



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion DG

Social Market Economy in Member States II : ESF

Geographical & financial support, Thematic reporting, CELFI

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

VP/2012/005

**Reinforce learning networks for a more effective
implementation of transnational actions under the ESF 2007-
2013**

Under Budget Line 04.022000

ESF Technical Assistance operational budget - 2007-2013

Questions should be sent by e-mail only to: empl-vp-2012-005@ec.europa.eu

To ensure a more rapid response it is helpful if applicants send their queries in English, French or German.

The English version of the call is the original.

All documents related to the call can be downloaded from the following site:

[XXXX](#)

1. RATIONALE AND GENERAL OBJECTIVES

European Social Fund (ESF) funding is channelled to Member States and their regions to support national and regional Operational Programmes. Collaborating and sharing experiences across borders, whether national, regional or organisational, is an effective way to access new ideas, innovative approaches and new skills.

In the previous programming period, the EQUAL initiative was the ESF's vehicle for supporting transnational and innovative actions. In the current programming period (2007-2013) the ESF is applying the lessons learnt under EQUAL initiatives across the wide range of ESF interventions. It is estimated that at least €3 billion will be used for transnational cooperation, representing around 2.5% of the total ESF budget.

The current [ESF Regulation](#) (Art. 3) invites Member States and regions to support transnational cooperation in all policy areas identified for ESF interventions, such as:

- increasing adaptability of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs,
- enhancing access to employment, preventing unemployment and encouraging active ageing,
- social inclusion of disadvantaged people and combating discrimination in the labour market,
- enhancing human capital and
- strengthening public administration, for all types of actors, and for all types of exchange and cooperation.

Moreover, the ESF Regulation stipulates that transnational cooperation is now an integrated feature of the ESF 2007-13 and therefore Member States and regions must assume the main responsibility for learning from one another through the exchange of good practice and knowledge, and by working together.

In order to provide additional support and incentives to work transnationally, the Commission has taken a number of actions since the beginning of the current programming period. Member States and regions were requested to support transnational cooperation, through their national and regional ESF Operational Programmes (OPs), in all policy areas identified for ESF interventions; for all types and levels of actors, and for all types of exchange and cooperation.¹

¹ The ESF Regulation (EC) No 1081/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2006 on the European Social Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1784/1999 (OJEU, L 210, 31.7.2006)

In March 2010, the Commission adopted the Europe 2020 Strategy,² aiming to transform the European Union into a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy delivering high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion. The Commission's proposal for the 2014-2020 European Social Fund³ which is currently under discussion, envisages that the latter should be fully aligned with Europe 2020 objectives. It should also support the policies pursued by Member states under the "Integrated Guidelines" which have been adopted in accordance with the Treaty, in addition to the Country-Specific Recommendations on the National Reform Programmes.

Within the context of the ESF, the Commission has committed itself to provide flexible support to Member States and regions in order to facilitate the implementation of the transnational dimension of OPs⁴, in particular as regards emerging needs of Member States that are **more effectively met at European level**.

Part of the Commission's support to transnational cooperation under the 2007-2013 ESF has been delivered through the establishment of **Learning Networks**. Two calls (VP/2008/018 and VP/2009/012) were launched in 2008 and 2009, with the aim to facilitate and strengthen transnational exchange and cooperation funded under the ESF Programmes. Thirteen EU Learning Networks (LNs)⁵ were established as a result of the above mentioned calls. They cover a wide range of thematic and governance issues relevant for the ESF. The networks have been working in order to improve capacity building and mutual learning between ESF managing and implementing bodies and with strategic stakeholders.

The knowledge acquired on EU level networking strengthens the dimension of Transnational Cooperation under the ESF and facilitates the **appropriate transition** between the 2007-2013 programming period and the next one.

stipulates that transnational co-operation is an integrated feature of the ESF 2007-2013: "*The ESF shall also support transnational and interregional actions in particular through the sharing of information, experiences, results and good practices, and through developing complementary approaches and coordinated or joint action.*"

² 'Europe 2020: A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth' – COM(2010) 2020, 3.3.2010.

