by issuing service orders based on existing Framework Contracts, such as DG DIGIT Framework Contract ESP-DESIS II n° DI/6760 to DI/6777 concluded on October 2010 for a period of 12 months, renewable 3 times, the DG EMPL framework contract for EURES information and communication activities (2 lots - VC/2011/001 and VC/2011/002), renewed under ref. VC/2012/0303 and VC/2012/0377, the new DG EMPL contract on horizontal support measures for the EURES network activities launched in 2013, on the DG ECFIN framework contract ECFIN/222/2011 - organisation and management of events and/or on the new DG EMPL framework contract for services in support of communication activities in the field of employment, social affairs and inclusion concluded on 27/04/2012 (VC/2012/034) for a period of 24 months, renewable once..

Software and other licenses may be purchased through DG DIGIT framework contracts such as SACHA II no. DI/06820.

It is intended to sign about 5 specific contracts or service orders."

(f) Point 2.1.9. is deleted

² http://europa.eu/youreurope/citizens/index_en.htm, managed by DG MARKT

³ <http://europa.eu/youth/en>, managed by DG EAC

- (5) Chapter **04 03 05 – FREE MOVEMENT OF WORKERS, CO-ORDINATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES AND MEASURES FOR MIGRANTS, INCLUDING MIGRANTS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES** is amended as follows:

(a) Point 1.1. Indicative amount is amended as follows:

"For the first year activity plan an indicative amount of 2 500 000 shall be made available. EU financial aid will not exceed 80% of the total eligible costs of the action. The applicant has to guarantee the co-financing in cash of the remaining 20%. Contributions in kind are not accepted."

(b) Point 1.2. is deleted

(c) Point 2. is replaced by the following:

"2. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurements is EUR 2 842 000."

(d) Point 2.2.3. is replaced by the following:

"2.2.3. *Monitoring and development of EESSI*, which is a tool which conditions the ability of social security institutions of all Member States to grant social security benefits to mobile citizens in a speedy and efficient way. The Commission's role in assisting MS and providing them with adequate support and tools for the common part of the network is a key element for implementing a regulation which is one of the most concrete examples of achievement in favour of the citizens.

The EESSI support team will be faced during the initial phase with numerous questions for assistance and development of the EU electronic infrastructure. Unresolved open issues and defects will show and require an urgent solution once the roll-out starts, no significant gaps from an optimal development path shall be accumulated. In addition, it should be able to "own" the system, i.e. being in control of all aspects of an IT system and being able to support Member States when connecting to national applications. These technical activities will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts with various IT specialists based of the DIGIT framework contracts – (framework contract numbers 06750 to 06775, as well as 6850 and 7057)."

(e) Point 3.1.1. is replaced by the following:

"3.1.1. EESSI Hosting and maintenance costs

An estimated amount of EUR 350 000 is envisaged to cover the hosting and maintenance costs (including staffing) of the EESSI system that will be charged by DIGIT in 2013. The transfer of funds will be executed through a sub-delegation to DIGIT. The cooperation is documented by the Memorandum of Understanding between DG EMPL and DIGIT signed on 25/02/2010 (annual automatic renewal during project life-time)."

(f) The summary table is replaced by the following:

"

SUMMARY TABLE

ACTIONS	INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR
GRANTS	2 500 000
Grant to Partners	2 500 000
PROCUREMENT	2 842 000
SUBDELEGATIONS	350 000
TOTAL 04 03 05	5 692 000

"

(6) Chapter **04 03 07 – ANALYSIS OF, STUDIES AND AWARENESS RAISING IN CONNECTION WITH THE SOCIAL SITUATION, DEMOGRAPHICS AND THE FAMILY** is amended as follows:

(a) Point 1.2. is deleted

(b) Point 2. is replaced by the following:

"2. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement is EUR 2 130 000."

(c) The summary table is replaced by the following:

“**SUMMARY TABLE**

ACTIONS	INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR
GRANTS	2 000 000
Calls for proposals	2 000 000
PROCUREMENT	2 130 000
TOTAL 04 03 07	4 130 000

“

(d) Point 2.2.3. is deleted

(7) After Chapter **04 03 07 – ANALYSIS OF, STUDIES AND AWARENESS RAISING IN CONNECTION WITH THE SOCIAL SITUATION, DEMOGRAPHICS AND THE FAMILY** the following Chapter **04 03 08 – PILOT PROJECT – PROMOTING PROTECTION OF THE RIGHT TO HOUSING** is inserted:

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04 03 08 – PILOT PROJECT – PROMOTING PROTECTION OF THE RIGHT TO HOUSING
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LEGAL BASIS

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 54(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1).

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 500 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

This pilot project is intended to support a Union active inclusion strategy, promoting common recognition of fundamental rights. In this context, protecting the main private residence against seizure and preventing the loss of rented housing by low-income families (where the property is mortgaged) should be seen in the framework of the wider right to housing assistance, as recognised by Article 34(3) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

1. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement is EUR 500 000

1.1. Calls for tender

A study of national measures to forestall domestic property repossession where this would result in homelessness of the owner or a tenant, analysis of the relation of such policies to the notion of a right to housing and assessment of the scope for a common minimum framework to limit seizure of homes. The measures to be studied may encompass social benefits and allowances specifically for homeowners and tenants and services that may be available to help them.

The call for tender will be published in the third quarter 2013.

SUMMARY TABLE

ACTIONS	INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR
PROCUREMENT	500 000
TOTAL 04 03 08	500 000

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(8) Chapter **04 03 13 – PREPARATORY ACTION: YOUR FIRST EURES JOB** is amended as follows:

(a) Description of activities to be financed is replaced by the following:

"DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

"Your first EURES job" target groups are young people and employers (all businesses, SME in particular⁴). The preparatory action is based on support from national employment services - information, job matching, recruitment and financial support – for young jobseekers, trainees and apprentices (hereinafter referred to as 'applicants') aged 18-30 willing to work in another EU Member State. It also provides recruitment and financial support to businesses (SME in particular) interested in recruiting from outside their home country and providing mobile workers with an integration programme. This may also be applicable to apprentices and trainees.

