

Microsoft Mobile Oy (Finland)



Reference	EGF/2016/001 FI/Microsoft programming
Member State	Finland
Sector	Computer programming, consultancy and related activities
Submitted to European Commission	11.03.2016
Total budget planned	8 940 000
EGF contribution	5 364 000
Intervention criterion	Article 4(1)(a)
Period of reference	11.09.2015-11.01.2016
Redundancies during period of reference	2 135
Active employment measures	To be provided for 1 441 workers and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coaching and other preparatory measures - Employment and business services - Training and start-up grants - Pay subsidy

BACKGROUND

- Between 2008 and 2014, employment in the technology industry in Finland dropped from 326 000 to 276 000. The drop in 2014 alone was by 3 %.
- Following major lay-offs from Nokia in the last couple of years (which led to two EGF applications), the Finnish ICT sector is experiencing considerable difficulties to compete in the global market. The major lay-offs in Microsoft Mobile Oy are a continuation of this trend. The affected workers are in the field of programming.
- The Finnish mobile telephone industry is aiming at investing in new types of services, but global competition by providers from lower-cost countries is significant and a growing number of enterprises has been closing down. Microsoft Mobile Oy is aiming at better focusing and aligning of resources in mobile phone programming.
- There are 1 441 workers made redundant in 9 enterprises in the sector, who are targeted by the measures. Many of them have very specialised knowledge. They reside in the regions of Helsinki-Uusimaa, Etelä-Suomi and Länsi-Suomi.
- The redundancies occurred in areas already greatly affected by unemployment in the ICT sector and with unemployment rates higher than the national average.
- The application provides for a number of tailor-made measures to serve the specific needs of the redundant workers, to develop existing or create new skills and to promote entrepreneurship, to increase the mobility of the redundant workers, nationally and internationally.