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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, xxx  
C(2010) yyy final

**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of [...]**

**concerning the adoption of a financing decision concerning operational and non-operational technical assistance at the initiative of or on behalf of the Commission under the European Social Fund for 2011 and serving as a work programme for this technical assistance**

## COMMISSION DECISION

of

**concerning the adoption of a financing decision concerning operational and non-operational technical assistance at the initiative of or on behalf of the Commission under the European Social Fund for 2011 and serving as a work programme for this technical assistance**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1260/1999<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 45(3) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities<sup>2</sup> (hereinafter referred to as the 'Financial Regulation'), and in particular Articles 75 and 110 thereof,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities<sup>3</sup> (hereinafter referred to as the 'Implementing Rules'), and in particular Articles 90 and 166 thereof,

Having regard to the opinion of the Coordination Committee of the Funds and the opinion of the Committee under Article 163 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 45(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 defines the technical assistance actions at the initiative of or on behalf of the Commission which may be financed by the European Social Fund (ESF).
- (2) In accordance with Article 75 of the Financial Regulation and Article 90(1) of the Implementing Rules, the commitment of expenditure from the Community budget should be preceded by a financing decision setting out the essential elements of the action involving expenditure and adopted by the institution or the authorities to which powers have been delegated by the institution.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 210 of 31.7.2006, p. 25.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

- (3) In accordance with Article 110 of the Financial Regulation, grants are subject to an annual work programme which, according to Article 166 of the Implementing Rules, specifies the basic act, the objectives, the schedule of calls for proposals with the indicative amount and the expected results.
- (4) This Decision constitutes both a financing decision and a work programme. This work programme implements Article 45(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006.
- (5) Under Article 168(1)(c) of the Implementing Rules, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in the case of bodies with a *de jure* or *de facto monopoly*.
- (6) This Decision is also a financing decision for the expenditure in the context of joint management chargeable to the Community budget.
- (7) This Decision may also cover the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Articles 83 of the Financial Regulation and 106(5) of the Implementing Rules.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

#### *Article 1*

The list of technical assistance actions at the initiative of or on behalf of the Commission which shall be financed by the European Social Fund (ESF) in 2011, as set out in Annexes I and II, is hereby adopted.

It constitutes both a financing decision in the meaning of Article 75 of the Financial Regulation and a work programme in the meaning of Article 110 of this Regulation.

#### *Article 2*

The maximum contribution authorised by this Decision for these actions is set at €26,476,652.00 to be financed from the following Budgetary Lines of the General Budget of the European Union for 2011:

- Budgetary Line no 04.022000: €9,991,652.00 (Annex I)
- Budgetary Line no 04.010401: €16,485,000.00 (Annex II)

These appropriations may also cover interest due for late payment.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations foreseen in the preliminary draft budget for 2011 after the adoption of the budget for 2011 by the budgetary authority.

#### *Article 3*

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a *de jure* or *de facto* monopoly, in accordance with the conditions detailed in the annexed work programme.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Commission*  
*László Andor*  
*Member of the Commission*

**ANNEX I**

Financial Table I Operational Technical Assistance

**ANNEX II**

Financial Table II Non-Operational Technical Assistance

## **1. INTRODUCTION:**

This list contains the actions planned in 2011 by DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities concerning the budget heading for "operational technical assistance": 04.022000.

The types of measures and the types of procedures followed for the contracts or procurement procedures are indicated. For possible grants, the selection and award criteria and the maximum co-financing rates are indicated.

Appropriations may be used to cover the payment of interest on late payment due to contractors and beneficiaries in accordance with Article 106 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation, arising from legal commitments concluded on the current budget heading.

In addition, late payment interest arising from legal commitments concluded under previous programmes and actions in the field of the European Social Fund, for which no earmarked revenues and no legal basis exist any more, may be paid by the current budget heading, if the current budget heading is to be considered the closest line.