In Europe there are many job vacancies that remain unfilled due to the lack of a suitable work force⁵. Current imbalances in the EU labour markets are partly due to a lack of labour mobility within the Union. 'Your first EURES job' is a targeted market-based facility to address labour market mismatches. The scheme can help young people to find a work placement in another EU country and employers to fill in open bottleneck vacancies in accordance with economic needs. It can also contribute to overcome mobility obstacles e.g. knowledge of foreign languages.

⁴ The category of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) is made up of enterprises which employ fewer than 250 persons (COM Recommendation of 6.05.2003, OJ L 124 of 20.05.2003).

⁵ "A new strategy for the single market", report by M. Monti, 9 May 2010, p.57.

In light of the above, the scheme provides financial support to both young applicants to cope with the costs of moving abroad and to employers to help them better integrate their young mobile workers, trainees and apprentices.

To be eligible under this scheme, and in accordance with Regulation (EU) 492/2011 on the free movement of workers, work placements are meant to be occupied by "*any person who undertakes genuine and effective work for which s/he is paid under the direction of someone else*". These placements can take the form of either jobs or traineeships or apprenticeships. This means that there must be a signed labour contract between the parties and that the recruited applicant is entitled to remuneration, awareness of rights and adequate social protection, irrespective of his/her status. The quality and labour integration conditions are crucial elements of the matching and placement service."

(b) Point 1.1.1. is amended by the following:

"Your first EURES job" will be implemented by public, private or third sector employment services from the Member States through a call for proposals. The expected **result** should be the job placement of at least 1500 young people in Member States⁶ other than their country of residence throughout the duration of selected projects.

The call will draw attention to the minimum required service level from applicant organisations.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

"The total available budget for this call is **EUR 5 000 000**.

The European Union's financial contribution will not exceed **95% of the total eligible costs** of the proposed activities, of which

- a maximum of 30% of eligible costs will be aimed at co-funding the eligible costs borne by the applicant organisations with the management of the action.

- a minimum of 70% of eligible costs will be aimed at granting both third parties (applicants and SME) and applicant organisations as follows:

- a) a contribution to the applicants' travel and subsistence costs for an interview trip abroad or in their country of residence⁷ and the costs for moving to another EU country to take up a job, traineeship or apprenticeship.

- b) payment of other mobility support measures for applicants as follows:

- *Language courses*: maximum 1200 EUR per applicant, against copy of invoice/receipt and training certificate;

- *Recognition of academic and professional qualifications*: maximum 1000 EUR per applicant, against copy of invoice/receipt

⁶ All funding support measures for target groups are optional, except the applicants' costs of moving abroad to take up duty. Consequently, the overall cost per placement can vary from around €1000 to €5600. The average cost may be around €3300 (1500 placements x 3300 € = c.a. €5 Mio).

⁷ Whenever employers travel to the applicants' country of residence to make on-the-spot interviews

— *Supplementary relocation allowance for young people with special needs:* maximum 500 EUR per applicant, against prior motivated request and submission of estimate (ex-ante) or copy of invoice/receipt (ex-post)

c) a contribution to the employers' costs (SME only) with the mobile worker/trainee/apprentice's integration programme (e.g. induction training, language course, administrative support);

d) the actual costs borne by applicant organisations with the provision of preparatory training and/or mentoring support for young recruited applicants. Preparatory training may consist of pre-departure training or training after arrival to the country of destination, focusing on foreign languages or soft skills or other training need⁸. Mentoring support is a guidance measure, tailored for trainees and apprentices who may need a more comprehensive support framework to succeed in their integration.

Items a) and c) will be covered on the basis of flat-rate financing (see below); items b) and d) will be covered on the basis of actual declared costs by legal or natural persons.

Funding to third parties: flat-rate financing

Authorisation is provided by this decision to make use of the "flat-rate financing" system in compliance with the same conditions for flat rate amounts and allowances spelled out in the first update of the Financing Decision of 2011 and in the Financing Decision of 2012.

Croatia will be included in the list of flat-rate costs of the scheme. The amounts applicable will be the same as for Latvia⁹.

Given the nature and policy objectives of the "Your first EURES job" preparatory action and as with other EU mobility programmes, the financial support to third parties is the primary aim of the action, allowed by the revised Financial Regulation that will be in force in the moment of publication of the call. "

⁸ There is a two-fold option to finance language training: applicants may either bear the costs and claim reimbursement against copy of invoice/receipt or qualify for a free-of-charge training course provided or sub-contracted by the employment services

⁹ Source: Eurostat, consumer price level indices, 2011. Croatia and Latvia = 74

(c) Point 1.1.1. eligibility criteria are amended as follows:

"To be eligible, applicant organisations:

- must be legally established in one of the Member States of the EU;
- Lead applicants must be public, private¹⁰ or third sector employment organisations with a legal profit or non-profit status. They have as their main mission the provision of general employment services to jobseekers, job changers, trainee or apprentice candidates and employers covering a variety of occupations jobs or workplace-based trainings in different economic sectors;
- Co-applicants may have the same mission as lead applicants, or may provide complementary customer-oriented services such as information, training, career guidance, outplacement, mentoring, integration support or equivalent.
- shall give their projects a meaningful EU dimension by ensuring the provision of customer-oriented information and services in at least 3 different EU Member States.

To be eligible, actions must:

- be fully carried out in the Member States of the European Union;
- demonstrate that the proposed activities are not being financed twice from two different sources within the EU budget (particularly in cases where applicants are already participating in other EU programmes)."

¹⁰

In accordance with interpretation of cases C-41/90 and C-55/96.

- (9) After Chapter **04 03 13 – PREPARATORY ACTION: YOUR FIRST EURES JOB** the following Chapter **04 03 16 – PREPARATORY ACTION: INFORMATION CENTRES FOR POSTED WORKERS AND MIGRANT WORKERS** is inserted:

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04 03 16 – PREPARATORY ACTION: INFORMATION CENTRES FOR POSTED WORKERS AND MIGRANT WORKERS
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LEGAL BASIS

The preparatory action will be implemented within the meaning of Article 54(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1).

