

EN
ANNEX II

1. LEGAL BASIS – WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2016

Article 58 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006.

2. BUDGET LINE

13 04 61 01 - Cohesion Fund (CF) — Operational technical assistance

3. INTRODUCTION

On the basis of the objectives given in Article 58 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2016 as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (3.1.): EUR 13.620.000
- for prizes (implemented under direct management (3.2.): N/A
- for procurement (implemented under direct management) (3.3.): EUR 7.207.500
- for actions implemented under indirect mode (3.4.): N/A
- for Financial instruments (3.5.) :N/A
- for other actions (3.6.): EUR 262.500

TOTAL: 21.090.000

3.1. Grants

3.1.1. Regional doing business indicators

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The overall objective of the grant is to obtain a database with the regional ease of doing business indicators.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012

- collect regional ease of doing business indicators following the World Bank methodology
- reports analysing and summarising the results.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (f) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals. On this basis a direct grant will be awarded to World Bank.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by the World Bank shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This Action will be implemented directly by DG REGIO. The grant will be an amount of EUR 2.500.000 of which: EUR 1.750.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 750.000 will be financed under 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable of grant awarded without a call for proposals

Reference	Indicative date	Indivative amount
	1Q	750.000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

100%

3.1.2. Cross Border and city statistics

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The overall objective of the grant is to obtain more data on border regions and a test feasibility of producing labour force survey data for large functional urban areas.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012

The key activities will cover the preparation of

- a database with indicators on border regions
- report summarising the results and discussing whether these indicators can be produced on an annual basis.
- feasibility report on producing labour force survey data for large functional urban areas of metro regions with test cases from a range of countries.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) point (d) of the Implementing Rules, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in the case(s) of bodies identified by a basic act, within the meaning of Article 128 of the Financial Regulation, as beneficiaries of a grant. According to Article 5 (3) of Regulation (EC) N° 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, grants may be awarded to the National Statistical Institutes without a call for proposals.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by National Statistical Institutes shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This Action will be implemented directly by DG REGIO. The grant will be an amount of EUR 400.000 of which: EUR 280.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 120.000 will be financed under 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable of grant awarded without a call for proposals

Reference	Indicative date	Indivative amount
	1Q	120.000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

90 %

3.1.3. Improved regionalisation and timeliness of SILC (2016-2017)

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

These grant will ensure a better regional coverage of SILC indicators such as the risk of poverty or social exclusion rate.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012

Grants will be provided to MS to support the further developments and improvements of SILC, in the context of its redesign, its timeliness and its regional coverage.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) point (d) of the Implementing Rules, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in the case(s) of bodies identified by a basic act, within the meaning of Article 128 of the Financial Regulation, as beneficiaries of a grant. According to Article 5 (3) of Regulation (EC) N° 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, grants may be awarded to the National Statistical Institutes without a call for proposals.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by National Statistical Institutes shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This Action will be implemented directly by DG REGIO. The grant will be an amount of EUR 4.200.000 of which: EUR 2.940.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 1.260.000 will be financed under 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable of grant awarded without a call for proposals

Reference	Indicative date	Indivative amount
	3Q	1.260.000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

90 %

3.1.4. JASPERS 2016

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The overall objective of the grant is to provide assistance to Member States to prepare major projects, capacity building and independent quality review. Faster approval of projects and better quality of investment.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012

Assessment of major project applications.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (d) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in the case(s) of bodies identified by a basic act, within the meaning of Article 54 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, as beneficiaries of a grant. According to Article 31(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, a grant may be awarded to the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Investment Fund covering initiatives implemented on a multiannual basis. JASPERS will be implemented throughout the 2014-2020 programming period (in continuation of JASPERS action in the 2007-2013 programming period).

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by the EIB shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This Action will be implemented directly by DG REGIO. The grant will be an amount of EUR 35.500.000 of which: EUR 24.850.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 10.650.000 will be financed under 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable of grant awarded without a call for proposals

Reference	Indicative date	Indivative amount
	1Q	10.650.000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

100% according to Article 60(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013. Financing through unit costs for technical assistance actions implemented by the EIB is established by a separate Commission Decision.

3.1.5. Homologues Group Meeting

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The 24th annual meeting of the European financial controllers (Homologues group meeting) is an annual conference gathering of representatives of Member States and the Commission to discuss issues related to controls of the management of the Structural Funds. The objectives of this meeting are sharing and dissemination of best practices amongst Member States. The expected result is better cooperation between Member States and the Commission.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012

The annual conference gathering representatives of Member States to discuss issues related to controls of the management of the Structural Funds.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (c) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a *de jure* or *de facto* monopoly, duly substantiated in the award decision. Because of the treatment and exchange of confidential and sensitive information during the meeting of the Homologue Group between the representatives of the Ministries of Finance of the Member States, the European Court of Auditors and the European Commission, the organisation of this meeting is limited to the national bodies of control and audit. These entities have decided to designate annually (during the meeting of year n-1) the body amongst them that will ensure the organisation of the meeting for year n. For 2016 the designated body is the Directorate General for Audit of European Funds in Hungary. Therefore a *de facto* monopoly has been established.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by the Member States shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This Action will be implemented directly by DG REGIO. The grant will be an amount of EUR 250.000 of which: EUR 175.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 75.000 will be financed under 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable of grant awarded without a call for proposals