## **2. DETAILED LIST OF ACTIONS:**

### **Budget heading**

04.022000 Operational technical assistance

### **BASIC ACT**

The appropriations under this item are intended to finance actions taken by the Commission by virtue of the powers specifically conferred on it by Article 45(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006

### **AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS**

€10,000,000

## **DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED**

### **1. GRANTS**

Four ESF Presidency Conferences will be organised in 2011-12. In addition EIPA will organize the European Public Sector Award (EPSA) 2011 conference. The Commission intends to co-fund these conferences. The awarded amount is €1,200,000 and the maximum Community co-financing rate will be 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.



**Table I: Budget 04.022000 Operational technical assistance budget – Grants**

<b>N°</b>	<b>Action title (details)</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Awarded amount</b>	<b>Indicative date market procedure</b>	<b>If grant, key selection &amp; award criteria</b>	<b>If subvention, max co-financing rate</b>
1	ESF presidency conference Hungary	ESF reporting, evaluation & monitoring	To exchange views on issues related to ESF reporting, evaluation & monitoring with a view to contribute to the preparation of the next ESF regulation for 2014-2020	Mutual learning for ESF managing authorities & other interested actors	300,000.00	1st sem, 2011	monopoly	80%
2	ESF presidency conference Poland	Debate on the next ESF Regulation - 2014-2020	To exchange views on issues related to the next ESF regulation for 2014-2020	Mutual learning for ESF managing authorities & other interested actors	300,000.00	2nd sem, 2011	monopoly	80%
3	Presidency Conference Poland	The international dimension of the coordination on social security.	To enhance the mobility of workers throughout Europe by exchange of views on the Commission Communication on the international dimension of the social security coordination	to contribute to the follow-up to the Commission Communication on the international dimension of the social security coordination	250,000.00	1st sem, 2011	monopoly	80%
4	Presidency Conference Denmark	"The EESSI implementation".	To enhance the mobility of workers throughout Europe by exchange of views on the state of the preparation of EESSI in view of the end of the transition period	Raising awareness among social security institutions on issues related to the full implementation of EESSI	250,000.00	2nd sem, 2011	monopoly	80%

**Table I: Budget 04.022000 Operational technical assistance budget – Grants**

N°	Action title (details)	Content	Objective	Expected results	Awarded amount	Indicative date market procedure	If grant, key selection & award criteria	If subvention, max co-financing rate
5	European Public Sector Award (EPSA) 2011	The EPSA award promotes & rewards the best, most innovative & efficient good practice projects of the public sector in Europe	To contribute to the realisation of the Europe 2020 strategy by highlighting exemplary models of innovative public performances & building capacities in public administrations; to create a common European administrative space; to learn from the EU leading edge	To devise new administrative problem-solving paradigms & sharing them across Europe; to foster constructive competition amongst public sector organisations & thus reach & reward excellence; to create a network of public excellence.	100,000.00	1st sem, 2011	institution of EU interest	80%
Subtotal					1,200,000.00			

**2. PROCUREMENT**

The global budgetary envelope requested for the procurements is €8,791,652.00

**Table II: Budget 04.022000 Operational technical assistance budget – Procurement**

N°	Action title (details)	Content	Objective	Expected results	Requested budget	Indicative date market procedure	If procurement existing contract or new procedure	If ongoing contract contractor
6	ESF in the future	Studies to feed & substantiate the impact assessment for the Structural Fund Regulations post 2013	Better informed decision making	Examination of the advantages & disadvantages of possible post-2013 scenarios	250,000.00	1st sem, 2011	Existing framework contract	