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 500 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

The overall objective of this Preparatory Action is to ensure the equal treatment and non-discrimination of EU migrant workers on the host labour market by means of creating a network of the information centres in the Member States which would provide information, advice, support, including legal support, to the EU migrant workers. In addition specific activities could focus on workers in posting situations and on the implementation of EU-law in the domain.

By these activities, it is intended to gradually remove existing barriers to mobility of EU migrant workers by enhancing the enforcement of rights conferred by EU law and raise awareness as well as reduce unfair practices by providing information and legal support to EU migrant workers. Specific activities, especially providing information to posted workers on their rights in the host country should help enhance their capacity to better defend their rights.

To achieve the overall objectives, it is required to link with the EU initiative on the enforceability Directive for Regulation 492/2011¹¹ on freedom of movement of workers within the EU and to relate to work completed in the framework of a past Pilot Project “Working and living conditions of posted workers”.

For this specific year, it is intended to support with the EU funding, pilot activities which would examine the networking possibilities and provide extensive reporting in order to contribute to set out the framework for the future network. Achievements of these activities would be presented in the final conference organised by the Commission together with the selected Contractor.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

1. GRANTS

Grants awarded under this budgetary item will be covered by a written agreement.

¹¹ COM(2013)236

1.1. Call for proposals "*Information centres for EU migrant workers and posted workers*"

This Call for proposals intends to examine and set out the framework for establishment of a future empowered network of bodies currently existing which would provide support, advice and information, These activities should take into account the specificities of the different categories of workers and be in line with existing EU law on free movement of workers and on posted workers. . This call for proposals will be specifically intended to support a maximum of two initiatives aiming at creating a network between the already existing Equality bodies in the EU Member States, each covering a minimum of three eligible countries. The successful applicants shall be asked to develop activities which will focus on enhancement of the applicant's capacity in the following fields:

- activities aiming at providing EU migrant workers with legal support and information on labour market and employment legislation – promoting access to existing EU services and networks (such as the Your Europe portal, Your Europe Advice, SOLVIT) wherever relevant;

and

- measures to monitor the existing legal information and aiming at updating, enhancing and simplifying such permanent legal information to EU migrant workers and posted workers.

or

- shall develop at least one of the additional activities operating in the following two main areas:
 - Dissemination of information to EU migrant workers and posted workers
 - Legal support to EU migrant workers

The second main objective of the call for proposals will be an effective and extensive reporting by the beneficiaries which would include presentation of the first experience of the networking, including obstacles encountered and good practices, assessment of the potential modalities for setting up of the network and its activities and other recommendations for establishment of a future network of a larger scale. The report should also monitor and assess the existing sources of information for EU migrant workers and posted workers with the aim of rendering them more accessible, user-friendly and coherent.

Thirdly, the successful applicants will be asked to actively participate in a conference organised by the Commission making available the reports delivered by them for the purpose of the conference.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

The total available budget for this call is **EUR 300 000**.

The European Union's financial contribution will not exceed 80% of the total eligible costs of the proposed activities. The applicant has to guarantee the co-financing in cash of the remaining 20%. Contributions in kind are not accepted. A maximum of 2 grants will be awarded;

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be launched in the second semester 2013.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion

- Applicants must be in conformity with Articles 106(1), 107 to 109 of the Financial Regulation

b) Eligibility criteria

To be eligible, applicant organisations must:

- be an already existing Equality body as established by EU law;
- act in co-operation with active partners established in at least 2 different Member States.

To be eligible, activities must:

- be fully carried out in the Member States of the European Union;
- comply with the European Union's rules for co-financing and guarantee a cash co-financing of **20%** of the total eligible costs;
- not being financed twice from two different sources within the EU budget (particularly in cases where applicants are already participating in other EU programmes);
- fall within the objectives of the call for proposals.

c) Selection criteria

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

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

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

d) Award criteria

The proposals which fulfil the eligibility and selection criteria will be assessed according to the following award criteria:

- Relevance of the proposal to the call
- Transnational dimension and quality of partnerships
- Methodology and organisation of work proposed

- Visibility of the action
- Sustainability of the proposal
- The quality of the proposal and the cost / efficiency of the operation

2. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurements is **EUR 200 000**.

2.1. Use of existing framework contracts

Organisation of a stakeholder conference: this component which will consist of organizing of an information conference which could gather 100-150 participants including representatives of at least 10-15 existing Equality bodies. The conference would be organized by a selected contractor available under a Commission's framework contract. The conference shall focus on presentation of the results achieved by the grant beneficiaries in order to set up a future network and on identification of further steps for development of such cooperation.

SUMMARY TABLE

ACTIONS	INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR
GRANTS	300 000
Call for proposals	300 000
PROCUREMENT	200 000
Use of existing framework contracts	200 000
TOTAL 04 03 16	500 000

"

(10) Chapter **04 04 01 01 – PROGRESS – EMPLOYMENT** is amended as follows:

(a) Point 1.1.1. title and objectives are amended as follows:

" 1.1.1. Delivering on skills for growth and jobs

The overall objective of the Call is to encourage new forms of collaboration through partnerships between public and private actors on the labour market (such as public and private employment services, companies including SME's, chambers of commerce, training and education providers, social partners, labour market intelligence entities) to address persistent skills shortages and mismatches to help fill the gap between labour supply and demand in the EU.

The activities should aim to achieve the following technical objectives:

1. Delivery to the end users of specific employment service(s) leading to sustainable placements in jobs and apprenticeships or other measurable outcomes by a mixed set of partners, including as well measures to support labour mobility at national and European level.
2. Provision of analytical and methodological findings related to the form and working method of the partnership between the co-operating partners experienced during the service(s) delivery above, with success and failure factors.
3. Identification of skills gaps and provision of labour market intelligence in relation to changing skills needs resulting from structural shifts to a low carbon economy

The Call will consist of three strands:

i) The first strand of the Call will identify effective implementation measures good practices and innovative approaches thus contributing to the implementation of the skills dimension of the flagship initiative "An Agenda for New Skills and Jobs" and in particular to the Employment Package (with a special attention to the employment potential of ICTs and the Grand Coalition for Digital Jobs (SWD(2012)96 final) and to the personal and household services (SWD(2012)95 final).

