



DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Annual work programme of grants and contracts for 2011 (update)

[Commission Decision C(2011)4963 of 12 July 2011]

SUMMARY

DG EMPL's annual work programme of grants and contracts for 2011, serving as a financing decision

This draft follows Decision C(2011)1673.¹ It constitutes a supplementary financing decision which concerns the appropriations added by the Budgetary Authority upon adoption of the budget for the implementation of three pilot projects and one preparatory action (new lines 04 03 12, 04 03 13, 04 03 14 and 04 04 08). 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 update because they are considered to be substantial.

This update 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 additions and amendments 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 05: Free movement of workers, coordination of social security systems and measures for migrants, including migrants from third countries
- 04 03 07: Analyses and studies of the social situation, demographics and the family
- 04 03 12: Pilot project – all-inclusive cooperation between public authorities, commercial firms and not-for-profit enterprises on integrating people into society and employment
- 04 03 13: Preparatory action – Your first EURES job
- 04 03 14: Pilot project – Social solidarity for social integration
- 04 04 01 01: PROGRESS Programme: Employment
- 04 04 01 02: PROGRESS Programme: Social protection and inclusion
- 04 04 01 03: PROGRESS Programme: Working conditions
- 04 04 08: Pilot project – Encouraging the conversion of precarious work into work with rights

The inclusion of the budget lines concerning pilot projects and preparatory action in this update supplements DG EMPL's financing decision for 2011.

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

- awarding grants and

¹ Commission Decision C(2011)1673 of 16.03.2011 adopting DG EMPL's annual programme of grants and contracts, serving as a financing decision for 2011.

- public procurement

The Annex to the draft Decision sets out, for each budget line concerned, the details of the various actions scheduled by DG EMPL for 2011 to be financed from the appropriations earmarked for the promotion of initiatives in the fields 'Working in Europe – Social Dialogue and Mobility' and 'Employment, Social Solidarity and Gender Equality'.

ANNEX

SUMMARY TABLE - OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2011 UNDER THE PILOT PROJECTS AND THE PREPARATORY ACTION WITH THE CORRESPONDING AMOUNTS

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
Grants	6 000 000
Calls for proposals	6 000 000
Procurement	1 000 000
TOTAL PILOT PROJECTS AND PREPARATORY ACTION	7 000 000

The activities corresponding to these amounts, not yet covered by a financing decision, are detailed under new budget lines 04 03 12, 04 03 13, 04 03 14 and 04 04 08.

The rest of modifications included in this update constitute a reallocation of amounts inside the different budget lines, without any financial implications.

COMMISSION DECISION C(2011)1673 OF 16 MARCH 2011 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

BUDGET LINE 04 03 05 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

04 03 05 - FREE MOVEMENT OF WORKERS, CO-ORDINATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES AND MEASURES FOR MIGRANTS, INCLUDING MIGRANTS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES

One of the objectives is completed as follows:

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

Financing of actions aimed at providing a better service and raising awareness to the public, including measures aimed at identifying migrant workers' social security problems and measures speeding up and simplifying administrative procedures, analysis of the barriers to free movement and lack of coordination of social security systems and their impact on disabled people, including adaptation of administrative procedures to new information processing techniques, in order to improve the system for acquiring rights and the calculation and payment of benefits pursuant to Regulations (EEC) No 1408/71 and (EEC) No 574/72 (including the cost of translating documents) and Regulation (EC) No 859/2003 as well as Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 and its implementing Regulation (EC) No 987/2009 and Regulation (EU) No 1231/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 extending Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 and Regulation (EC) No 987/2009 to nationals of third countries who are not already covered by these Regulations solely on the ground of their nationality;

Point 2. Procurement is amended as follows:

2. PROCUREMENT

2.1. Calls for tender

Point 2.1.1. on the Assistance to the Audit Board of the Administrative Commission on Social Security for Migrant Workers is deleted

A new point 2.1.4 is inserted:

2.1.4. Service contract to support the exchange and cooperation between Member States in the context of the implementation and operation of EESSI.

One of the key innovations in the new Regulations 883/2004 and 987/2009 that have become applicable on 1 May 2010, is the introduction of a European system for the electronic exchange of social security information between national institutions. This system is referred to as the EESSI system (Electronic Exchange of Social Security information), and will replace the paper based exchange. The change over to this new system is a complex integration exercise, in which thousands of institutions will have to inter-connect. They will need to adapt their own business processes and IT-applications to that end. In such complex integration project the exchange of information and experiences and a strong cooperation between Member States is crucial. The call has as an objective to provide support to and to facilitate the exchange and cooperation between Member States, inter alia by bringing together experts involved in the implementation and operation of this system in their national administrations, by organising or participating in bilateral or multilateral events in Brussels and in the Member

States, by organising workshops on specific topics related to the implementation and operation of the system which are of common interest to Member States.

The call will be published in the second quarter of 2011.

2.2. Use of existing framework contracts

Point 2.2.1. is completed as follows:

2.2.1. Seminars/Events in relation with the work of the Administrative Commission

A number of specific activities (seminars and events) will be organised with a view to further prepare the Institutions to the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 (on the co-ordination of social security systems) and to the Implementing Regulation. These activities will be organised through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL framework contract 'Meetings' concluded on 26 November 2008 (7 lots – VC/2008/63, VC/2008/862, VC/2008/864, VC/2008/867, VC/2008/868, VC/2008/869 and VC/2008/870) for a period of 24 months, renewable once.

Translation of documents related to the work of the Administrative Commission might require the use of Agreement 68018 DG EMPL-CDT concluded on 3 July 2003 for a period of 12 months renewable for successive periods of 12 months.

2.3. Renewals

A new point 2.3.4 is inserted:

2.3.4 Assistance to the Audit Board of the Administrative Commission on Social Security for Migrant Workers

Renewal of the contract VC/2010/05 concluded on 11 August 2010 for a period of 12 months renewable three times.

BUDGET LINE 04 03 07 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

04 03 07 – ANALYSIS OF AND STUDIES ON THE SOCIAL SITUATION, DEMOGRAPHICS AND THE FAMILY
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Point 2. Procurement is amended as follows:

2. Procurement

2.1. Calls for tender

A new point 2.1.2 is inserted:

2.1.2. Technical support for the activities linked to the European alliance for families

The subject of the contract is to expand the current contract for the website maintenance, in particular by introducing a stronger focus on the evaluation and identification of good practices. The contractor will provide high-quality input for the website content and will - within the framework of the activities of the European Family Alliance and in cooperation with the Member States and the social partners - collect information, process it and make it available to the general public. Particular attention would be given to local, regional and company initiatives focusing on family-friendliness, better reconciliation of work with family and private life in order to facilitate the exchange of experience, good practices and innovative approaches. The contractor will also be in charge of the current content of the website of the Alliance (including newsletter and news items) and will provide scientific support for the organisation of meetings within the framework of the activities of the European Alliance for families.

The call will be launched in the second quarter of 2011.

2.2. Use of existing framework contracts

A new point 2.2.4. is inserted:

2.2.4 Maintenance of the Web Portal of the European Alliance for Families

This activity will be implemented on the basis of the framework contract for services of DG DIGIT – ESP Desis II Nr. 6760-6762, valid until 9 September 2012.

A NEW BUDGET LINE IS INSERTED:

04 03 12 - PILOT PROJECT – ALL-INCLUSIVE COOPERATION BETWEEN PUBLIC AUTHORITIES, COMPANIES AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISES IN FAVOUR OF SOCIAL INCLUSION AND INTEGRATION INTO THE LABOUR MARKET

LEGAL BASIS

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 49(6) of Council regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1), as last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 1525/2007 (OJ L 343, 27.12.2007, p. 9).