³ COM(2011)607 final

⁴ Art. 9 of the ESF Reg. (EC) No 1081/2006 calls for the Commission's promotion of "in particular, exchanges of experience, awareness-raising activities, seminars, networking and peer reviews serving to identify and disseminate good practice and encourage mutual learning and transnational and interregional cooperation with the aim of enhancing the policy dimension and contribution of the ESF to the Community objectives in relation to employment and social inclusion".

⁵ Inclusive Entrepreneurship policies, promotion of business creation for all

- Increasing the Participation of Migrants and Ethnic Minorities in Employment
- Improvement of the reintegration of (ex)-prisoners and ex-offenders
- Stimulating partnership thinking and implementation in the Structural Funds
- Transnational Cooperation in the ESF
- Promotion of Empowerment and Inclusion
- Increasing the social and environmental impact of Social Economy
- Supporting public administration reforms by ESF funds
- Results based management and Evidence based policy-making
- Youth Employment
- Age management
- Gender Mainstreaming
- Social Inclusion of asylum seekers and victims of human trafficking.

2.SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL

On the basis of the experience acquired so far through the Learning Networks established under the 2008 and 2009 calls for proposals (see section above), the present call intends to facilitate the development of sustainable, open and participative networks on themes and issues relevant for delivering the Europe 2020 agenda, having as specific objectives:

- **improving the quality and efficiency of Structural Funds programmes** and their impact on employment and social inclusion across the whole Union; and
- **contributing to policy development** at EU level, particularly in the context of the Europe 2020 strategy and its 'Flagship Initiatives'.

through:

- **exploiting opportunities** for programme managers, strategic stakeholders, governmental departments in charge of policies supported under the ESF and practitioners, **for learning** from one another, and with each other;
- **capitalising on good practice** under the ESF Operational Programmes (in particular from innovative action and transnational cooperation); and
- **transforming common learning into policy messages** related to the specific theme/issue.

The Learning Networks which will be selected under the present Call should focus on themes/issues relevant for delivering the Europe 2020 agenda. These themes should be those where EU support can have the greatest impact in **policy development** at EU level and can make a step forward towards the establishment of common thematic platforms in order to facilitate transnational exchange under ESF programmes. These themes/issues may focus on the following (in alphabetical order):

- Active Inclusion, including empowerment and social inclusion of vulnerable groups
- Age management and active ageing
- Gender
- Inclusive entrepreneurship for young people
- Integration of marginalised communities such as the Roma
- Management and control systems for the Structural Funds
- Partnership
- Public Administration Reforms
- Social Economy and Social Enterprise
- Social Innovation
- Transnationality in the ESF

3. PROFILE AND KEY ACTIVITIES OF LEARNING NETWORKS

The development and consolidation of a Learning Network requires:

- ESF programme managers, stakeholders and practitioners willing and able to work together on a common policy or a good governance issue in the context of the ESF,
- a common and robust methodology for identifying good practice and a clear strategy aiming to transform learning into policy messages in order to influence policy change relevant to the specific theme/issue
- the development, adaptation and application of common tools for diagnosis, strategy development, action planning and quality management
- a good balance between the availability of relevant external expertise and a strong ownership of the activities and results of the Learning Networks by the participating public authorities and relevant stakeholders and the capacity of ESF bodies and other relevant institutions to integrate lessons learnt through networking into their funding programmes, policies and actions.

The lead partner, in agreement with the network partners has the responsibility:

- to make available professional communication services and facilities for network members, moderation and animation of their interactions, and expertise on the core subject of the network
- to appoint and supervise network management and coordination, and ensure sound financial management of the network.

In order to stimulate the development of skills and methods in fostering, managing and benefiting from Learning networks, and to exploit synergies, the Commission will:

- contribute in the organisation of events for facilitating the transfer of the knowledge and experience acquired through the networks
- make available the methods and management tools elaborated for the previous round of Learning Networks in order to help the networks' managers and partners to carry out an effective running of a network
- help in developing the appropriate synergies with relevant activities and networks;
- support in disseminating the networks' results to relevant stakeholders and mainstreaming the networks' results into relevant EU policies and actions
- provide support to facilitate monitoring and impact assessment.