The second strand will support the consolidation of European Sector Skills Councils that are beyond the feasibility phase. These bodies will provide a focal point at sector level for improving skills intelligence, highlighting skills mismatches and bottlenecks and for shaping the educational and training offer. They will also facilitate peer-learning at national level by creating a European platform of exchange between labour market actors, skills intelligence observatories and education and training providers active in the sector.

The third strand will seek to foster joint initiatives aimed at identifying, monitoring and regularly updating the evolution of skills needs with a particular focus on the following areas: waste management; recycling; energy efficiency; water management; public lighting. Projects financed under this action shall demonstrate the direct application and impact of information gathered on organisational changes and the skills responses that will need to be developed by labour market actors as a result of collected evidence. This strand is in line with the objectives set out in the Commission's Employment Package of 2012" (COM (2012) 173 final).

Structural shifts in the economy leading to a need for anticipating change and restructuring at European, sectoral, regional and company level, as well as the implications for skills policies and actors concerned will serve as backdrop to this Call.

Measures to be financed under this call should be concrete and action oriented and carry a true added value in terms of making a difference where rolled out. Among the options available: implementation and delivery of placement and job insertion initiatives, labour market intelligence gathering, training measures, establishment of networks and the development and exchange of best practice through targeted events."

(b) Point 1.1.1. the indicative amount is amended as follows:

"The total indicative amount is EUR 4.715.000 and the maximum European Union co-financing rate is 80 % of the total eligible costs of the action."

(c) Point 1.1.1. Award criteria is amended as follows:

"The grants will be awarded following a comparative assessment of the proposals on the basis of the following criteria:

- The extent to which the action meets the objectives and priorities of the call for proposals;
- The quality of the action proposed: the extent to which the work programme is relevant, adequate and feasible for reaching the objectives and the overall clarity and completeness of the proposal and budget explanation;
- The quality of consortium, i.e. the involvement of appropriate organisations and the clarity of the division of tasks among applicants;;
- The added value, transnational dimension and cost-effectiveness of the action;"

(d) Point 1.1.2. the objectives and foreseen results are replaced by:

"1.1.2. . *Partnerships between EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (PARES)*

Objectives and foreseen results

In the "Agenda for New Skills and Jobs" the Commission suggested the accompanying non-legislative action PARES, partnership between employment services. The main objective of this PARES call for proposals is to encourage benchmarking between employment services for a better delivery of the Europe 2020 strategy. It should enhance a system of benchmarking between EU/EEA employment services when implementing priority actions of the European Employment Strategy and the priorities as outlined in the Commission Communication "Towards a job-rich recovery" from April 2012. It will support initiatives of a trans-national character that involve a great number of Employment Services in the EU/EEA. Results of benchmarking projects between employment services should be used to better inform policy makers at national and EU level with evidence- based findings on the delivery on employment services.

In the context of this call benchmarking is understood as a systematic comparison of business models, processes, performances and tools including inputs, outputs, outcomes, impact and costs of activities between different employment services on the basis of quantitative and qualitative indicators

Priority areas for the benchmarking are the current main EU policy fields related to the employment services such as effective approaches aiming at reducing Youth Unemployment, anticipation of skills needs, effective up-skilling / training of unemployed or inactive, early intervention based upon profiling and targeted, individualised support to contribute to the prevention of flow into long-term unemployment, approaches to servicing the needs of employers and to improving relationships with employers, cooperation and contract management between PES and other relevant service providers for vocational orientation, placement, assessment, guidance, intensive assistance or training, etc. and corresponding business models and processes.

Projects are expected to follow a project design based on the benchmarking definition as indicated above, ideally leading to the identification of best practices, a clear description of the methodology used and should include as well as an element of public dissemination of results.

The purpose is to provide within PROGRESS and its successor programme start-up funding to potential future self-sustainable benchmarking projects in line with the Europe 2020 strategy and the 2012 Employment Package. These will include priority focus areas such as green jobs, youth employment, ageing workers, career guidance, creation of local partnerships for employment, support and services to employers and benchmarking between employment services. The criteria below are subject to change, depending on the successor programme."

(e) Point 1.1.2. the third paragraph of the eligibility criteria is replaced by:

"It must include active co-applicants from PROGRESS participating countries "

(f) Point 1.2.1.2. is deleted

(g) Point 2. is replaced by the following:

2. "PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement is EUR 9 569 624"

(h) Point 2.1.1. is deleted

(i) Point 2.1.2 is deleted

(j) Point 2.1.3. is deleted

(k) Point 2.1.5. is replaced by:

"2.1.5. European PES knowledge database:

Expert advice for the European Vacancy Monitor - "New Skills for New Jobs - Monitoring Labour Market Developments in the EU"

The selected expert will provide advice to fine-tune the editions of the quarterly European Vacancy Monitor and of the European Job Mobility Bulletin and comment in writing on the methodology, charts, overall presentation and the narrative. He will make proposals for the development of the comprehensive European Vacancy and Recruitment Report and attend

meetings of the Advisory Panel of the project "Monitoring Labour Market Developments in the EU" in Brussels upon request of COM

The expert should have profound experience in national and international labour market and skills analysis with a focus on the identification of occupations with good employment prospects, skills gaps and mismatches (methodology, data presentation and interpretation, analytical story).

A low value tender procedure will be launched in the third quarter 2013."

(l) Point 2.1.7. is added:

"2.1.7 Study activities on entrepreneurship and self-employment aimed at optimising policy actions, with respect to, i.a., tackling market deficiencies, addressing needs and gaps in the area of access to finance for entrepreneurs (including social enterprises), and setting up effective public support systems for entrepreneurship through EU level action.

Calls will be launched in the second half of 2013. These activities can also be implemented through the use of a framework contract. "

(m) Point 2.1.8. is added:

"2.1.8. Mutual learning support service contract to assist with the facilitation and dissemination of good practices in the area of support to social entrepreneurship. This action is complementary to the European Parliament Preparatory Action on Social Innovation through social business and young entrepreneurship.