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 1 000 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

The purpose of this pilot project is to put in place actions which aim at the promotion of innovative models of partnership between public institutions, companies and social enterprises. It creates specific partnerships favouring a more effective and coordinated approach focusing on the identification, measurement and validation of good practice that can be reproduced in other EU countries and regions.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

1. GRANTS

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

1.1. Call for proposals - Collaboration among administrations, for-profit and social enterprises in favour of social inclusion and integration into the labour market

Objectives and foreseen results

The call will allow the development of spaces for dialogue and thus foster mutual understanding and promote exchange of good practices. In particular, this should contribute to:

- fostering greater commitment of the business world to corporate social responsibility particularly in local communities;
- propose effective solutions to the socio-economic problems suffered by each specific area and target group; and
- generate measurable results in terms of integration of vulnerable groups.

The proposed actions, according to their target-groups, will take benefit where possible: i) from synergies already put in place under the PROGRESS Programme; ii) from the Learning Networks put in place in the context of the ESF; iii) from the activities encouraging companies in their corporate social responsibility through local employment development including those financed by the PROGRESS programme.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

The amount envisaged for this call is EUR 1 000 000. The co-financing percentage is limited to 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be launched in May/June 2011.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion and eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be in conformity with Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation;
- Be properly constituted and registered legal persons established in one of the EU Member States;
- Be public authorities, or state or semi-state agencies at central or regional level;

Activities must:

- Be linked to the objective of the call;
- Involve as partners organisations from at least three Member States. Each Member State should be represented by at least three partners (one public administration, one profit-making company and one social enterprise).

b) Selection

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 and the partners 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 track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

c) Award

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

- How the action will address the objectives of the call including a clear and well-supported diagnosis of the issues addressed, its innovative character, its relevance, and approach to have an effect on EU policies, actions and agendas;
- The quality of the partnership: i) involvement of bodies responsible for public policies, service providers, social partner organisations, profit-making companies and social enterprises in setting up and participating in a transnational action; ii) its capacity for achieving the desired results, by means of a clear allocation of tasks and responsibilities amongst the partners;

- The methodology, including the work plan with timetable and the organisation of the transnational work, intended to be applied for the action. In case of proposals consisting of several work packages, the methodology should be clearly described for each work package. The feasibility and clarity of the work plan will be assessed as well as the proposed structure of the team and its relation to the tasks to be performed;
- The quality and relevance of the approach to monitoring and evaluation;
- The quality of the method for identifying transferability of results and disseminating of these to other Member States, and the lasting effects and follow-up measures both at national and EU level;
- The cost/efficiency ratio.

SUMMARY TABLE

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	1 000 000
Call for proposals	1 000 000
TOTAL 04 03 12	1 000 000

A NEW BUDGET LINE IS INSERTED:

04 03 13 – PREPARATORY ACTION: Your first EURES job

LEGAL BASIS

The preparatory action will be implemented within the meaning of Article 49(6) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) N°1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L248, 16.09.2002), as last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 1525/2007 (OJ L343, 27.12.2007).

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 4 000 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

The budget line is aimed at financing "Your first EURES job" activities within the preparatory action approved by the budgetary authority. For the year 2011 it is planned to launch a call for proposals inviting interested applicant organisations to submit projects with the potential to carry out the activities outlined hereinafter.

"Your first EURES job" is a Union preparatory action aimed at boosting the workers' freedom of movement as set out in the Treaties (Art 46 of the TFEU) and enhancing youth labour mobility across Europe. Moreover, this preparatory action has the potential to fulfil the objectives of Art. 47 of the TFEU: *"Member States shall, within the framework of a joint programme, encourage the exchange of young workers"*. The preparatory action is thus fully justified insofar it provides the possibility to accomplish a specific Treaty-based obligation which could not be achieved otherwise.

"Your first EURES job" is one of key actions of the Europa 2020 flagship Communication *"Youth on the Move"*² to tackle youth unemployment and boost young people's job mobility across Europe. This is a job mobility action targeting young people and SME³.

One of the goals of this preparatory action is also to test the operability and usefulness of such an action with a view to include it in the future EURES activities.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

Working in another EU country can be particularly attractive for young people to gain new skills and competences or live and work in a different cultural environment. It can in addition provide them with more and better job opportunities. Yet there are still many obstacles that in practice hinder free movement. Young people are often willing to work in another EU country but do not take up job opportunities in other countries because they are not aware of them or because of the costs and insecurity of moving.

Similarly, SME do not employ staff from another EU country so frequently and do often lack the Human Resources (HR) expertise to integrate workers from other EU member States. Hindrances related to the costs of hiring EU mobile workers affect mostly smaller companies:

² COM(2010) 477 final, dated 15/09/2010

³ 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)

relocation costs, administrative expenses and sometimes housing costs. Many assistance practices are also cost-intensive and hardly applied by SME.

Young people and SME are the core target groups. The preparatory action will provide advisory, job search, recruitment and financial support to both young jobseekers aged 18-30 willing to work in another EU Member State and companies (in particular SME) recruiting young European mobile workers and providing an integration programme for the newcomer(s).

"Your first EURES job" will be implemented by employment services under the coordination of the European Commission. They will provide support as well as job matching and job placement services to the target groups.

1. GRANTS

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

1.1. Call for proposals

1.1.1. "Your first EURES job"

The expected results of this call for proposals is to support and finance

- the job placement of 2200 young (aged 18-30) European workers⁴ in another EU country⁵;
- part of the costs borne by the employers (SMEs) with their integration and induction programme

As regards the geographical scope of "Your first EURES job", the preparatory action should ideally outreach young people and SME across all the EU-27 Member States. Applicant organisations should have a meaningful European dimension (e.g. organisations with national agencies or branches or working in partnerships with other EU stakeholders). Each EU Member State should ideally be covered by at least one of the selected applicant organisations. However, since this is a preparatory action, it cannot be guaranteed that all EU Member States will be covered.

This will be done by a maximum of **four** public, private or third sector employment services from the EU-27 Member States with a broad EU geographical coverage as above and the necessary employment service provision expertise to implement large-scale EU transnational mobility activities touching upon a large number of young people and enterprises. Applicant organisations should furthermore have the adequate resources, expertise and management capacity as well as a consolidated transnational and country-wide network or partnership. They should demonstrate they will be able to integrate the expected activities into their business model with a view to support and distribute low-value grants to young European mobile jobseekers and recruiting SMEs.

The overall objectives are the following:

⁴ Workers is a broad definition: it includes any person who undertakes genuine and effective work for which he is paid under the direction of someone else. It also includes jobseekers and people retaining the status of workers. It does not cover third country migrant workers. For all these definitions, see COM(2010)373 of 13.07.2010: Reaffirming the free movement of workers: rights and major developments.

⁵ Estimation made on the basis of a maximum job placement cost of EUR 1500

- contribute to improve the functioning of the EU labour markets and to fulfil the employment target of the Europe 2020 strategy as well as the objectives of the flagship initiative "Youth on the Move"
- bridge the gap between labour supply (young people) and labour demand (employers) at EU level by pooling applicant organisations' resources (staff, vacancy databases, labour market expertise and advisory competences) and making them available to the target groups
- complement and strengthen the role played by the EURES network in promoting and supporting intra-EU job mobility, including fighting against massive youth unemployment as a result of the crisis
- serve as a life-size test to examine the operability and added value of "Your first EURES job"

The call will draw attention to the minimum required service level from applicant organisations. An Implementing Guide will be drawn up by the Commission and annexed to the call for proposals. The purpose of the Guide is to specify the implementing and financing rules applicable to the action and to help applicant organisations to elaborate their proposals.

