



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION

Annual work programme for the operational technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission in the framework of the European Social Fund and in the framework of the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived for 2019

[Commission implementing Decision C(2018)6603 of 15 October 2018]

ANNEX I

Work Programme for 2019 for the operational technical assistance in the framework of the European Social Fund.

1. Introduction

On the basis of the objectives given in the Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of 17 December 2013, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2019 as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (point 2): EUR 500 000
- for prizes (implemented under direct management) (point 3): N/A
- for procurement (implemented under direct management) (point 4): EUR 12 500 000
- for actions implemented under indirect management (point 5): N/A
- for contributions to trust funds (point 6): N/A
- for financial instruments (point 7): N/A
- for contributions to blending facilities (point 8): N/A
- for other actions or expenditure (point 9): N/A

Legal basis

The appropriations under this item are intended to finance actions under Article 58 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of 17 December 2013.

Budget line

04.026301 – European Social Fund (ESF) – Operational technical assistance

2. *Grants*

The global budgetary envelope for grants under this work programme amounts to EUR 500 000.

2.1. **ESF Presidency conference**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Supporting ESF implementation - The ESF Presidency conferences are meant to support ESF stakeholders on specific challenges of ESF implementation.

Description of the activities to be funded

Conferences organised by Presidencies on topics related to policy areas covered by the ESF.

Type of applicants

The Member State holding the Council Presidency is the beneficiary of the grant. The form, topic and expected results are established by the Presidency in agreement with the Commission. The grant is awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195(c) FR. These events, which are highly political in nature and which need representation at the highest level both from national authorities and European representatives, are to be organised exclusively by the Member State holding the Presidency. Given the unique role of the Presidency in the framework of EU activities, the Member State responsible for the organisation of the event is considered as a de jure monopoly.

Implementation

Directly by the DG

3. *Prizes*

N/A

4. *Procurement*

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for procurement contracts in 2019 amounts to EUR 12 500 000.

4.1. **Support to capacity building for better ESF implementation**

General description of the contracts envisaged

Assist the Commission and Member States in implementing the ESF (including through outsourced audits, organisation of meetings, events, trainings and other actions), the common framework on transnational cooperation and the development of SCO (financing based on conditions). These procurement actions will also support the managing authorities and other

stakeholders by providing relevant training and guidance.

Implementation

Directly by the DG

4.2. VET Skills Week 2019

General description of the contracts envisaged

The VET skills week refers to the European Vocational Skills Week implementation through communication campaigns that would reach out to national, regional and local levels across Europe.

Implementation

Directly by the DG

4.3 Contribution to corporate communication

General description of the contracts envisaged

As set out in Communication C(2018)4063 corporate communication will focus mainly on the EU's contribution to jobs and growth through integrated communication actions encompassing the Commission priorities in line with the objectives of the ESF. The actions will include different forms and products for communication and dissemination purposes, including production of contents, on-line services, acquisition of media space or organisation of and participation in events.

Implementation

Co-delegation to DG COMM

4.4. Development and maintenance of IT tools

General description of the contracts envisaged

These procurement actions will include: i) a framework contract for ARACHNE. Arachne is a risk scoring tool developed by the European Commission, represented by the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion and the Directorate General for Regional Policy and Urban Development (hereinafter: Commission services) in close cooperation with member states. The Commission services aim at supporting managing authorities responsible for the European Structural and Investment Funds for their management verifications in providing the Arachne Risk Scoring Tool to detect effectively and efficiently most risky projects, contracts, contractors and beneficiaries. Arachne is an integrated IT tool for data mining and data enrichment. The purpose of this action is the procurement of services (licences, maintenance and support); ii) support to the development of other tools (ABAC2 and SFC) to ensure appropriate management of the funds

Implementation

Directly by the DG and co-delegation to DG DIGIT and DG BUDG

4.5. Evaluation and impact assessments

General description of the contracts envisaged

A procurement action to be launched in 2019 together with DG REGIO to help assess the quality of the Member States' evaluation plans and evaluations. Joint support to Commission services and Member States on the assessment and improvement of evaluations for ESF, ERDF and Cohesion fund. These actions also include activities related to the promotion and implementation of impact evaluations and further development of models such as Rhomolo.

Implementation

Directly by the DG and cross delegations to DG REGIO and DG JRC

4.6. Studies and analysis

General description of the contracts envisaged

The actions will include studies to improve the evidence-based management of the ESF and studies on data collection systems, evaluation of TO8 (except Youth) and contract to prepare the ESF + Monitoring and Evaluation guideline. Ad-hoc evaluations may also be required depending on the specific needs. Additionally, actions will also support the analysis of JAP.

Implementation

Directly by the DG

5. *Actions implemented in indirect management*

N/A

6. *Trust funds*

N/A

7. *Financial Instruments implemented in direct or indirect management*

N/A

8. *Contribution to blending facilities*

N/A

9. *Other Actions or expenditure*

N/A

ANNEX II

Work programme for 2019 for the operational technical assistance in the framework of the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD).

10. Introduction

On the basis of the objectives given in the Regulation (EU) No 223/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Fund for European Aid to the most Deprived, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2019 as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (point 2): N/A
- for prizes (implemented under direct management) (point 3): N/A
- for procurement (implemented under direct management) (point 4): EUR 1 100 000
- for actions implemented under indirect management (point 5): N/A
- for contributions to trust funds (point 6): N/A
- for financial instruments (point 7): N/A
- for contributions to blending facilities (point 8): N/A
- for other actions or expenditure (point 9): N/A

Legal basis

The appropriations under this item are intended to finance actions covered by Article 27 of Regulation (EU) 223/2014.

Budget line

04.060200 – Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) – Technical assistance

11. Grants

N/A

12. Prizes

N/A

13. Procurement

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for procurement contracts in 2019 amounts to EUR 1 100 000.

4.1. Capacity building for good implementation of FEAD

General description of the contracts envisaged

Providing guidance, facilitating the exchange of experience between Member States including through conferences, meetings of experts and working groups with the view to adopt the secondary legislation in relation to the implementation of FEAD. These procurement actions will also support the consultation of representatives of the FEAD partner organisations at EU level on the implementation of the fund. This also includes the establishment of the platform for exchange of experience and dissemination of outcomes to spur mutual learning, awareness and dissemination of good practices (Art.10 of the FEAD Regulation).

Implementation

Directly by the DG

4.2. FEAD- Studies, analysis and communication

General description of the contracts envisaged

The actions will support the analytical work of the Commission in following the execution of the program. In addition, these actions will also include developing communication products or updating existing ones to inform the stakeholders and the general public about the functioning and achievements of FEAD.

Implementation

Directly by the DG

14. Actions implemented in indirect management

N/A

15. Trust funds

N/A

16. Financial Instruments implemented in direct or indirect management

N/A

17. Contribution to blending facilities

N/A

18. Other Actions or expenditure

N/A