A call will be launched in the second half of 2013. This activity can also be implemented through the use of a framework contract"

(n) Point 2.2.1.the second paragraph is amended as follows:

"2.2.1. EU skills Panorama

This activity will be implemented either through the conclusion of specific service orders based on the EAC Framework Service Contract to provide expertise and support for European Cooperation in Education and Training – Lots 1-4, No EAC 02/10 signed on 1 June 2011 (call for tenders EAC 02/2010 – OJ 2010/S 157-242002 of 14/08/2010) either through the conclusion of specific service orders based on the DG EMPL Multiple Framework Contract for the provision of services related to evaluation, evaluative studies, analysis and research work, including support for impact assessment activities, signed on 22 05 2013 (2 lots - VC/2013/0012, VC/2013/0017, VC/2013/0081 - VC/2013/0085) for a duration of 2 years, renewable once."

(o) Point 2.2.2. the second paragraph is amended as follows:

"These activities will be implemented either through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the OPOCE framework contract EUROVOC Thesaurus Management and Dissemination System (reference OP 10122) concluded on October 2010 for a period of 12 months, renewable 3 times and/or on the basis of the framework contract for services of DG DIGIT - ESP-DESI II n° DI/6760 to DI/6777, valid until 9 September 2012 and/or the conclusion of specific service orders or specific contracts based on the new DG EMPL Framework contracts VC/2012/0015, VC/2012/0016, VC/2012/0017, VC/2012/0018 and

VC/2013/0045 following the calls for tender published in 2011 under the reference VT/2011/007 (Lots 1 & 3) and VT/2011/103 (Lot 2).”

(p) Point 2.2.2. a third paragraph is added:

“An ESCO stakeholders conference to promote the first results and publish ESCO V0 will be organised in the last quarter 2013. This activity will be launched through around 5 specific service orders on the basis of the new DG EMPL framework contract "Meetings" concluded on 23 December 2011 (5 lots – VC/2011/0137, VC/2011/0197, VC/2011/0198, VC/2011/0199 and VC/2011/0200) for a period of 24 months, renewable once.”

(q) Point 2.2.7. is replaced by:

"2.2.7. Working together for Youth: expert workshop on progress and future steps regarding YEP and YEI

An expert workshop is foreseen, in order to take stock of progress made so far and plan ahead to the challenges in 2014 brought about by the implementation of the Youth policies, including the role of the Alliance for Apprenticeships and the proposal for a Quality Framework on Traineeships and their complementarity with the Youth Guarantee. Target audience will include (PES, Ministries, Social Partners, Youth Organisations...)

These activities will be launched during the second half of 2013 through the DG EMPL framework contract "Meetings" concluded on 23 December 2011 (5 lots – VC/2011/0137, VC/2011/0197, VC/2011/0198, VC/2011/0199 and VC/2011/0200) for a period of 24 months, renewable once.”

(r) Point 2.2.10 is deleted

(s) Point 3.1.4. is added:

"3.1.4. OECD study on Job quality

The purpose of this activity is to launch a project entitled "Defining, Measuring and Assessing Job Quality and its Links to Labour Market Performance and Well-Being". This project aims to bring job quality to the forefront of the policy debate, by arguing that labour market performance should be assessed in terms of the increase in both the number and quality of job opportunities.

The indicative amount for this project is EUR 600 000.”

(t) Point 3.1.5. is added:

"3.1.5. Extension of OECD project on developing structural indicators on tax wedges for EU countries

The action is an extension of the joint EC-OECD project "tax wedge and effective tax rates on labour", to include Croatia in the calculation of tax wedges and effective tax rates on labour.

The OECD will provide annual updates for Croatia of the same set of standard indicators on tax burdens and work incentives delivered under the existing agreement VS/2012/0010 for the Member States.

The indicative amount for this project is EUR 20 000.”

(u) Point 3.2.1. is replaced as follows:

"3.2.1. ILO project on ILO – World Bank (WB) inventory of policy responses to the crisis

ILO, with support from the World Bank, holds a periodic in depth survey of crisis responses since 2008, based on an integrated approach of economic and social policies. A database has been constructed and a first synthesis report covering 77 countries has been published in April 2012 with partial coverage of EU Member States. The wider integration of EU Member States for the period until 2013 in the project has the potential to strengthen the analytical policy monitoring capacity and evidence base for assessing the EU 2020 reform process. The project presents value added over existing specialised documentary or statistical databases (such as LABREF and the LMP database), and would result in a series of thematic papers on national policy responses and their effectiveness in key areas (such as employment protection, benefits and taxation, wages, active labour market policy, social security).

The indicative cost is estimated at EUR 500 000"

(v) Point 3.3. is deleted

(w) Point 4.2. is added:

“4.2 Subdelegation to DG MARKT

The budgetary allocation of EUR 100.000 will be made available to DG MARKT for the implementation of the event "Social entrepreneurs: have your say!" to be organized in Strasbourg, France, on 16-17 January 2014.

This important event will take stock of the EU Social Business Initiative at 2 1/2 years after it was launched and will include (for reasons of budgetary feasibility and content synergy) the Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurs stakeholder forum on green economy (action 48 in the Employment Package), empowering European social entrepreneurs for innovation, green growth and jobs.”

(x) The summary table is replaced by the following:

“SUMMARY TABLE

ACTIONS	INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR
GRANTS	7 355 000
Calls for proposals	6 215 000
De jure monopolies	140 000
Grants to partners	1.000 000
PROCUREMENT	9 569 624
JOINT MANAGEMENT	2 930 000
SUBDELEGATIONS	186 000
INDIRECT CENTRALISED MANAGEMENT	1 100 000
OTHER INTERVENTIONS	250 000
TOTAL 04 04 01 01	21 390 624

”

(11) Chapter **04 04 01 02 – PROGRESS – SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION** is amended as follows:

(a) Point 1.2.1.1. is amended as follows:

“1.2.1.1.Lithuanian Presidency Conferences

One event during the second semester of 2013 under the Lithuanian Presidency will be co-financed by the Commission, focussing on MISSOC.

The total amount of this event is EUR 150 000 € Maximum EU co-financing rate will be 80 % of the total eligible costs.”