The guide is also deemed to be a management tool for future selected applicant organisations with a view to ensure equivalent quality standards of the service delivery and secure the necessary transparency and equal treatment of end-recipients (young people and SMEs). The call for proposals will refer applicant organisations to the guide as a mandatory and integral part of the call.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

The total available budget for this call is **EUR 4 000 000**.

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

- a minimum of 80% will be aimed at granting a contribution to third parties:
 - a) The jobseekers' travel and subsistence costs for the first interview and the costs of moving to another EU country to take up the job
 - b) the employer's (SME) costs with the mobile worker's integration programme (e.g. induction training, language course, administrative support, etc)
- a maximum of 20% will be aimed at co-funding the eligible costs borne by the selected applicant organisations for the management of the action.

Since a critical mass is crucial for the effectiveness of the preparatory action, the Commission expects to finance a maximum of four applications from the total budget. Sources of co-financing can be public or private.

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 conditions spelled out in the enclosed Appendix (see page 33).

Given the nature and policy objectives of the "Your first EURES job" preparatory action and as applied to any other EU mobility programme, derogation to Article 120 of the Financial Regulation is deemed necessary.

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be launched during the second quarter 2011. The actions will have 18 months maximum duration.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion and eligibility criteria

To be eligible, applicant organisations:

- must be legally established in one of the 27 Member States of the EU
- must be in conformity with Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation
- can be public, private⁶ or third sector EU organisations with a legal profit or non-profit status, whose main mission is the provision of general employment services to jobseekers and employers covering a variety of occupations and jobs in different economic sectors
- should have a meaningful European dimension i.e. organisations with national agencies or branches or working in partnerships with other EU stakeholders, in at least 7 different EU Member States
- must demonstrate the capacity to provide transnational employment services and support to young people and enterprises in other EU Member States having no "Your first EURES job" services, branches or partners

To be eligible, applications:

- must be submitted electronically on-line with the SWIM application and by post in 3 hard copies (1 original and 2 copies) by the deadline set out in the call
- must be complete and include all supporting requested documents
- must comply with the European Union's rules for co-financing and guarantee a cash co-financing of **5%** of the total eligible costs
- must be fully carried out in the Member States of the European Union
- must 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 preparatory actions or other programmes).

b) Selection criteria

⁶ In accordance with interpretation of cases C-41/90 and C-55/96

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. The applicant must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

c) 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

Particular attention will be paid to:

- The degree to which the proposal effectively meets the objectives and priorities of the preparatory action
- The European dimension of the applicant organisations' network or partnership, the involved partners (if any) as well as the nature and the geographical scope of their service provision
- The customer-oriented approach to address the needs of the target groups

Quality of the proposal

Particular attention will be paid to:

- Clarity, consistency, coherence of the proposed activities (methodology and tools)
- The extent to which the work plan is adequate to ensure minimum quality services to the target groups and presents innovative working methods
- Detailed description of the resources, management structures, tasks and responsibilities of the applicant organisations
- Quality of the mechanism for ongoing monitoring and final evaluation.

Impact of the proposal

Particular attention will be paid to:

- The extent to which the proposal is likely to have a tangible impact on the target groups and is likely to support the expected number of job placements
- The potential of the proposal to boost intra-EU geographical labour mobility and improve youth employment in Europe

- The European added value, i.e. evidence that the project activities would not be feasible without EU support

Visibility of the action

Particular attention will be paid to:

- The communication and information activities
- Quality and efficiency of the information dissemination.
- Publicity to the Union involvement and responsibility for the action

The cost / efficiency of the operation

Particular attention will be paid to:

- Clarity and consistency of the estimated budget description
- The degree to which the level of output and impact of the project is proportional to the amount of the requested grant
- Coherence between the proposed expenditure and the action implementation needs

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

SUMMARY TABLE

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	4 000 000
Call for proposals	4 000 000
TOTAL 04 03 13	4 000 000

A NEW BUDGET LINE IS INSERTED:

04 03 14 - PILOT PROJECT – SOCIAL SOLIDARITY FOR SOCIAL INTEGRATION
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LEGAL BASIS

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 49(6) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1) as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1525/2007 (OJ L 343, 27.12.2007, p. 9).

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 1 000 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

This pilot project will aim to make progress on the implementation of adequate minimum income schemes as set out in the Commission's 2008 recommendation on the active inclusion of people excluded from the labour market, which contains common principles and practical guidelines on a comprehensive strategy based on the integration of three pillars, namely adequate income support, inclusive labour markets and access to quality services.

This pilot project will provide input to the 2012 in-depth assessment of the implementation of active inclusion strategies at national level, including the effectiveness of minimum income schemes, as announced in the EU Platform against poverty and social exclusion.

Moreover, given that an adequate income is necessary at all stages of the life cycle, including for older people, and in line with the aim of the 2012 European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, this pilot project will aim to ensure that when guaranteeing adequacy of old-age income schemes, Member States will ensure that these schemes address older people's needs and expectations in terms of what they consider to be essential to preserve decent standards of living and guarantee personal dignity.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

1. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement is EUR 1 000 000

1.1. Calls for tender

A call for tender will be launched for the constitution of a partnership/consortium of Member States, regional and local administrations, trade unions and associations on national minimum income schemes

which will aim to:

- Raise awareness about the role of minimum income schemes to assist people's active participation in the society and in the world of work and to overcome the stigma often associated to those schemes;

- Analyse and give visibility to the benefits of adequate minimum income schemes for individuals and for the society, including social and economic impacts, costs and benefits;
- Raise awareness about the reality of minimum income schemes within EU member states in terms of adequacy, coverage and take up. Within this context, particular attention should be paid to old-age related income schemes;
- Exchange between Member States of good practice and of unsatisfactory experiences.

The call for tender will be published in the second quarter of 2011.

SUMMARY TABLE

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
PROCUREMENT	1 000 000
TOTAL 04 03 14	1 000 000

BUDGET LINE 04 04 01 01 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

04 04 01 01 - PROGRESS – EMPLOYMENT
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1.2. Grants to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly

Point 1.2.1.2. is amended as follows:

Three major Presidency conferences will be organised in 2011 to discuss employment-related topics, two during the Hungarian Presidency and one other during the Polish Presidency.

The Commission intends to co-fund these conferences, which will address policy issues covered under the EES and the Europe 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

The indicative amount is EUR 750 000 for the three events (EUR 250 000 each) and the maximum EU co-financing rate 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.

2. Procurement

Point 2 Procurement is amended as follows:

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement is EUR 9 130 932

2.1 Calls for tender

Point 2.1.2 is amended as follows:

2.1.2. Small-scale studies in support of the "Employment in Europe report", of "Monthly and Quarterly Labour Monitoring and Supporting", of the "European Employment Strategy", and on "International and enlargement related issues of employment and social policy".

The aim is to cover short-term needs in relation to analytical work for the Employment in Europe report, to elaborate background papers for bilateral and regional conferences or contribute to the drafting of 'joint papers' with international partners, and in support of the EES policy assessment in the context of the Europe 2020 Strategy by ad-hoc literature review, analysis and fact-finding.

A maximum of eight low value procedures will be launched throughout 2011.

2.2. Use of existing framework contracts

Point 2.2.5. is completed as follows:

2.2.5 Information, publications, networking and communication strategy

In order to facilitate the communication and exchange of information and good practices between the Programme participants and with persons not directly participating, a request will be made for dissemination, publications, networking and communication activities to be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL framework contract for communication activities, concluded on 30 November 2007 (3 lots - VC/2007/34, VC/2007/673 and VC/2007/674) for a period of 24 months, renewable once and the DG EMPL framework contract for publication activities, concluded on November 2007 (VC/2007/52) for a period of 48 months, renewable once.

Point 2.2.6.3 on Small-scale studies on international and enlargement related issues of employment and social policy is deleted.