Reference	Indicative date	Indivative amount
	4Q	75.000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

80 %

3.1.6. Economic Magazine - Real Economy

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

DG CNECT is coordinating a new economic magazine by Euronews, in the framework of the partnership agreement signed by DG COMM and the European TV channel at the end of 2010. Several DGs, among them REGIO, have been invited to provide contents to this magazine. This is a fortnightly, 12-minute programme with a total number of 25 per year. The format includes reportages and interviews, and/or studio debates.

"Real Economy" has been launched in June 2013 aiming at informing a European wide TV audience about Cohesion Policy projects (inter alia).

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012

DG REGIO will participate alongside other DGs in providing contents to this economic magazine, with the aim of explaining to EU citizens how regional policy has a real impact in their lives, supporting the Europe 2020 strategy for growth and jobs and playing an important role in the EU's response to the current economic crisis.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (f) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to a body on account of its technical competence, duly substantiated in the award decision. Direct grant will be awarded to Euronews.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by Euronews shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

The grant will be of an amount of EUR 100.000 of which: EUR 70.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 30.000 will be financed under 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable of grant awarded without a call for proposals

Reference	Indicative date	Indivative amount
	3Q	30.000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

95%

3.1.7. Public Procurement capacity building programme for authorities managing & implementing ESIF programmes in key countries affected by non fulfilled EAC on public procurement

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The objective is to provide targeted assistance for improvements of functioning of public procurement systems in selected priority Member States affected by non-fulfilled EAC on public procurement, focusing specifically on improving administrative capacity of authorities involved in implementation of ESIF programmes. Improved quality and functioning of public procurement would reduce the number of irregularities for ESIF.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012

Development of targeted capacity building strategy and measures in area of public procurement and providing support for setting up the implementation of key elements of the strategy for authorities managing & implementing ESIF programmes in selected priority Member States affected by non-fulfilled EAC on public procurement.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (f) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals. On this basis a direct grant will be awarded to OECD.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by the OECD shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This Action will be implemented directly by DG REGIO. The grant will be an amount of EUR 350.000 of which: EUR 245.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 105.000 will be financed under 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable of grant awarded without a call for proposals

Reference	Indicative date	Indicative amount
	2-4Q	105.000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

100%

3.1.8. Knowledge creation and dissemination on anti-corruption approach in public administration

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The objective is to promote / to pilot good practice in anti-corruption knowledge dissemination and training for civil servants with the objective to strengthen administrative capacity of public administrations in area of anti-corruption in the selected Member States, specifically, for bodies involved in the implementation of ESIF.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012

The World Bank has developed expertise on knowledge creation and dissemination on anti-corruption approach in public administration. WB has an experience on providing advisory services on the development of anti-corruption curriculum for civil servants, as well as, the design and implementation of a pilot training for trainers and the establishment of innovative means to share knowledge on anti-corruption issues for civil servants in Italy. Based on this expertise the action will support follow-up actions promoting adaptation of the developed anti-corruption knowledge dissemination and training module for replication for public administration in other (selected) Member States.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (f) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals. On this basis a direct grant will be awarded to World Bank.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by the World Bank shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This Action will be implemented directly by DG REGIO. The grant will be an amount of EUR 300.000 of which: EUR 210.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 90.000 will be financed under 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable of grant awarded without a call for proposals

Reference	Indicative date	Indicative amount
	3Q	90.000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

100%

3.1.9. Cooperation with World Bank on implementation of ERDF/CF in Poland

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Bottlenecks to targeted investments in these areas will be identified alongside specific socio-economic challenges. The information and actions will improve the implementation of ERDF/CF such as fulfillment of ex-ante conditionalities and medium-term policy processes such as the possible allocations of performance reserves and delivering relevant input into the European Semester. Action plans with authorities/regions will be developed, e.g. in the context of the lagging regions project.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012

The cooperation addresses a number of gaps in country specific knowledge: RD&I, SME and broadband support, investments into health care, development gaps and implementation of funds in Eastern Poland, capacity of administration and beneficiaries.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Under Article 190(1) (f) of Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals. On this basis a direct grant will be awarded to World Bank.

The award criteria for the evaluation of the proposal submitted by the World Bank shall be a) relevance with the objectives of the action and b) cost-effectiveness.