**Table II: Budget 04.022000 Operational technical assistance budget – Procurement**

N°	Action title (details)	Content	Objective	Expected results	Requested budget	Indicative date market procedure	If procurement existing contract or new procedure	If ongoing contract contractor
7	Services to support exchange & learning between member states, mainstreaming of good practice & lessons learnt	Support for identification, synthesis, validation and dissemination at EU level of good practice from innovative & transnational activities, on key ESF themes & good governance issues	To support the Commission & key stakeholders at regional, national & European level in analysing, disseminating & mainstreaming good practice & lessons learnt from innovative & transnational activities	Mutual learning of ESF managing bodies & strategic stakeholders through good practice fiches, policy briefs, background documents, web articles; brochures & publications	1,200,000.00	---	Existing framework contract (VC/2010/371)	AEIDL (European Association for Information on Local Development)
8	ESF Communication	Maintenance & update of ESF website, preparation ESF publications, press work & development of audiovisual products as well as other communication functions & tools.	To improve information provision on ESF, to highlight results of ESF, to enhance public image of ESF & to increase knowledge about ESF among general public.	Up-to-date website, publication various documents, production of audiovisual material & overall increased information availability for general public.	3,309,042.00	---	new procedure VC/2010/0038 (call for tender VT/2010/003) VC/2007/0052 DI/05713 DI/05711; VC/2007/0673	--- Qwentes-Kantor Mostra European Dynamics Mostra
9	OPOCE	Publication, printing & storage ESF documents.	To have printed copies in Community languages of ESF publications.	High quality information provision to general public.	152,610.00	---	OPOCE framework contracts	---
10	ESF communication, networking & visibility	Promotional material	To enhance the visibility & knowledge of the ESF by the general public	Greater awareness among EU citizens of what the ESF does	100,000.00	---	new procedure	---

**Table II: Budget 04.022000 Operational technical assistance budget – Procurement**

<b>N°</b>	<b>Action title (details)</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Requested budget</b>	<b>Indicative date market procedure</b>	<b>If procurement existing contract or new procedure</b>	<b>If ongoing contract contractor</b>
11	Studies in support of the preparation or the follow-up of the restructuring forum in order to promote partnerships, pacts & initiatives through networking of relevant stakeholders	+/- 6 reports or documents concerning specific issues in links with previous or future forums	To support the preparation of the follow-up of the different restructuring forums	Background documents to facilitate the discussions during the forum & documents to launch a follow-up of a previous forum in order to mobilise for reforms in the field of employment & labour market inclusiveness	350,000.00	throughout 2011	new procedure	---
12	Database on studies	Database on studies & reports on job & skill anticipation, foresight & forecast realized at different levels	To share information between the different stakeholders working in the field of restructuring (public bodies, experts, trade unions & businesses.	Animation of an interactive web site compound by 3 elements (library, forum & a wiki part) called "anticipedia"	100,000.00	2nd sem. 2011	new procedure	---
13	Study on toolkits	2 or 3 reports concerning cases, tools & actions developed to reduce the negative social impacts of restructuring	To collect & to share practical tools or actions devoted to the management of restructuring	Basis of discussion with & between the different stakeholders active in restructuring (public bodies, experts, trade unions & businesses)	100,000.00	2nd sem. 2011	new procedure	---

**Table II: Budget 04.022000 Operational technical assistance budget – Procurement**

N°	Action title (details)	Content	Objective	Expected results	Requested budget	Indicative date market procedure	If procurement existing contract or new procedure	If ongoing contract contractor
14	Financial & business service support systems for starters from vulnerable groups (H. TF)	Capacity Building in member states & regions for inclusive financial & business service support systems through a broad range of instruments (awareness raising, exchange of good practice, mutual learning, networking & expert assignments etc)	To support governmental bodies, service providers, & financial intermediaries in improving quality & performance of support systems for starters from vulnerable groups & micro-enterprises, thus building an interface between the ESF & the European Progress Microfinance Facility (EPMF)	Expert assistance & peer learning will empower relevant government institutions & ESF bodies to become drivers & enablers of inclusive support systems for starters, & prepare the ground for effective demand for the financial services of the EPMF	1,300,000.00	2nd sem. 2011	new procedure open tender	---
15	Campaign on the modernised social security coordination	Promotional material for the campaign	To enhance the mobility of workers throughout Europe. The campaign should improve the live of EU Citizens by giving them better job prospects in the framework of the EU 2020 strategy.	Greater awareness among EU citizens about the modernised social security coordination (the campaign will inform citizens about their rights & information obligations)	100,000.00	1 <sup>st</sup> sem. 2011	DG EMPL framework contracts VC/2007/034 VC/2007/673 VC/2007/674	Gellis Communications SPRL Mostra SA Bernhard Brunhes International SA,
16	Evaluation expert network (03)	policy papers, country reports synthesising Member States evaluations & an EU level synthesis report	To deliver policy analysis & evidence on the performance of ESF programmes based on the monitoring & evaluation work done by the Member States.	Stocktaking & synthesis of evaluations undertaken by Member States	1,800,000.00	throughout 2011	Existing framework contracts	