A new point 2.2.7 is included

2.2.7 Eurobarometer in relation with Employment policies in the aim of Europe 2020

Europe 2020 is the EU's growth strategy with five ambitious objectives - on employment, innovation, education, social inclusion and climate/energy - to be reached by 2020.

Two of the three flagship initiatives of the Europe 2020 strategy that fall under the areas of employment are:

- Youth on the move: aims to improve young people's chances of finding a job by helping students and trainees gain experience in other countries, and improving the quality and attractiveness of education and training in Europe. It contains a framework for youth employment aiming at developing measures for reducing the high youth unemployment and raising youth employment rates.
- An agenda for new skills and jobs: it complements the 'Youth on the Move' initiative and aims to give fresh momentum to labour market reforms to help people gain the right skills for future jobs, to create new jobs and overhaul EU employment legislation;
- The 'New Skills for New Jobs' initiative launched in 2008 set out the Commission's agenda for better skills upgrading, anticipation and matching. The initiative is ongoing and will be continued in the future. Despite the similarities in names, the flagship is much wider and includes flexicurity, job quality and working conditions and job creation. Skills development forms one of the four main areas of the flagship

The envisaged questions to be included in the general Eurobarometer on employment and social policies will inform the debate at EU and national level on the most efficient measures to take by measuring the expectations and concerns of young people with regard to the labour market and mobility. A particular attention will be paid to transitions of young people from education to work, support to young entrepreneurs and self-employment as well as the practical needs to become mobile.

The related specific contracts will be based upon framework service contract PO/2008-15/A3 concluded by DG COMM on 1 April 2009 for a period of 12 months and renewable 3 times.

3. Joint Management

Point 3.4. is amended as follows

3.4. ILO joint management on "Macroeconomic analysis on supporting more and better jobs, while addressing income and wage inequalities in the context of tight budget constraints"

In the majority of countries, both within and outside the EU, the gap between high-income groups and low-income groups has been rising for the past couple of decades. At the same time, developments in labour market structure and institutions (wage bargaining, composition of contracts etc.) may have affected the balance between employment, productivity and competitiveness, and social cohesion. The Great Recession has exacerbated these trends. The traditional approach among EU countries to addressing inequality concerns has been through redistribution policies. However, the fiscal space to carry out such policies has been reduced

in view of the large fiscal deficits that have resulted from the Great Recession and the fiscal consolidation plans. Redistribution concerns are less prominent among some of the largest non-EU countries.

The purpose of the joint cooperation project with the Institute for International Labour Studies of the ILO will be to i) help understand the sources of growing income and wage inequalities; ii) assess the social and economic consequences of growing income inequalities; and iii) formulate general implications for employment and social policies. The project will build upon the current EC-IILS/ILO work on crisis and globalization and will focus on the EU as well as large non-EU countries such as Brazil, China, India, Japan and the US. It will pave the way for a subsequent stage of the project dealing with policies to address employment and distributional goals, and their impact on job-rich economic growth.

The indicative amount for this project is EUR 300 000.

Point 3.5. is amended as follows

3.5. OECD/EU activity on " Matching supply to demand through labour migration "

One of the main rationales for resorting to recruitment from abroad is to satisfy labour/skill requirements that are not currently being met in the domestic labour market. Given the demographic ageing and the rapid technological change, the labour market will aim to internally adjust, mainly through wage signals, promoting a more efficient reallocation of resources. In this context, labour migration also represents an important potential avenue for matching supply to demand in the labour market allowing for faster economic growth in an increasingly competitive global economy.

Nevertheless, an efficient matching of immigrant skills to available jobs in the labour market will not necessarily occur automatically since in most cases skill/language profiles in origin and destination countries are not the same. Besides, recruitment of foreign workers may not be a simple matter for employers in small and medium-sized enterprises. The objective of this project is to analyse the range of challenges related to these issues and provide new insight on policies needed to ensure that economic migration can effectively respond to future labour market needs.

Activities to fulfil this objective will be implemented in two phases:

The first phase of the project will be carried out over the period April 2011-October 2011.

- The OECD will prepare a study report analysing the impact and future perspectives of demographic trends in the EU workforce also taking into account labour mobility patterns geared by the development of free mobility in the EU and other global mobility trends. This study report will also devote due attention on the critical dimension of education level and skill mobility.
- The OECD report, together with a number of commissioned papers from outside experts and specific contributions from Commission services will be debated during an international conference jointly organised by the EU and the OECD in November 2011.
- Based on the deliverables of the first phase and the feedback during the conference of November 2011 a first OECD publication will be prepared by July 2012.

The second phase of the project will be carried out from August 2012 to March 2013.

- The deliverables of the second phase consists of a study report, including an OECD review on migrant skills based on skill assessment on the basis of PIAAC and a review of relevant academic work. The OECD review will also examine current country practices related to skill matching and recruitment of migrant workers indentifying good practices and policy recommendation.
- The OECD report, together with a number of commissioned papers from outside experts and specific contributions from Commission services will be debated during a second international conference jointly organised by the EU and the OECD in April 2013.
- Based on the deliverables of the second phase and the feedback during the conference of April 2013 a second OECD publication will be prepared by November 2013.
- Further to this a ten pages DG EMPL-OECD Policy Brief taking stock of all the activities of this project will be released in early December 2013 through a joint Press conference.

The indicative amount for this project is EUR 900 000.

The summary table is amended as follows⁷:

SUMMARY TABLE

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	4 390 000
Calls for proposals	3 500 000
De jure monopolies	890 000
PROCUREMENT	9 130 932
JOINT MANAGEMENT	4 060 000
SUBDELEGATIONS	1 327 510
INDIRECT CENTRALISED MANAGEMENT	1 100 000
OTHER INTERVENTIONS	250 000
TOTAL 04 04 01 01	20 258 442

⁷ These modifications constitute a reallocation of amounts without any financial implications.

BUDGET LINE 04 04 01 02 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

04 04 01 02 – PROGRESS – SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

Point 1.1. Calls for Proposals is amended as follows:

1.1.1 Call for proposals for social experimentations

Section "Objectives and scope" is replaced by the following:

Objectives and scope

This call for proposals seeks to promote social experimentation as a source of social innovation in the social programs and policies falling within the open method of coordination applied to social protection and social inclusion (the social OMC) in the European Union.

Two calls for proposals with similar objectives (VP/2009/005 and VP/2010/007) were already launched in 2009 and 2010 under Section 2 of PROGRESS, the European Union's employment and social solidarity programme.

Through its flagship initiative 'European Platform against Poverty', the Europe 2020 strategy emphasises the crucial role of social innovation to ensure economic, social and territorial cohesion and calls for future EU funding programmes to focus more on societal challenges and citizens' social needs.

Selected projects should contribute to developing and testing socially innovative approaches to EU policy priorities in the context of the European open method of coordination on social protection and social inclusion such as active inclusion of persons excluded from the labour market, prevention and alleviation of child poverty and promotion of their well-being, strengthening of the accessibility, quality and viability of health care and long-term care (both institutional care and alternative community based care), fight against housing exclusion and homelessness, and social inclusion of migrants and ethnic minorities, notably the Roma.

The social experimentation projects have to include partnerships between different European stakeholders that are involved in the process of social innovation: public bodies, local authorities, civil society, private sector etc.

The relevant transnational projects - concerning at least two European countries - should address issues such as networking activities of partners, methodologies to evaluate the social experimentations and strategies to generalise social experimentations' into broader policy measures or programmes or to implement them at larger scales.