(b) Point 1.2.1.2. is amended as follows:

“1.2.1.2.Greek Presidency Conferences

One event during the first semester of 2014 under the Greek Presidency will be co-financed by the Commission, focussing on MISSOC.

The total amount of this event is EUR 150 000 € Maximum EU co-financing rate will be 80 % of the total eligible costs.”

(c) Point 2. is replaced by the following:

"2. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurements is EUR 7 804 580."

(d) Point 2.1.1. is replaced by point 2.2.6. as following:

"2.2.6 Development of a data warehouse to provide a fully-fledged, sophisticated analytical system, including various interfaces for easy data access and outputs (such as automatic update of charts/ tables) for the use by the Commission and wider public.

To be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG DIGIT framework contract such as ESP-DESI II n° DI/6760 to DI/6777 concluded on October 2010 for a period of 12 months, renewable 3 times.

Software and other licenses will be purchased through DG DIGIT framework contracts such as SACHA II no.DI/06820."

(e) Point 2.1.2. is amended as follows:

"2.1.2. Series of small-scale studies and support for the "European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion" and the OMC for social protection and social inclusion to cover short terms needs in relation to the social agenda of Europe 2020, through:

- ad-hoc literature, reviews, analysis, research and fact finding,
- contributions to seminars and conferences,
- social impact assessment issues,
- studies related to the coping strategies of households.

The calls will be launched throughout 2013. It is intended to launch about 12 contracts evenly spread throughout the year 2013 according to the needs."

(f) Point 2.2.7. is added:

"2.2.7 Study on coping strategies in the crisis: a qualitative investigation of typical households

The aim is to get qualitative information on strategies on behavioural responses of certain pre-defined types of households to the crisis-induced income drop, unemployment and cuts in social benefits. Such information would complement the quantitative survey data and provide a more up-to date picture of the situation. The project will take the form of a non-statistical, sociological study such as focus-group interviews covering a selection of Member States.

The related specific contracts will be based upon the DG COMM framework service contract for Eurobarometer studies PO/2012-4/A2."

(g) Point 2.3.4. is added:

“2.3.4. Secretariat for MISSOC- the Mutual Information System on Social Protection

The contract VC/2011/0528 concluded in the fourth quarter of 2011 for a period of 12 months, renewable up to three times, has been renewed in 2012 and it is envisaged to be renewed for the second time in the fourth quarter of 2013 for further 12 months.”

(h) Point 3.1.3. is added:

“3.1.3 OECD/EC project on measuring subjective well-being

Following the report of the Stiglitz–Sen–Fitoussi Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress, the necessity to measure people’s subjective perceptions of life has been increasingly recognised among social economics and statisticians.

While a general consensus exists that subjective responses provide some valid information on the situation of people, the issue of cultural bias has not been resolved posing a risk to the robustness of subjective well-being and limiting cross-national comparisons. This project will aim to test how cultural differences influences responses to subjective well-being surveys and how to overcome this problem.

Secondly, the project will promote the uptake of the Guidelines among national statisticians through a two-day European data producer’s workshop on measures of subjective well-being, which this project is going to support. The workshop will focus on collecting, analysing and disseminating the measures of subjective well-being.

The estimated amount for this action is EUR 150 000.”

(i) Point 3.1.4. is added:

“3.1.4. EC/OECD project on measuring the adequacy of social protection against dependency

In order to support the Social Protection Committee in its work on long-term care, it is proposed to develop a better understanding of how people in need of long-term care and their relatives are supported by social protection systems in the Member States. The available information is not sufficiently comparable across countries, both with regard to the benefits in cash or in kind that are available and with regard to the extent of means-testing. A better understanding of how well people are protected against the risk of dependency is also crucial in the context of the Europe2020 strategy, as it has implications for employment (labour force participation of relatives of dependent people) and the sustainability of public finances in the context of population ageing. The aim of the project is to develop and test a methodology for gathering comparative data using hypothetical cases.

The estimated amount for this action is EUR 400 000.”

(j) Point 3.1.5. is added:

"3.1.5. OECD family database 2014-2016

The OECD Family database (www.oecd.org/social/family/database) was developed to provide cross-national indicators on family outcomes and family policies across the OECD countries, its enhanced engagement partners and non-OECD EU member states.

Supported by funding from the European Commission since 2008, the database currently includes 67 indicators (70 indicators by the end of 2013), covering four dimensions: (i) structure of families; (ii) labour market position of families; (iii) public policies for families and children; and, (iv) child outcomes. It has been used in recent EC publications, including *Employment and Social Developments in Europe 2012* and *Social Impact of the Economic Crisis*. It is a valuable analytical tool to complement SIP monitoring of trends and performance.

Further development along four lines can make it even more relevant for SIP purposes:

- Maintenance and validation of the existing indicators in the database
- Bring out the gender dimension in indicators
- Present outcomes differentiated by at-risk social groups
- Addition of new indicators to the Child Well-being module

The estimated amount for this action is EUR 720,000."

(k) Point 3.1.6. is added:

"3.1.6. OECD/EC project on cash versus in-kind.

The objective is to prepare a report on the relationships between cash transfers, in-kind spending, and distributional outcomes. The proposed report would build on previous methodological work by the OECD in this area and comprise:

- An empirical evaluation of family policies' effects on (longer-term) behavioural outcomes.
- An assessment of cash versus in-kind effectiveness and efficiency in other policy settings.
- A meta-analysis of evaluations of experimental methods (natural policy experiments, or localised pilot studies) that attempt to capture the causal relationship between in-kind and cash policies and outcomes.
- Modelling different ways of delivering cash childcare payments using the TAXBEN model, such as providing universal flat-rate benefits, means-tested benefits, or supplements to other benefits.

The estimated amount for this action is EUR 100 000."

(l) Point 3.2. the estimated amount is replaced by the following:

“The estimated amount for this action is EUR 360 000.”

(m) Point 4.2. is added:

“4.2. Administrative arrangement with DG Joint Research Centre (DG JRC) – Institute for Prospective and technological studies (JRC – IPTS)

The project with JRC – IPTS is aimed at supporting the implementation of the Social Investment Package (SIP) recently adopted by the Commission. More specifically, it would be particularly relevant in addressing how ICT based Social Innovation can support the implementation of policies promoting social investment.