**Table II: Budget 04.022000 Operational technical assistance budget – Procurement**

N°	Action title (details)	Content	Objective	Expected results	Requested budget	Indicative date market procedure	If procurement existing contract or new procedure	If ongoing contract contractor
17	Expert support to ESF partnership meetings and working groups	discussion papers, participation in ESF evaluation partnership meetings, expert support on methodological issues	To provide support to the preparation of, participation in & reporting on meeting of the ESF evaluation partnership	discussion of ESF evaluation matters of interest to the Commission & Member States	30,000.00		new procedure	
Subtotal					8,791,652.00			

**SUMMARY INFORMATION ESF OPERATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Budget heading 04022000	Commitments	Payments
Available budget	10,000,000.00	7,500,000.00
Proposed budget	-9,991,652.00	---
Difference	8,348.00	---

*Appropriations may be used to cover the payment of interest on late payment due to contractors and beneficiaries in accordance with Article 106 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation, arising from legal commitments concluded on the current budget heading. In addition, late payment interest arising from legal commitments concluded under previous programmes and actions in the field of the European Social Fund, for which no earmarked revenues and no legal basis exist any more, may be paid by the current budget heading, if the current budget heading is to be considered the closest line.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION:**

This list contains the actions planned in 2011 by DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities concerning the budget heading for "non-operational technical assistance": 04.010401.

The types of measures and the types of procedures followed for the contracts or procurement procedures are indicated.

Appropriations may be used to cover the payment of interest on late payment due to contractors and beneficiaries in accordance with Article 106 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation, arising from legal commitments concluded on the current budget heading.

In addition, late payment interest arising from legal commitments concluded under previous programmes and actions in the field of the European Social Fund, for which no earmarked revenues and no legal basis exist any more, may be paid by the current budget heading, if the current budget heading is to be considered the closest line.

## **2. DETAILED LIST OF ACTIONS:**

### **Budget heading**

04.010401 Non-operational technical assistance

### **BASIC ACT**

The appropriations under this item are intended to finance actions taken by the Commission by virtue of the powers specifically conferred on it by Article 45(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006

### **AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS**

€16,500,000

## DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

### 1. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for the procurements is €16,485,000.00

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#### Budget heading 04.010410.00 Non-Operational Technical Assistance budget – Procurement

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N°	Action title (details)	Content	Objective	Expected results	Requested budget (€)	Indicative date market procedure	If procurement existing contract or new procedure	If ongoing contract contractor
18	Framework contract outsourced audits Art. 6	Outsourcing of audit work on 4 Art. 6 projects	To improve efficiency of staff resources; more audits	4 audited Art. 6 project grants additional to audits by I2-staff	65,000.00	First half of 2011	DG BUDG framework contract No -30-CE-0135779/00-80 of 23/07/2007	Moore Stephens Limited Liability Partnership
19	Framework contract on audits	Outsourcing of ESF audits related to closure 2000-2006 & audits of OPs 2007-2013	Increase number of audits to have a better view on assurance level of Managing & Control Systems in MS	Project audits of 2007-2013 & possibly closure audits 2000-2006	1,000,000.00	---	DG EMPL/REGIO/MARE joint framework contract on audit services: VC/2009/876,877,878	Ernst&Young Deloitte Mazars
20	Expenditure on staff other than officials	Technical tasks to be performed by staff other than officials: contract agents/national experts on secondment/agency workers	To implement the ESF	Assistance in implementing the ESF	5,000,000.00	---	NA	---

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**Budget heading 04.010410.00 Non-Operational Technical Assistance budget – Procurement**