The European Commission could consider disseminating the results of the relevant projects to the European Social Fund authorities to review and adapt this instrument for the scaling-up of the successfully tested social innovations.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion and eligibility

Sections "Eligibility of the applicant" and "Eligibility of the proposal" are replaced by the following:

Eligibility of the applicant

- This call is accessible to stakeholders from all PROGRESS participating countries, including the EFTA/EEA countries, the candidate countries and the pre-candidate countries
- Applicants must be public authorities, state/semi-state agencies at central, regional or local level of the PROGRESS participating countries.
- They should be properly constituted and registered organisations (legal person) established in one of the PROGRESS participating countries with an established administrative and financial management structure.

Eligibility of the proposal

The proposal submitted for funding should meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be complete and comply with the rules for submission published in the call for proposals
- Only seeks funding for activities in PROGRESS participating countries.
- Be carried out by a partnership made up of at least two categories of partners: public authority, or state/semi-state agencies at central, regional or local level, and at least one civil society organisation (NGO, social enterprise, etc). Including academic structures and/or profit-making enterprises, and/or public, civil society, private or academic partners from other PROGRESS countries in the wider partnership is strongly encouraged.
- Have to organise at the final stage of the project a peer review involving all project partner(s) including partner(s) from at least one other PROGRESS participating countries.
- May not foresee direct financial support to the members of the target groups.

The proposal must respect the maximum limit for EU co-financing (80%).

c) Award criteria

Policy and Organisational criteria are amended as follows:

Policy Criteria

1. Relevance of the project to the specific objective of this call: promotion of a social experimentation as defined in this call.
2. Relevance of the background analysis: the extent to which the proposal presents a well-supported diagnosis of the social needs to be addressed and demonstrates the relevance of the proposed social experimentation to advancing social programmes and policies.
3. Quality of the social experimentation design: relevant and clear objectives, target groups, activities, project outcomes; final achievement and impact evaluation framework to assess its outcomes and to evaluate its impacts in both economic and social dimension. Preference is given the comparison between experimental group(s) with similar control group(s), but alternative evaluation methodologies are accepted as long as the impact of the measure being tested is credibly ascertained.

4. Quality of the "up-scaling" strategy (the ability of the project to be implemented at a larger scale or into broader policy measures, including its sustainability).

Organisational Criteria

1. Organisational capacity to achieve the objectives through the proposed activities with realistic deadlines.
2. Quality of partnerships: good balance between partners (public sector, civil society, academic structures, private sector etc.).
3. Quality of the framework for project monitoring, evaluation and peer review.
4. Quality of the communication and awareness-raising strategy.

1.1.2 Call for proposal on innovative policies to support healthy, active and dignified ageing and raise the effectiveness and efficiency of spending on social, health and long-term care services and benefit

Sections "Objectives and foreseen results" and "Recent political background" are replaced by the following:

Objectives and foreseen results

This call for proposals seeks to promote the sustainability and quality of health and long-term care provision for the elderly through healthy and active ageing. It aims at helping Member States achieve the objectives defined within the open method of coordination applied to social protection and social inclusion (the 'social OMC') in the European Union.

The rapidly growing number of older people in Europe's societies has given rise to fears that the provision of health and long-term care services needed for dignified ageing will become unaffordable. In response to the challenges of population ageing, the EU has been promoting active and healthy ageing in employment, social and health policies aimed notably at people in the second half of their lives. Such policies have considerable potential for raising the healthy life expectancy, enhancing the ability of older people to contribute to society and reducing their dependency on health and long-term care services and preserving the financial sustainability of high quality social and care services needed for a life in dignity in all phases of the life cycle.

Recent political background

On 15-16 September 2009, a major conference was organised by the Swedish Presidency on healthy and dignified ageing with the aim of raising these issues on the EU agenda and to promote cooperation on this involving all stakeholders. Following the conference, the Council adopted conclusions on 30 November 2009 inviting the Commission to support future actions to promote healthy and dignified ageing at EU, national and local levels and more generally to review ongoing activities in this field. To encourage stakeholders to become more active and to increase awareness of the potentials of active ageing, the Commission adopted on 6 September 2010 a proposal for designating 2012 as European Year for Active Ageing. On 6 October 2010, the European Commission announced the Innovation Union Flagship initiative, proposing among others a European Innovation Partnership on active and healthy aging, which was launched early in 2011.

The purpose of this call for proposals is to provide financial support to projects aimed at designing better policies for healthy, active and dignified ageing in the countries participating in PROGRESS. Projects may focus on different stages of policy development, ranging from the identification of potential benefits of healthy and active ageing for sustainable social protection and social cohesion in ageing societies to the design of new policies, their implementation and evaluation. Particular attention should be paid to groups most at risk of suffering from poor health and not receiving appropriate care for a life in dignity.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion and eligibility

Sections "Eligibility of the applicant" and "Eligibility of the proposal" are revised as follows:

Eligibility of the applicant

This call is addressed to PROGRESS participating countries. Applicants must have their own legal status and be registered in one of the PROGRESS participating countries at the time of the submission of the application under the call.

Proposals shall be presented by the competent ministry, which can apply directly, or another public authority (regional or subregional - including local - authority, social security institutions or government agencies) if duly mandated by the competent ministry to carry out a project under this call.

Applicants may involve project partners who can bring in expertise in the required field (e.g. universities or research institutes, international organisations and non-governmental stakeholders). Partners must be non-profit organisations.

Eligibility of the proposal

The proposal submitted for funding should:

Be complete and comply with the rules for submission published in this call for proposals;

Involve, or make use of expertise of, at least one other PROGRESS participating country or international organization;

Propose activities that fit in with those under the PROGRESS programme;

Only seek funding for activities in PROGRESS participating countries;

Not seek funding for the operating costs of organisations, nor for their general ongoing activities, nor for profit-making purposes.

Section on award is replaced by the following:

c) Award

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

- Relevance to the general objectives of the call for proposals: Does the project address the issues raised in this call for proposals

- Potential impact on policies in the applicant country: Is the project likely to contribute to the development of better policies and lasting progress in line with EU social policy objectives with regard to healthy, active and dignified ageing?
- Overall quality of the proposal: Is the project well designed and clear in its conceptual and practical approach, is the methodology appropriate and does it mobilise the right kind of expertise as well as input from relevant stakeholders, are the respective roles and responsibilities among the project partners and team members clearly defined, is the work plan appropriate and realistic with regard to the project goals ?
- Relevance of the proposal for the EU policy debate: Will the project be relevant to policy makers and stakeholders in other countries participating in PROGRESS and yield potentially transferrable results?
- Sound cost-efficiency ratio and financial quality of the proposal: Will the project be cost-effective and achieve results at a reasonable cost to the EU budget?

Point 1.2.1.1 is amended as follows:

1.2.1.1. The first annual Convention on social exclusion and poverty

The first annual Convention on social exclusion and poverty is planned for the second semester of 2011 in order to coincide with the international day of poverty (17th October). It will be organised by the Polish Presidency and in consultation with all the relevant actors (social partners, representatives of the European Parliament, of the Council, of the Economic and Social Committee and of the Committee of the Regions, of regional and local authorities and representatives of NGOs). The event will take place in Poland.

The estimated amount of the grant is EUR 350 000. The EU grant will not exceed 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.

Point 1.2.1.4 is amended as follows:

1.2.1.4. Hungarian Presidency conference on Pensions

The Hungarian Presidency plans to hold a conference on developments in European pension systems. The event will take place in the first half of 2011.

The estimated amount of the grant is EUR 300 000. The EU grant will not exceed 80 % of the total eligible costs of the action.

Point 1.2.1.5 is amended as follows:

1.2.1.5. Polish Presidency conference on European pensions challenges

The Polish Presidency plans to organise a conference on the future adequacy of pensions and issues of pension system design. The conference could take place in September or October 2011.

The estimated amount of the grant is EUR 300 000. The EU grant will not exceed 80 % of the total eligible costs of the action.

Point 2 is amended as follows:

2. Procurement

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement is EUR 5 765 569.