Learning networks' sharing and dissemination of practice may take different forms: exchange events; peer reviews; peer learning activities and learning seminars; common development and use of management tools for the implementation of ESF OPs; communication platforms (such as web platforms, wikis, etc) and communication technologies (such as audio and web conferencing); personal transfer of competencies and experience through e.g. training, secondments, coaching, or study visits, including of policy makers.

- The network should take the necessary steps to ensure that gender equality objectives and the dual gender equality approach are coherently integrated into all planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes of the network.

Equally, **needs of disabled people** shall be duly acknowledged and met while implementing the work programme. This will in particular entail that where the network organisation organises training sessions, conference, issues publications or develops dedicated websites, people with disabilities have equal access to the facilities or the services provided.

4. EXPECTED RESULTS

On the basis of the objectives stated above (section 2), the Commission will award grants to ESF Managing Authorities, Intermediate Bodies and public administrations in charge of policy supported under the ESF collaborating with strategic stakeholders around key thematic and governance issues in ESF implementation.

The Learning Networks will be:

- initiated and managed by ESF Managing Authorities, Intermediate Bodies, and public administrations in charge of policy supported under the ESF
- open and participative, involving in their activities all stakeholders and people with competence and experience that can contribute to, and benefit from, a common learning process
- facilitating exchange of practice, experience, tools and plans between the network partners and their peers across Europe
- providing training opportunities to their members, particularly on issues related to the management of a European level network; on the policy domain of the network; and on the broader EU level policy context
- building on the capacities established by the network partners to monitor, validate and document good practice, and to test it in different contexts
- generating results that can be used by the network partners and policy makers for improving the quality, efficiency and impact of ESF programmes and the policies that they support
- supporting the development of a stable two-way bridge between good practice on the ground, effective implementation and results of Operational Programmes, and policy issues and actions at EU level.

The Learning Networks will be successful if they generate added value for the ESF programmes and the policies which the ESF supports, and for the people and organisations participating in its activities.

At the programme level, networking is expected to result in, for example:

- making progress towards a European knowledge and experience platform for supporting implementation regarding the network domain
- the setting up of networks of stakeholders contributing to, and taking up results of, the network

- launching of action plans to base ESF support on commonly agreed good practice or approaches
- introduction of common (management) tools
- contribute to identifying and assessing issues and solutions for reforms in policy and delivery in order to meet the 2020 Strategy targets
- common approaches to monitoring, evaluation or reporting on ESF activities in the fields of cooperation.

Learning networks are expected to contribute to the implementation of transnational actions at regional and local levels, including by providing advice and support for the organisation and the design of calls for proposals in their field of interest. Their expertise and experience can be a valuable source of information for Member States organising calls for proposals/tender.

Added value through networking will be expected at the level of its individual members in terms of professional development, for example through,

- providing incentives to reflect on one's own practice and orientation to improve it
- helping each other in solving problems at operational and strategic levels
- applying common working methods successfully tested in other countries or regions
- gaining professional skills and recognition
- providing opportunities for staff exchange.

Added value will be expected at the level of participating institutions and organisations (and where appropriate to other Member States and regions) in terms of capacity building for managing ESF Programmes effectively, for example through:

- keeping up with developments across Europe in the policy or governance field in question
- easy access to a pool of competencies and experience which allows to respond faster to emerging policy needs
- using common tools successfully tested across Europe
- speeding up the use and integration of good practice gained elsewhere in Europe
- developing and assuring professional competence;
- developing a common voice on the issues at stake.

A longer-term impact of the networks will be expected as regards the ESF programmes and the policies the ESF supports. It is expected that the networks will contribute to:

- strengthening the capacities to innovate;
- modernising and adapting institutions to new social and economic challenges; and
- improving the quality of governance of public policies, programmes and actions.

5. INDICATIVE AMOUNT

A maximum of €2.5 million has been set aside for commitments in 2012.

According to the quality of applications received, the number of accepted networks should be between five and eight.

The budget line allows support to be given to networks to which the applicant organisation and its partners contribute at least 20% of the total cost of the operation. Contributions in kind (unpaid charity work by a private individual or corporate body, etc.) will not be taken into account.

The EU financial contribution must not exceed 80% of the total eligible costs. It is therefore not possible to use other EU funds – including ESF funds (Technical Assistance) – to cover the 20% co-financing obligation.