Implementation

This Action will be implemented directly by DG REGIO. The grant will be an amount of EUR 1.000.000 of which: EUR 700.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 300.000 will be financed under 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable of grant awarded without a call for proposals

Reference	Indicative date	Indicative amount
	2Q	300.000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

100%

3.1.10. Corporate Communication

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

To provide financial support for regional or local activities organised by the Europe Direct Information Centres (grants for action) under their ongoing Framework Partnership Agreements to increase the general public's knowledge of the Commission's activities in the context of the political priorities, in particular the Investment Plan. The projects selected should contribute to forging closer links between citizens and the European Union, in particular through better knowledge of the institutions' roles and activities in the areas covered by the Political Guidelines.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded under calls for proposals

Calls for proposals will be launched on the basis of priorities identified by the Representations of the European Commission in coordination with central services. The estimated duration of the activities may not exceed 12 months.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Eligibility criteria: Europe Direct Information Centres with ongoing Framework Partnership Agreements.

Selection criteria: Applicants will have to demonstrate that they have the financial, technical and operational capacity to complete the project, and stable and sufficient sources of funding to keep up the activity throughout the implementation and/or funding period. They must also provide evidence that their professional skills, qualifications and/or experience are relevant to the proposed project and that they operate in the specific geographical area defined in the call for proposals.

Criteria for awarding grants:

- The relevance of the project and its expected results to the objectives of the call;
- The effectiveness and rationality of the proposed methodology and organisation (including the timetable and monitoring);
- The impact and dissemination of the results envisaged as well as the extent to which the EU involvement in the project or activity will be publicised;
- The proposed budget and cost-effectiveness of the project paying due consideration to the quality of the project.

Implementation

This Action will be implemented directly by DG COMM co-delegation type II. The grant will be an amount of EUR 800.000 of which: EUR 560.000 will be financed under 13 03 65 01 budget line and EUR 240.000 will be financed under 13 04 61 01 budget line.

Indicative timetable of grant awarded without a call for proposals

Reference	Indicative date	Indicative amount
	1-4 Q	240.000

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

95 %

3.2. Prizes

N/A

3.3. Procurement

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for procurement contracts in 2016 amounts to EUR 7.207.500.

Audit

Type of procurement	Service
Indicative amount	EUR 480.000
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC

Indicative number of contracts	8 Specific Contracts
Timeframe	1 – 4 Q 2016
Implementation	EUR 240.000 will be cross-subdelegated to DG EMPL
Communication and publication	
Type of procurement	Service
Indicative amount	EUR 3.718.500
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC, direct contracts
Indicative number of contracts	60 Specific Contracts under FWC, 5 direct contracts
Timeframe	1 – 4 Q 2016
Implementation	EUR 1.717.500 is co-delegated (type II) to DG COMM for the Corporate Communication to address the EU contribution to growth and jobs. The indicative number of direct contracts and specific contracts under FWC is 5. The indicative timeframe for contract signature is 1-2 Q 2016. The rest of the budget will be managed directly by DG REGIO

Evaluation

Type of procurement	Service
Indicative amount	EUR 480.000
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC, direct contracts
Indicative number of contracts	3 Specific Contracts under FWC, 5 direct contracts
Timeframe	1 – 4 Q 2016
Implementation	Directly by DG REGIO

Meetings and conferences

Type of procurement	Service
Indicative amount	EUR 309.000
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC, direct contract
Indicative number of contracts	20 Specific Contracts under FWC, 3 direct contracts
Timeframe	1 – 4 Q 2016
Implementation	The budget will be managed directly by DG REGIO.

Study

Type of procurement	Service
Indicative amount	EUR 810.000
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC, direct contracts
Indicative number of contracts	20 Specific Contracts under FWC, 6 direct contracts
Timeframe	2 – 4 Q 2016
Implementation	The budget will be managed directly by DG REGIO.

Technical and other administrative assistance

Type of procurement	Service
Indicative amount	EUR 801.000
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC, direct contracts
Indicative number of contracts	25 Specific Contracts under FWC, 5 direct contracts
Timeframe	2 – 4 Q 2016
Implementation	Out of the overall amount: EUR 150.000 is cross-subdelegated to DG NEAR and EUR 75.000 is budgeted for ESTAT. The rest of the budget will be managed directly by DG REGIO.

Informatics

Type of procurement	Service
Indicative amount	EUR 300.000
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC
Indicative number of contracts	8
Timeframe	2 – 4 Q 2016

Implementation	The budget will be managed directly by DG REGIO.
Translation (externalised)	
Type of procurement	Service
Indicative amount	EUR 120.000
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC
Indicative number of contracts	4
Timeframe	2 – 4 Q 2016
Implementation	The budget will be co-delegated to DGT for externalised translations
Trainings (externalised)	
Type of procurement	Service
Indicative amount	EUR 189.000
Type of Contract	Specific Contracts under FWC
Indicative number of contracts	3
Timeframe	2 – 4 Q 2016
Implementation	Trainings to be held with the involvement of the Managing Authorities

3.4. *Actions implemented in indirect management*

N/A

3.5. *Financial instruments implemented in direct or indirect management*

N/A

3.6. *Other Actions or expenditures*

3.6.1. *Expert Contracts – AMI List*

This action covers expenses for technical assistance provided by experts through simplified experts contracts, implemented under Article 204 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

The indicative amount earmarked for this action is EUR 262.500.