Point 2.1.5. is amended as follows:

2.1.5. Study on current Social Protection Issues

The purpose of this study is to provide input for the Commission and SPC work in the area of social protection. The study will provide a comprehensive analysis of one or more current issues in social protection across the EU. The study will build on the body of work provided by the ASISP network and existing Commission studies in the field. The call will be published in the first half of 2011.

Point 2.1.7. is amended as follows:

2.1.7. Small-scale studies and support for the "European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion" and the OMC for social protection and social inclusion

The aim is to cover short-term needs in relation to analytical work by ad-hoc literature reviews, analysis and fact-finding including contributions to seminars and conferences.

The credits will be used for low value procedures to be launched throughout 2011.

Point 3.1. is amended as follows:

3.1. Cooperation with the OECD

EC/OECD project on pensions

Building on long-stand cooperation with OECD on pension monitoring and modelling, the OECD will deepen the work on pension analysis. The current round 5 of the contract with the OECD comes to an end in the middle of 2011. Round 6 will cover: analysis focusing on updates of theoretical replacement rates based on OECD's pension models; additional methodological analysis of different measures of adequacy and sustainability of pension systems; studies on trends and impacts of pension reforms; and further feasibility analysis on private pension data/indicators and national private pension policy trends.

The estimated amount for this action is €1 200 000.

Point 3.3. is amended as follows:

3.3. Cooperation with UNICEF

3.3.1. Project on the situation of children in immigrant families from low and middle income countries in respect of educational attainment and access to employment

The project will address the situation of children in immigrant families from low and middle income countries in respect of educational attainment and access to employment in order to unpack the mechanisms which place them in poor social and economic positions not only during their childhood and youth, but also into adulthood. It will include cross national comparative research to understand the situations and general trends of these children and youth in the areas of educational attainment, including early school leaving among migrant populations, provide analysis of the factors that influence whether migrant children access

academic (including higher education) or vocational tracks within the education system, and will also assess the school to work transition, including access to and participation in vocational training, apprenticeships, or other work experiences and access to employment.

The estimated amount for this action is EUR 250 000.

3.3.2. *Project on access to education of returnees' children*

So far, access to education of returnees' children was mainly a concern of the emigration countries. The 2014 LM opening shall result in circular migration to become much more frequent.

Thus access to education of returnees' children is expected to become a shared concern of emigration and immigration countries. Based on a limited number of countries participating in PROGRESS, UNICEF should investigate how to address the policy challenges already identified for the current situation and plan ahead for the years to come.

The estimated amount for this action is EUR 250 000.

The summary table is amended as follows⁸:

SUMMARY TABLE

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	19 150 000
Calls for proposals	5 500 000
De jure monopolies	2 150 000
De facto monopolies	1 500 000
Grants to partners	10 000 000
PROCUREMENT	5 765 569
JOINT MANAGEMENT	2 000 000
SUBDELEGATIONS	1 500 000
TOTAL 04 04 01 02	28 415 569

⁸ These modifications constitute a reallocation of amounts without any financial implication on the total amount.

BUDGET LINE 04 04 01 03 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

04 04 01 03 - PROGRESS – WORKING CONDITIONS
--

Point 2. Procurement is amended as follows:

2. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement is EUR 4 570 515.

2. 1. Calls for tender

Point 2.1.4 on the Study to establish the scope of modifications of the technical annex of Directive 92/58/EEC (health and safety signs) is deleted.

New Points 2.1.9 and 2.1.10 are inserted:

2.1.9 Study on the ratification of ILO up to date conventions

This study's aim is to analyse the ILO Conventions classified up to date and their relation to existing EU acquis, in the light of legal doctrine and literature. It forms part of the follow up to a resolution adopted by the European Parliament in November 2009, asking the Commission to analyse in detail the attribution of the up to date ILO instruments in terms of competences (EU - Member States). The study shall provide elements for guidance on a possible ranking of the ILO standards for Member States' ratification activities and thus contribute to the active promotion of international labour standards as essential part of the Decent Work Agenda.

The launching of the call for tender is envisaged during the second quarter of 2011

2.1.10 Study to analyse the need to modify directive 92/91

This study intends to review the provisions and the application of Directive 92/91, in particular the provisions related to activities related to offshore oil and gas activities following the Macondo incident and the Communication from the Commission to the EP and the Council "Facing the challenge of the safety of offshore oil and gas activities" (COM (2010) 560 final (SEC (2010) 1193). This would update the information contained in the Commission Report on the practical implementation of Health and safety Directives 92/91/EEC (mineral extraction through drilling) and 92/104/EEC (surface and underground mineral extraction) COM (2009) 449 final dated 3.9.2009. In addition, consideration will be given to the issue related to storage of other materials in the void created by extraction (example CO2 storage).

The launching of the call for tender is envisaged during the second quarter of 2011.

2.2. Use of existing framework contracts

Point 2.2.2. Study on Insolvency Directive (Article 8) is deleted

Point 4. Subdelegations is deleted:

4. Subdelegations

Point 4.1. Digit is deleted

The summary table is amended as follows⁹:

SUMMARY TABLE

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	3 255 000
Calls for proposals	2 330 000
De jure monopolies	600 000
De facto monopolies	325 000
PROCUREMENT	4 570 515
JOINT MANAGEMENT	275 000
SUBDELEGATIONS	0
OTHER INTERVENTIONS	525 000
TOTAL 04 04 01 03	8 625 515

⁹ These modifications constitute a reallocation of amounts without any financial implication on the total amount.

A new budget line is inserted:

04 04 08 - PILOT PROJECT TO ENCOURAGE CONVERSION OF PRECARIOUS WORK INTO WORK WITH RIGHTS
--

LEGAL BASIS

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 49(2) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1), as last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 1525/2007 (OJ L 343, 27.12.2007, p. 9).

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 1 000 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

This appropriation is intended to fund projects relating to the issue of precarious work in the EU and the ways and means to improve the social rights of the jobholders concerned.

For the specific purposes of the pilot project, the notion of "precarious work" should be considered in the widest sense as covering all types of employment relationships which are atypical in the sense that they do not provide for the same level of job security as the open-ended, full-time employment contract, either because the duration of the contract or the working time are less than what the worker would be prepared to accept, in order to satisfy his/her economic needs. Undeclared work in the meaning of paid, lawful activities that are not declared to the public authorities shall also be taken into consideration as a type of "precarious work". Those among the self-employed who are in fact "bogus" self-employed or are economically dependent workers in spite of their being formally self-employed shall be covered as well.

2011 is the second and final year of implementation of the pilot project.

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. Call for proposals on the conversion of precarious work into work with rights

Objectives and foreseen results

The call will finance transnational projects carried out by stakeholders in the field of conversion of precarious work into work with rights.

The priority objectives are the following:

- to promote the analysis and/or monitoring of concrete measures taken in Member States to improve the rights of precarious workers and, notably, of the poorest workers;
- to exchange and disseminate relevant information on national practices or cooperation initiatives designed to address the issue of converting precarious work into work affording greater job security;
- to analyse the role of precarious work in the general framework of social, economic and demographic developments, with a focus on social exclusion and in-work poverty, as well as its specific impact on working and living conditions of young workers, women and migrants;
- to analyse the economic significance, causes and effects of precarious work against the background of today's working patterns, and to what extent it contributes to the flexibility of the labour market.

The foreseen results are the following:

- improved knowledge of measures recently adopted in Member States to extend the rights of precarious workers and, notably, of the poorest workers;
- improved understanding of the spread of precarious work and its role in the overall functioning of the economy;
- promotion of exchange of information and experience among stakeholders;
- promotion of transnational cooperation among stakeholders and dissemination of best practice.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

The amount envisaged for this call is EUR 1 000 000. The co-financing percentage will be limited to a maximum of 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be launched in the second quarter of 2011.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion and eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be in conformity with Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation;
- Be a properly constituted and registered legal entity in one of the Member States. In application of Article 114 of the Financial Regulation, social partners organisations without legal personality are also eligible provided that their representatives have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf and assume financial liability;
- Fall within one of the following categories: social partners, public authorities, European or international organisations, non-profit-making organisations, research centres and institutes, universities and civil society organisations.