6. TIMETABLE AND WORK PROGRAMME

The networks should have a minimum duration of 18 months and not exceed 24 months of implementation.

Eligibility of expenditure shall be granted from the day of the signature of the grant agreement by both parties .

The work programme presented in the proposal should meet the award criteria presented in section 9.4). It should, include, in particular the following:

- a detailed description of the planned activities with clear distribution of tasks among partners in the partnership, with clear reference to relevant budget headings
- a timetable of these activities
- a detailed description of the resources and capacities of the network's partners
- the outputs of the network
- detailed information on the methods for identifying and engaging key stakeholders
- the methodology for on-going monitoring and evaluation
- the expected results/outcomes of the network (e.g. the immediate and longer term benefits for the partner's Operational Programmes, and the specific actions to ensure these) including in terms of impact on the policies the ESF supports
- a logical framework matrix following the Project Cycle Management approach

7. PARTNERS

The **lead** partner (ESF Managing Authorities, Intermediate Bodies and public administrations in charge of policy supported under the ESF) mandated by signed letters of commitment applies in the name of a partnership. The lead partner will undertake all organisational and financial management activities required for setting up and operating the network.

The core partners can be ESF or ERDF Managing Authorities, Intermediate Bodies and public administrations in charge of policy supported under the ESF, coming from at least five Member States other than the Member State of the lead partner. They must have the resources and capacities to actively contribute to, and have the potential to use the results of, the network. The inclusion of at least one core partner from EU-15 Member States is highly recommended.

Other network **partners** can be governmental departments in charge of policy supported under the ESF, including Technical Assistance bodies (i.e. organisations that deliver administrative, financial and other services to ESF Managing Authorities), centres of excellence and competence, and key stakeholders.

All partners need to prove the relevance of the proposed networking activities for their Operational Programmes both in terms of capability to provide evidence of good practice resulting from support of relevant activities on the ground, and capacity for using the results of collaborative work to improve the quality of their Operational Programme

Partners' letters of commitment confirm their willingness to carry out the tasks allocated to them in the work programme, and their contributions to network activities.

Bilateral agreements / memoranda of understanding shall be signed between the partners during the first six months of the networks' activities. In addition, all contractual agreements between the lead partner and service providers need to be signed during the same period.

8. ELIGIBLE ORGANISATIONS

Eligible **applicants** are ESF Managing Authorities – whether national or regional – designated pursuant to Art 59 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, Intermediate Bodies and public administrations in charge of policy supported under the ESF.

An Intermediate Body may apply, provided that:

- it is a public authority (at national or regional level); and
- it has been designated to carry out tasks referred to in Art. 60 a) to c) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, and is responsible – for the territory of the OP in question – in particular for selecting, promoting, analysing, monitoring and supporting actions, for the priority axis related to the key issues of the network; and
- it has been mandated by the relevant ESF Managing Authority to submit a proposal under this call.

9. EXAMINATION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS

Applications will be examined by an Evaluation Committee taking account the criteria laid down below:

9.1. EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- The applicants should certify that they are not in one of the situations listed in Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2) of the Financial Regulation. This declaration by the applicant is annexed to the on-line application.

9.2 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Eligibility of the applicant

Applicants must be Managing Authorities for ESF Operational Programmes designated pursuant to Art. 59 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, mandated Intermediate Bodies as specified under point 8, and public administrations in charge of policy supported under the ESF.

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Eligibility of the action

Applications must be submitted by the set deadlines, using the appropriate form with no alterations, amendments or deletions, duly completed and accompanied by the requisite supporting documents.

Applications must include signed letters of commitment from Managing Authorities, Intermediate Bodies and public administrations in charge of policy supported under the ESF **from at least five other Member States**, confirming that they would carry out the tasks foreseen in the work programme, have the resources and capacities to actively contribute to, and have the potential to use the results of the network.