This project will build on the experience and research activities already developed by IPTS in recent years in the field of ICT and inclusion: as well as on methodologies for evaluating policies. The project is expected to contribute to the implementation of relevant actions foreseen in the Social Investment Package, such as the building up of Knowledge Bank, the development of a methodology and tools to analyse social returns of policy initiatives relevant to SIP and capturing social innovation initiatives in these areas.

In addressing these objectives, the project will focus on the following policy areas: Active ageing and independent living; Youth and Social integration; and on the provision of social services.

Duration and indicative timetable: three years project.

The Administrative Agreement should be signed in the second semester of 2013.

The total maximum amount for this action is 605.000 EUR for this action).”

(n) The summary table is replaced by the following:

“SUMMARY TABLE

ACTIONS	INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR
GRANTS	17 300 000
Calls for proposals	5 500 000
De jure monopolies	300 000
De facto monopolies	1 500 000
Grants to partners	10 000 000
PROCUREMENT	7 804 580
JOINT MANAGEMENT	3 630 000
OTHER INTERVENTIONS	805 000
TOTAL 04 04 01 02	29 539 580

“

(12) Chapter **04 04 01 03 – WORKING CONDITIONS** is amended as follows:

(a) A third paragraph has been added to the general objectives as follows:

"Coordination of social security schemes

The Member States have agreed on the introduction of the system for electronic exchange of social security data (EESSI). The shift from paper to electronic data exchange calls for enormous investments by Member States. In line with Article 79 of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004, the European Commission may fund in full or in part activities aimed at improving exchanges of information between the social security authorities and institutions of the Member States."

(b) Point 1.1.1. eligibility criteria is amended as follows:

"Applicants must:

- Be properly constituted and registered legal entities, having their registered office based in one of the Member States of the European Union, Norway, Liechtenstein or Iceland. In derogation from this requirement and pursuant to Article 131 of the Financial Regulation, the organisations of social partners without legal personality under the applicable national law are also eligible provided that the conditions of the Financial Regulation related thereto are met.
- Fall in one of the following categories: Public authorities, social partners, international organisations, non-profit organisations,

research centres and institutes, universities and civil societies organisations."

(c) Point 2.1.2. is replaced by:

"2.1.2. *Study to estimate the occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals in Europe.* The call for tender is expected to be launched during the second semester of 2013."

(d) Point 2.2.2. is deleted

(e) Point 2.2.7. is added:

"2.2.7 *Elaboration of a common language* for the Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information (EESSI). EESSI will create an electronic network of more than 15 000 social security institutions. The action aims at supporting the elaboration and validation of a common language for the network (structured documents to be exchanged and structuration of the flows of documents) in the context of the implementation of EU rules on coordination of social security systems. The action will also contribute to the elaboration of the guidelines to be followed as well as to the business requirements to be implemented. These activities will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts with various IT specialists based of the DIGIT framework contracts – (framework contract numbers 06750 to 06775, as well as 6850 and 7057)."

- (13) After Chapter **04 04 15 –EUROPEAN PROGRESS MICROFINANCE FACILITY** the following Chapter **04 04 17 – PREPARATORY ACTION: ACTIVATION MEASURES TARGETING YOUNG PEOPLE – IMPLEMENTING YOUTH ON THE MOVE INITIATIVE** is inserted:

"

04 04 17 - Preparatory Action — Activation measures targeting young people - implementing Youth on the Move initiative

LEGAL BASIS

Preparatory action within the meaning

of Article 54(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation No 1605/2002 (OJ L 298, 26.10.2012).

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 2 000 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

- **General objectives:**

On 5 December 2012, the Commission adopted the Youth Employment Package¹² (YEP). It includes a proposal for a Council Recommendation on Establishing a Youth Guarantee, announces a European Alliance for Apprenticeships, foresees an initiative on a Quality Framework for Traineeships and outlines ways to reduce obstacles to mobility for young people.

The Council adopted the Recommendation on Establishing a Youth Guarantee on 22 April 2013¹³. It calls on Member States to ensure that all young people up to 25 receive a good quality offer of employment, continued education, an apprenticeship or a traineeship within four months of leaving formal education or becoming unemployed. In order to ensure the success and rapid implementation of the Youth Guarantee, the Recommendation includes guidelines for setting up such schemes, covering in particular the need for stronger partnerships between all concerned stakeholders, early intervention and activation, and making full use of EU funding.

In the preparation of the EU 2013 budget, the European Parliament has asked the Commission to implement a preparatory action for supporting the setting-up of Youth Guarantees in Member States, for which a budget of EUR 2 000 000 is available. This follows on from the implementation of a similar preparatory action under the EU 2012 budget (EUR 2 000 000).

¹² COM (2012) 727-728-729 of 05.12.2012

¹³ For the text, see <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/13/st07/st07123.en13.pdf>, for the press release, see http://consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/educ/136812.pdf.

- **Priorities of the year:**

The Council Recommendation on Establishing a Youth Guarantee was adopted on 22 April 2013. In order to ensure an effective implementation of the Youth Guarantee, the Commission will continue its support for the launch of Youth Guarantee pilot projects which can serve later as models for the establishment of youth guarantee schemes

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

1. GRANTS

The grants awarded under this budgetary item will be covered by a written agreement.

1.1. Calls for proposals

1.1.1. Supporting partnerships for activation measures targeting young people through projects in the context of Youth Guarantee (YG) schemes at national, regional or local level

Objectives and foreseen results

For the implementation of the PA YG, a call for proposals will be launched in the third quarter of 2013 for the submission of project proposals supporting:

- In the context of Youth Guarantee schemes, cooperation between relevant actors to carry out activation measures targeting young people, especially those facing multiple barriers to labour market entry.
- In the context of Youth Guarantee schemes, programmes at local level for young people at risk of leaving education early with a focus on networking between all relevant stakeholders;

Each project should deliver results that are replicable and transferable within and between Member States; therefore each project should provide analytical and methodological findings (including success and failure factors) focusing in particular on the nature of the established partnership, on its ability to deliver the planned activities and to ensure the replication/transferability of the project results.