N°	Action title (details)	Content	Objective	Expected results	Requested budget (€)	Indicative date market procedure	If procurement existing contract or new procedure	If ongoing contract contractor
21	Development & maintenance of computer programs (intra muros)	Development & maintenance of software applications for the management of the Structural Funds. Daily operational maintenance, corrections & evolution of existing applications. Assistance to users (helpdesk). Analysis & development for 2007-13 period. Seminar with Member States on SFC 2007-2013	To develop effective management tools.	Implementation of management tools for structural funds	1,440,000.00	---	Framework contract – DIGIT	---
22	Establishment & maintenance of equipment (hardware / software) required for the transaction of business	Cost of acquisition, replacement & maintenance of software & equipment (PCs, laptops, printers, servers), cost of licensing software applications (Oracle, Microsoft), small expenses & associated actions including hosting contribution In the Calculation Centre.	To replace obsolete equipment, to acquire equipment according to population increase, to maintain equipment & software.	Provision of material resources	1,070,000.00	---	Framework contract – DIGIT	---
23	Technical assistance for the daily operation of systems & training & user support	Service helpdesk, user support for desktop & applications, managing servers, computer databases.	To provide computer services to users	Logistics services & computer	560,000.00	---	Framework contract – DIGIT	---

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**Budget heading 04.010410.00 Non-Operational Technical Assistance budget – Procurement**

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<b>N°</b>	<b>Action title (details)</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Requested budget (€)</b>	<b>Indicative date market procedure</b>	<b>If procurement existing contract or new procedure</b>	<b>If ongoing contract contractor</b>
24	Monitoring & development of Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information (EESSI)	assistance, particularly when the system rolls out in full production	To enhance the mobility of workers throughout Europe. Citizens exercising their right of free movement within the EU will profit of EESSI by giving them better job prospects.	To grant social security benefits to mobile citizens in a speedy & efficient way & provision of electronic exchange of information between social security national institutions.	1,200,000.00	throughout 2011	Use of framework contract of DG DIGIT ESP DESIS Nr 05710 to 5724	One 4EU & others

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**Budget heading 04.010410.00 Non-Operational Technical Assistance budget – Procurement**

N°	Action title (details)	Content	Objective	Expected results	Requested budget (€)	Indicative date market procedure	If procurement existing contract or new procedure	If ongoing contract contractor
25	Conferences and workshops	Organisation of events (logistical support / travel expenses / catering, etc.)	To implement the ESF	Enhancing the knowledge of ESF operations, achievements of ESF, possibilities of ESF	2,810,000.00	throughout 2011	VC/2008/0063 VC/2008/1148 VC/2008/0862 VC/2008/0864 VC/2008/0867 VC/2008/0868 VC/2008/0869 VC/2008/0870	Destrée Studio EGA Minotaur Travex Adie Technics Adie Technics Team Work IGEP
26	Fora, workshops & conferences on restructuring		To collect, promote & disseminate information gathered by projects on restructuring issues.	exchanges & discussions, support for trade unions, businesses & workers to tackle restructuring challenges.	1,050,000.00			
27	Meetings	Costs associated with meetings of groups of experts associated with the ESF (in particular, the ESF Committee)	To implement the ESF	Adherence to regulatory requirements & better coordination with the Member States	590,000.00	throughout 2011	---	---
28	Missions	Mission expenses for DG EMPL staff - other than officials - involved in the programming, monitoring & control of the ESF	To programme, implement & monitor on-the-spot activities supported by the ESF – control & audit of the ESF	Local work with the Member States. Good coverage in terms of control & audit of activities supported by the ESF	1,700,000.00	throughout 2011	---	---

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**Budget heading 04.010410.00 Non-Operational Technical Assistance budget – Procurement**

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<b>N°</b>	<b>Action title (details)</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Requested budget (€)</b>	<b>Indicative date market procedure</b>	<b>If procurement existing contract or new procedure</b>	<b>If ongoing contract contractor</b>
	total				16,485,000.00			

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**SUMMARY INFORMATION ESF OPERATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

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Budget heading 04022000

Available budget for commitments & payments	16,500,000.00
Proposed budget commitments	-16,485,000.00
Difference	15,000.00

*Appropriations may be used to cover the payment of interest on late payment due to contractors and beneficiaries in accordance with Article 106 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation, arising from legal commitments concluded on the current budget heading. In addition, late payment interest arising from legal commitments concluded under previous programmes and actions in the field of the European Social Fund, for which no earmarked revenues and no legal basis exist any more, may be paid by the current budget heading, if the current budget heading is to be considered the closest line.*