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

9.4 AWARD CRITERIA

Proposals which fulfil selection criteria will be assessed according to the following award criteria. The maximum rating for each category is indicated in brackets. The maximum total points that a proposal may obtain is 100. Proposals which do not receive 70 points will not be considered for funding:

A. Strategy aiming to transform learning into policy messages in order to influence policy change / adaptations (30 points)

- quality and appropriateness of the partnership, in particular the extent to which it involves a good mix of Member States and Regions and a broad range of experience in participating in a transnational partnership; (6 points)
- quality and appropriateness of the diagnosis of the issue(s) to be addressed and the assessment of its relevance across Europe, including a solid mapping of relevant actors and stakeholders, political agenda and actions; (6 points)
- quality of the indication of the expected results, and description of activities to achieve these results; (6 points)
- strategy to identify, assess and document good practice to be able to actively contribute to network activities; (6 points)
- strategy for developing/reinforcing links and synergies with national and regional networks relevant for the network's domain of activities.(6 points)

B. Organisation of work (30 points)

- the extent to which the network meets the specific objectives of the call, as mentioned above in section 2; (3 points)

- the extent to which the work programme is clear, realistic and well detailed, in particular as regards the definition of the domain of the network, its objectives, and how to transform learning into clear and realistic policy messages; (3 points)
- the extent to which realistic time-lines and well defined and planned value chains of activities are set; (3 points)
- the partnership's capacity for achieving the desired results, by means of a clear allocation of tasks and responsibilities amongst the partners; (3 points)
- quality and feasibility of the proposed managerial and organisational approach, including arrangements for decision-making and details of the roles and contributions of each partner to the network's learning; (3 points)
- quality of the method proposed to ensure effective communication and collaboration between the network partners, including the approach to handle languages; (3 points)
- quality of the method for disseminating experience, practice and results to other Member States and regions, including to ESF managers and policy makers; (3 points)
- approach to mobilise competencies and experience from a broad range of institutions, and to integrate them in the network;(3 points)
- quality and relevance of the planned monitoring, including a system of regular reporting by all the network's partners; ;(3 points)
- quality and relevance of the external evaluation arrangements. ;(3 points)

C. Effectiveness and potential impact (28 points)

- strategy for using the results of the network for improving the quality, efficiency and impact of ESF programmes (4 points)
- strategy to raise awareness on issues related to the network's domain; (4 points)
- synergies with other ESF Learning Networks, with other EU-level relevant networks and with other EU Programmes and actions; (4 points)
- quality for mainstreaming innovative validated policies and practices into national and regional ESF programmes and other relevant policies and programmes; (4 points)
- quality and relevance of mechanisms foreseen to ensure the lasting effect of the network; (4 points)
- measure the impact and effectiveness of policies related to the network's domain, including the elaboration, testing and validation of relevant indicators; (4 points)
- relevance for, and approach to, make an impact on EU policies, actions and agendas, in particular by transforming learning into policy messages in order to influence policy change relevant to the specific theme/issue. (4 points)

D. Financial quality (12 points)

- a reasonable and detailed budget, reflecting the actual financial needs of the action, as well as a realistic contribution from the partnership; (6 points)
- the extent to which the application presents good value for money.(6 points)
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In finalising its list of proposals to be supported the Commission will take into account

- priority themes and issues at EU level;
- the need to ensure a balance in the range of issues to be supported;
- the importance of making sure that as many Member States as possible are actively involved in the networks.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

The assessment procedure will take approximately four months after the deadline for submission. The European Commission will notify applicants once the evaluation procedure is completed.

10. PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL

The **call**, the **application form**, the **Financial Guidelines for Applicants** and further information related to the call for proposals is provided on the following website:

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/emplweb/tenders/index_calls_en.cfm

Questions can also be sent by e-mail to empl-vp-2012-005@ec.europa.eu.

The Commission will publish and update all questions and answers of general interest on the website referred to above.