Activities must:

Be linked to at least one objective of the call for proposals;

- Be carried out in cooperation between partners from at least two different Member States in the case of proposals which are not submitted by a European or international organisation;
- Be fully carried out in the Member States.

b) Selection

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. The applicant must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

c) Award

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 of this call for proposals;
- The extent to which the action has a genuine transnational dimension;
- The quality of partnerships, i.e. the degree of involvement and commitment at the application stage of the social partners/stakeholders in the action;
- The cost-effectiveness of the action;
- The arrangements to publicise the action and dissemination methods envisaged;
- The overall quality, clarity and completeness of the proposal and budget explanation.

SUMMARY TABLE

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	1 000 000
Call for proposals	1 000 000
TOTAL 04 04 08	1 000 000

APPENDIX to Budget line 04 03 13

EXPLANATORY NOTE ON THE FINANCING MODALITIES APPLICABLE TO THE PREPARATORY ACTION "YOUR FIRST EURES JOB"

The European Commission has a long-standing tradition with co-financing mobility actions, notably in the fields of Education and Entrepreneurship policies. A mix of funding modalities usually applies – co-funding and flat-rate funding system - in accordance with the amounts to be granted and with the nature of beneficiaries and activities.

As specified in the section "*Description of activities to be financed*" above, the preparatory action "Your first EURES job" is largely inspired on the concept and funding mechanisms used by other EU mobility programmes for young people e.g. ERASMUS, YOUTH IN ACTION, or LEONARDO.

The action will be implemented by direct centralised management through a call for proposals to be launched in 2011 in accordance with Article 110 of the Financial Regulation and Article 167 of the Implementing Rules¹⁰. The call for proposals is aimed at selecting and co-financing applicant organisations to implement the activities described in the annex under budget line 04 03 13.

1. CO-FINANCING RATE

The new preparatory action is deemed to be integrated into the reformed EURES and the implementing labour market organisations can be public, private or non-governmental organisations. Against this setting, it is deemed appropriate to put "Your first EURES job" on equal footing with EURES to secure uniformity and transparency of co-funding rules.

The Commission already provides **95% co-financing** to the EURES network¹¹. Set up in 1993, EURES is a co-operation network between the European Commission and the Public Employment Services of the EEA Member States - the EU countries plus Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein - and other non-governmental and social partner organisations. Switzerland also takes part in EURES co-operation. The joint resources of the EURES member and partner organisations provide a solid basis for the EURES network to offer high quality services for both workers and employers.

The contribution of these organisations to EURES activities amounts to 5% of the eligible costs. However, the non-eligible costs (notably staff costs) increase that percentage up to around 40% or 50% of the total budget of the actions.

According to Art 49 of the EU Financial Regulation, preparatory actions are "designed to prepare proposals with a view to the adoption of future actions". As announced in the *Youth on the Move* Communication¹², "Your first EURES job" is deemed to be managed by EURES, but this can only happen after the EURES legal basis has been modified to integrate the rules and funding modalities to finance third parties (young people and employers). This has

¹⁰ Council Regulation (EC,Euratom) N° 1605/2002 of 25/06/2002 and Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 2342/2002 of 23.12.2002

¹¹ Commission Decision (2003/8/EC) of 23 December 2002 implementing Council Regulation (EEC) N° 1612/68 as regards the clearance of vacancies and applications for employment (OJ L5, 10.01.2003, p16)

¹² COM(2010)477 final, 15.09.2010

been laid down in the Communication "An agenda for new skills and jobs"¹³ which sets out as follows:

"The Commission in cooperation with Member States will also by 2012 reform EURES and its legal basis, to develop its matching and placement capacity at the service of the European Employment Strategy and to expand it to support 'Your first EURES job'".

The Commission intends to select a maximum of four applicant organisations and grant each one with maximum EUR 1 Mio. From this budget envelope, a maximum of EUR 200.000 will be allocated to each of those organisations to cover the costs of implementing the "Your first EURES job" preparatory action (please see graphic explanation below).

<i>Maximum grant by EC = 1 Mio EUR</i>		<i>Contribution applicant organisation</i>	
<i>Min. EUR 800.000</i>	<i>Max EUR 200.000</i>	<i>Min +/- 53000 EUR</i>	
<i>(for flat-rate financing to target groups) +</i>		<i>(costs incurred by applicant org.)</i>	
<i>80%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>(own resources)</i>	
<i>Total eligible costs:</i>	<i>95%</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>=100%</i>

2. FLAT-RATE FINANCING UNDER "YOUR FIRST EURES JOB"

2.1 Justification for having recourse to flat-rate financing

The recipients of "Your first EURES job" funding are the target groups, i.e. young people and employers (SMEs). The purpose of the "Your first EURES job" financial support is to contribute to the costs borne by recruiters and young jobseekers with transnational or cross border job placement activities.

Similarly to other mobility actions co-financed by the Community, the "Your first EURES job" preparatory action is tailored to make use of **flat-rate financing**. This form of financial support can simplify the calculation of the grant amount considerably in comparison to the traditional system of basing the amount of the grant on a detailed budget of eligible costs. It has in particular the following advantages:

- It enables target groups to take the pre-established flat-rates into account when submitting their application
- It offers advantages in terms of transparency and equal treatment of target groups by applying pre-established rates
- It introduces an incentive for the target groups to use resources as economically as possible as the final financial support is based on pre-established rates without further adjustments
- The emphasis is placed on the quality and level of achievement of measurable objectives, that is, it is focused on outputs rather than inputs. This means that no ex-post reduction on the individual recipient is foreseen in the event that, for instance, the SME or the

¹³ COM(2010)682 final of 23.11.2010

jobseeker has been able to make cost-savings or has been able to attract additional sources of funding

- It allows a considerable reduction in administrative work and thus a significant simplification in its reporting for the target groups
- Likewise, it significantly decreases the workload of the beneficiaries (that is, the selected applicant organisations) in comparison to the analysis of a detailed budget of eligible costs per cost category and as a consequence speeds up the payment procedure
- The actions falling under the "Your first EURES job" preparatory action are particularly well suited to this approach, involving a considerable number of low-value grants of a recurring nature¹⁴. Moreover, the Union contribution provided is relatively low, ensuring the respect of the co-financing and no-profit rules.

2.2 Overall management of the "Your first EURES job" budget appropriations

Funding to jobseekers is automatic whereas funding to SME is conditional, depending on the employer's decision to implement or not an integration programme for the new recruited mobile worker(s). The flat-rate amounts to fund employers can vary according to the size and quality of the integration programme (*basic induction programme* or *comprehensive induction programme*) as well as to the number of placed workers per recruitment project.

No minimum or maximum budget ceilings have been established per type of recipient (that is, a maximum budget envelope to grant young people and an equivalent maximum budget envelope to grant employers). The budget is to be allocated in an uneven way in function of the number of applications. If the grant requests by SME are low, other eligible SME or more young people can benefit from the "Your first EURES job" financial assistance.

To sum up, please note that the "Your first EURES job" financial assistance

- is not deemed to cover the overall actual costs borne by the target groups with moving to another EU country or with the integration of a new mobile worker¹⁵
- is based on a simplified flat-rate financing system
- requires a simplified reporting procedure by the end-recipients
- involves less administrative work for the selected implementing organisations
- refers to amounts estimated for the country where the job vacancy is located (country of destination)

The authorised funding conditions to target groups (young EU jobseekers and SMEs) are specified hereinafter and the "Your first EURES job" applicant organisations have no margin of discretion.