The applicant should involve in the implementation of the proposed action other relevant actors such as national, regional or local authorities, public, private or third sector employment services, ESF managing authorities, education and vocational training institutions, universities, social partners, chambers of commerce, associations of employers, youth welfare and social services, youth clubs and associations, and any other relevant community actors¹⁴.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

The total indicative budget for this call is EUR **2 000 000**.

¹⁴ Non-exhaustive list – each application will have to demonstrate the relevance and quality of the proposed partnership in relation to the specific situation.

The European Union's financial contribution will not exceed **95% of the total eligible costs** of the action.

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be launched in the third quarter of 2013.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion

Applicants must be in conformity with Articles 106(1), 107 to 109 of the Financial Regulation;

b) Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be properly constituted and registered legal persons in one of the EU Member States. In application of Article 131 of the Financial Regulation, social partner organisations without legal personality are also eligible provided that the conditions of the Financial Regulation related thereto are met;
- The lead applicant must fall within one of the following categories: public authorities (at national, regional or local level); social partners (representatives of workers or employers; this category does not include chambers of commerce); public employment services;

To be eligible, actions must be:

- Linked to the objectives of the call for proposals;
- Implemented by the lead applicant in cooperation with at least four stakeholders. The partnership/consortium must include at least four of the eight following types of organisations/institutions: public authorities, public employment services, education sector (education and vocational training institutions, universities), businesses as employers, youth sector, representatives of workers or representatives of employers
- Fully carried out at national, regional or local level in one of the Member States of the EU.

c) Selection

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

- Financial capacity to carry out the action: the applicant must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as

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

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

d) Award

The proposals, which fulfil the exclusion, eligibility and selection criteria, will be assessed according to the following award criteria:

- The extent to which the proposed action meets the objectives and priorities of the call;
- The clarity and feasibility of the proposed work plan, especially in regard to: diagnosis; timetable; methodology; results;
- The quality of the proposed consortium/partnership and of the different types of organisations/institutions to be involved in the implementation of the proposed action;
- The added value i.e. the expected lasting impact, the potential for replication/ transferability of the action, taking into account the arrangements to publicise the action and disseminate the results;
- The cost-effectiveness of the action, taking into account the clarity of the budget explanation.

SUMMARY TABLE

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	2 000 000
Calls for proposals	2 000 000
TOTAL 04 04 17	2 000 000

"

- (14) After Chapter **04 04 15 –EUROPEAN PROGRESS MICROFINANCE FACILITY** the following Chapter **04 04 18 – PREPARATORY ACTION: SOCIAL INNOVATION DRIVEN BY SOCIAL BUSINESS AND YOUNG ENTREPRENEURSHIP** is inserted:

"

04 04 18 – PREPARATORY ACTION: Social innovation driven by social business and young entrepreneurship
--

LEGAL BASIS

The preparatory action will be implemented within the meaning of Article 54(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation No 1605/2002 (OJ L 298, 26.10.2012).

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 1 000 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

According to the budgetary comment, the preparatory action will "build on the importance of Social Innovation and the emergence of social enterprises". The objective of the preparatory action is to identify, develop, promote and disseminate good practices in supporting young or social entrepreneurs. A special focus will be on the preparation of the financial instruments in the 2014-2020 period.

The preparatory action will contribute to realising the potential of young and social entrepreneurship, emphasised also in the Annual Growth Survey 2012 and in the Commission's communication "Towards a job-rich recovery".¹⁵

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

The main task will be to work together with potential finance providers and financial intermediaries in a limited number of pilot regions. It will help prepare the financial instruments of the 2014-2020 period, notably in terms of investment readiness to help develop and establish feasible, suitable and reliable schemes or funds providing equity or mezzanine funding (including venture philanthropy) as well as support structures providing business development services and networking facilities.

1. GRANTS

Grants awarded under this budgetary item will be covered by a written agreement.

1.1. Call for proposals

1.1.1. Supporting the demand and supply side of the market for social enterprise finance..

The preparatory action will be implemented through a call for proposals. The expected result should be the cooperation of private, public and not-for profit-partners in view of providing access to finance for social entrepreneurs, in particular young entrepreneurs, and of developing the

¹⁵ COM(2012) 173 final

investment readiness of social enterprises to ensure social enterprises are able to take on repayable finance.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

The total available budget for this call is **EUR 1 000 000**.

The European Union's financial contribution will not exceed **80% of the total eligible costs** of the proposed activities. The following activities will be eligible:

- a) design and implementation of new models of cooperation for sustainable social finance mechanisms, including feasibility studies and legal advice
- b) activities on mutual learning and dissemination of good practices
- c) activities related to coaching and mentoring of social enterprises

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be launched in the second half of 2013.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion

- Applicants must be in conformity with Articles 106(1), 107 to 109 of the Financial Regulation.

b) Eligibility criteria

To be eligible :

- Applicants and co-applicants must be legally established in one of the Member States of the EU.
- Applicants and co-applicants must be public, private or not-for-profit entities.
- For actions dealing with the supply side of social finance, applicants must implement the action in cooperation with at least 2 co-applicants with a view to working towards the access of finance for social enterprises and in particular young entrepreneurs. In these cases, the applicant or one of the co-applicants must be a (potential) investor.

To be eligible, actions must:

- be fully carried out in the countries mentioned above;

c) Selection criteria

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

- Financial capacity to carry out the action: the applicant must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as

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

- Operational capacity to complete the proposed action: the applicant or the main experts working on the proposed actions must have a track record in these activities; their pertinent activities, experience and expertise has to be presented in the proposal.

d) Award criteria

The proposals which fulfil the eligibility and selection criteria will be assessed according to the following award criteria:

- Relevance of the proposal to the call
- Quality of the proposal, including in terms of potential sustainability
- Impact of the proposal
- The cost / efficiency of the operation

With consideration of the budget available for this call for proposals, the proposals with the highest evaluation scores will be selected for award.

SUMMARY TABLE

ACTIONS	INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR
GRANTS	1 000 000
Call for proposals	1 000 000
TOTAL 04 04 18	1 000 000

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