Applications accompanied by the annexes and all the required documentary proof must be submitted by

14/9/2012

1) in electronic format via the SWIM online application

The web-based application called SWIM allows applicants/beneficiaries to introduce, edit, validate, print and submit grant applications, request for payments and request for modifications on the budget estimate. SWIM can be accessed at the following web address **XXX**.

and

2) in hard copy in triplicate (2 copies + original) to the following addresses

- a) by **post** or **express courier service** (the submission date will be taken as the date of dispatch, as evidenced by the postmark or the express courier receipt date):

European Commission

DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Unit F1 (SPA3 00/009): Call for proposals VP/2012/005

B-1049 Brussels

Belgium

b) or by personal delivery against a signed receipt from the Commission's central mail service (this personal delivery can be direct or through any authorised representative of the applicant, including private messenger service etc.)

by 16.00 hours on 2012:

European Commission
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion
Unit F1 (SPA3 00/009): Call for proposals VP/2012/005
Avenue du Bourget 1
B-1140 Brussels
Belgium

The reference of the call for proposals must be indicated on the envelope.

Failure to submit the application by post and online by the deadlines indicated above to the Commission will entail the ineligibility of the request for subsidy.

Complementary documents sent by post, by fax or by electronic mail after the deadlines mentioned above will not be considered for evaluation unless requested by the European Commission. Please do make sure that the full set of the application form and all accompanying documents as listed above are included in your sending by post by the closing date.

The applicant's attention is also drawn to the fact that incomplete or unsigned forms, hand-written forms and those sent by fax or e-mail will not be taken into consideration.

The **Financial Guidelines for Applicants** annexed to the present call for proposals provide more detailed information for the applicants, especially as regards guidelines for presenting the proposal's provisional budget along with the rules governing which categories of expenditure are eligible and which are not.

The information contained herein together with the Financial Guidelines for Applicants provides all the information you require to submit an application. Please read it carefully before doing so, paying particular attention to the priorities of the present call.

12. CHECKLIST OF THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Please send in the following documents **in triplicate** (original + two copies). The application form and the requested annexes⁶ must be submitted also **electronically** via the SWIM online application.

Regarding the presentation of the application file, it is recommended to:

- Follow the order of documents as listed in the checklist below;
- Print the documents double-sided, where possible;
- Use only 2-hole folders (please do not bind or glue).

<i>order</i>	<i>Document</i>	<i>Download from SWIM</i>
1	Original letter of application quoting the reference of the call (VP/2012/005 duly signed and dated by the legal representative of the applicant.	No
2	Print-out of the complete online application form including estimated budget duly completed, dated and signed by the legal representative of the applicant organisation.	Yes
3	In case of an Intermediate Body being the applicant, a letter signed by the relevant ESF Managing Authority giving mandate to the Intermediate Body.	No
4	A signed declaration of honour (to be found on-line as an annex to the application form), certifying that the applicant is not in one of the situations listed in Article 93§1, 94 and 96§2 point a) of the financial Regulation and his financial and operational capacity. This must have the original signature of the legal representative of the applicant organization.	Yes, annex E.1
5	Detailed work programme and the time schedule signed by the legal representative of the lead partner (in MS Word format of max. 20 pages,).	No
6	Signed letters of commitment from the Managing Authorities or Intermediate Bodies or public administrations from at least five other Member States, confirming that they would carry out the tasks foreseen in the work programme, have the resources and capacities to actively contribute to, and have the potential to use the results of the network, specifying the contribution of each partner	Yes, annex E.2
7	Legal entity form duly completed with the original signature of the legal representative of applicant	Yes, annex E.4
8	Financial identification form duly completed with the original signature of the legal representative of the applicant and the original signature and stamp of the bank. The Financial identification form must correspond to the Legal entity form (see above).	Yes, annex E.3
9	Detailed CVs (educational and professional qualifications) and job specification of the proposed network manager/coordinator and of persons who will perform the main tasks, with a brief description of their outputs related to the subject of the proposal.	No
10	Information on subcontracting for external expertise: The nature and value of all activities above EUR 5.000 to be subcontracted must be	Yes, annexes E.7

⁶ The electronic forms and documents must be submitted via SWIM **before** printing. After the electronic submission no further changes to the application are possible.

	<p>compulsorily described with an explanation of why subcontracting is necessary. The planned selection and award criteria must be compulsorily explained in the appropriate annex to the on-line application form.</p> <p>Applicants wishing to recruit the services of external experts for an amount above EUR 60.000 must provide a copy of the draft tender specifications. To assist applicants a model for tender specifications is included as an annex to the online application form.</p> <p>Additional information on subcontracting can be found in the Financial Guidelines for Applicants.</p>	
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