2.3 Overview of funding rules and method of calculation

In order to secure the most effective management of the "Your first EURES job" appropriations, it has been considered reasonable that each job placement activity would

¹⁴ In compliance with Article 181 of the IR

¹⁵ In compliance with the co-financing and no-profit rules of the EU budget

amount to around EUR 2000, that is, around EUR 1000 to contribute to the jobseekers' travel and subsistence costs when moving to another EU country and around EUR 1000 for the employer providing the new mobile employee with an integration programme.

The average flat-rate for either the young mobile worker or the employer amounts to around **EUR 900**. A total of 1800 to 2000 youth job placements¹⁶ could be made across Europe (average cost per placement EUR 1500).

Travel costs refer to the travel expenditure incurred from the jobseekers' country of residence (place of departure) to the country of destination (interview or place of work).

Subsistence costs cover accommodation, meals, local travel, the cost of telecommunications, including fax and Internet, as well as other sundries.

The employer's integration programme consists of a package of training and support activities provided by the employer to the new young mobile worker with a view to facilitate his/her integration in the workplace. Depending on the content of the package, it can consist of a basic induction training (at least one thematic training subject) or a comprehensive induction training (two or more thematic training subjects).

TABLE I

YOUNG MOBILE JOBSEEKER'S ALLOWANCE FOR INTERVIEW(S) IN ANOTHER MEMBER STATE				
Country of destination	Amount (EUR)		Rule of allocation	Reporting obligations
	Distance	Distance		
	< or = 500 Km	> 500 Km		
Any of the EU-27 Member States	200	300	<u>Automatic</u> (before the job interview takes place in the country of destination)	Signed declaration by the mobile jobseeker/worker

The jobseeker is entitled to receive a contribution to cover travel and subsistence costs if s/he participates in a job interview in another Member State (Table I). Building on the experience from EURES, employers prefer to travel to the applicants' countries of residence and interview several candidates locally in the frame of job fairs or specific recruitment projects. The possibility for a jobseeker to attend an interview in another EU country will thus be limited and is likely to be more frequent in cross border regions between neighbouring countries.

¹⁶ Considering a budget envelope of EUR 3.2 Mio to finance young people and SME

The rates have been established taking into account variable distances between Member States, the average cost of train and air travel tickets as applied in EURES and the basic daily rate scale to cover subsistence costs. The rate for the scale that has been used corresponds to the average (rounded) amount resulting from the calculation of 75% of the average rate between the highest (Denmark) and the lowest (Slovenia) daily rates (= daily subsistence + hotel) specified in the Commission Mission Guide (EUR 50).

TABLE II

YOUNG MOBILE WORKER'S ALLOWANCE TO MOVE TO ANOTHER MEMBER STATE			
(JOB PLACEMENT) (*)			
Country of destination	Amount (EUR)	Rule of allocation	Reporting obligations
Austria	970	<u>Automatic</u> (before moving to the country of destination)	Signed declaration by the mobile jobseeker/worker
Belgium	920		
Bulgaria	600		
Cyprus	790		
Czech Republic	710		
Denmark	1200		
Estonia	710		
Finland	1030		
France	990		
Germany	890		
Greece	860		
Hungary	620		
Ireland	960		
Italy	940		
Latvia	640		

Lithuania	640		
Luxembourg	920		
Malta	780		
Netherlands	900		
Poland	620		
Portugal	780		
Romania	600		
Slovakia	700		
Slovenia	780		
Spain	840		
Sweden	1030		
United Kingdom	1000		

(*) Travel and subsistence costs included for settlement in the country of destination

The jobseeker is entitled to receive a contribution to cover travel and subsistence costs when he/she moves to the country of destination if he/she gets a job offer (Table II). The amounts have been based on the rates used in the ERASMUS and ERASMUS for YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS programmes. The jobseeker is entitled to get an allowance (flat-rate) to help him/her settling in the country of destination during the initial week of work, before receiving the first salary. A ceiling between EUR 1200 and 600 has been established for the Member States with the highest and the lowest cost of living index respectively. The amounts for the other countries have been weighted on the basis of the cost of living index in comparison to Belgium as provided by Eurostat¹⁷.

TABLE III

FLAT RATES APPLIED TO SME INTEGRATION PROGRAMMES				
FOR YOUNG RECRUITED MOBILE YOUNG WORKERS (**)				
	Basic induction training (EUR)	Comprehensive induction training	Rule of allocation	Reporting obligations

¹⁷ Eurostat, EU correction coefficients (countries) 1.07.2010

Recruiting country			(EUR)			
	1 – 5 workers	> 5 workers	1 – 5 workers	> 5 workers		
Austria	810	650	970	810	<p><u>Conditional:</u> need to apply for funding and provide a training checklist</p> <p>Signed declaration by the SME + copy signed lists of training participants <u>or</u> signed trainee(s) enrolment form <u>or</u> declaration by trainer or training provider of training plan</p>	
Belgium	770	620	920	770		
Bulgaria	500	400	600	500		
Cyprus	660	530	790	660		
Czech Republic	590	470	710	590		
Denmark	1000	800	1200	1000		
Estonia	590	470	710	590		
Finland	860	690	1030	860		
France	830	660	990	830		
Germany	740	590	890	740		
Greece	720	570	860	720		
Hungary	520	420	620	250		
Ireland	800	640	960	800		
Italy	780	620	940	780		
Latvia	530	420	640	530		
Lithuania	530	420	640	530		
Luxembourg	770	620	920	770		
Malta	650	520	780	650		
Netherlands	750	600	900	750		
Poland	520	420	620	520		

Portugal	650	520	780	650		
Romania	500	400	600	500		
Slovakia	580	460	700	580		
Slovenia	650	520	780	650		
Spain	700	560	840	700		
Sweden	860	690	1030	860		
United Kingdom	830	660	1000	830		

(**) Rates per recruited worker

The estimated flat-rates for SME refer to costs with the integration services outlined above (Table III). Employers have to apply for funding (conditional) and submit an integration programme plan (no minimum or maximum duration is required). The proposed amounts are fixed rates per recruited worker and recruitment project and the purpose is to provide employers with an incentive to improve the integration support to mobile workers.

As the content and duration of an integration programme can vary, the costs may also vary significantly. In any case the allowances from the "Your first EURES job" budget are far below the usual rates charged by specialised training providers (e.g. the EURES Advisers training cost per trainee/day is: a) initial training: 260 € advanced training: 309 €).

Given the limited budget resources of the preparatory action, a ceiling between EUR 1200 and 600 has been established for the Member States with the highest and the lowest cost of living index respectively. The rates for the other countries have been weighted on the basis of the cost of living index in comparison to Belgium as provided by Eurostat.

The highest rates apply to comprehensive induction trainings for 1-5 mobile workers; in the case of a basic induction training, beneficiaries will receive 80% of the reference rates. If the number of workers concerned is above 5, the rates per training type are reduced by 20% respectively. The latter is due to reasons of proportionality and economies of scale as training costs tend to become lower as the number of trainees increases.

The European Union *de minimis* "state aid" regulation allows for aid of up to 200 000 EUR to be provided from public funds to any enterprise over a period of three years without any procedural burden.¹⁸

In the framework of the present call for proposals; any SME recruiting mobile workers in the frame of one or various recruitment project(s) over the period of one year and providing them with at least a basic induction training is entitled to get as much financial support as the number of actually placed young employees up to the threshold of EUR 20 000 per year.

¹⁸ EC Regulation N° 1998/2006 of 15.12.2006 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the Treaty to "de minimis aid" (Official Journal No L 379, 28.12.2006, p. 5)