



GRANTS AWARDED AS A RESULT OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS VP/2019/001

Support for social dialogue

Budget line : 04.03 01 08

Program(s) : Prerogatives - Signature: Yes

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Postal Skills and Work Environment in the Digital Era	261.550,38	VP/2019/001/0004

Summary of the action

Digitalisation in the postal sector has impacted both traditional and new postal occupational profiles. The introduction of new technologies will inevitably create close relationships between postal workers and the machine (technological adaptation of the postal operational process). This project aims to investigate these evolving relationships to provide the social partners with a better understanding of how employees can benefit from technology but also understand the associated risks in terms of possible deterioration of working conditions and the potential impact new technologies can have on occupational health and safety.

The project has a two-fold target, on the one hand it seeks to anticipate skills needs (by identifying labour shortages and future skills needed for specific postal occupational profiles) and to analyse the positive and negative consequences of digitalisation on working conditions in the given occupational profiles. In that sense, the social partners will be better equipped to anticipate future skills needs with particular regard to the digital ones and to adapt social dialogue practices to accompany the postal transformation by addressing the consequences of digitalisation on work organisation patterns and working conditions. In parallel, the project will enable social partners to exchange good practices in terms of training and re-training programmes and therefore to accompany the change process. The project, will also provide the social partners with a common reference framework of skills (digital and non digital) needs in a time horizon of 3-5 years for specific postal job areas.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
UNI-EUROPA ASSOCIATION	RUE JOSEPH II 40 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
ASSOCIATION DES OPERATEURS POSTAUX PUBLICS EUROPEENS	BOULEVARD BRAND WHITLOCK 114 1200 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
A transforming European sugar industry. New and better jobs in a competitive, innovative and sustainable industry.	306.753,83	VP/2019/001/0006

Summary of the action

The EU sugar industry is a source of high-quality industrial employment in areas where few alternatives exist. The beet sugar sector provides livelihoods and economic empowerment to rural families and communities. The jobs it provides are more highly skilled and remunerated than many other forms of rural employment, reflecting an extremely high productivity in comparison to the wider food and beverages sector.

Since the end of EU sugar production quotas in 2018, the sector has faced an unprecedented market crisis. Operators are attempting to adapt to new market conditions, and the closure of at least five factories has already been announced this year.

The EU sugar industry has a long tradition of valorising all products arising from the sugar process, minimising waste as far as possible. As well as sugar, our industry's products include food ingredients, animal feed, green chemistry products, and renewable ethanol for food and non-food uses.

New techniques could convert beets into high-value products for use in bioplastics, detergents, personal care products, paints and coatings, flavour and food products, and cosmetics. By creating local cross-sectoral value chains involving the sugar, chemical and food industries, rural development, employment and skilled jobs in sugar beet growing districts could be increased.

The proposal will contribute to the objectives of the Work Programme of the European Social Partners 2019-2021, including addressing youth employment, enhancing the attractiveness of the sugar sector (mainly to underrepresented categories such as young people and women), and anticipating skills needs.

The project will cover the following themes:

- job creation and job matching;
- the greening of the economy; and
- intra-EU labour mobility and youth employment.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE FOODAGRICULTURE AND TOURISM	AVENUE LOUISE 130A - BTE 3 1050 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
COMITE EUROPEEN DES FABRICANTS DE SUCRE	AVENUE DE Tervuren 182 1150 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
EU dialogue, local solutions	306.613,58	VP/2019/001/0007

Summary of the action

The proposed action built on the reflection over the first 15 years of Sectoral Social Dialogue carried out in 2019 by the Social Partners and on the follow up on the successes of the previous joint projects. It aims to, on one hand, further disseminate and promote at local level what the European sectoral social dialogue is and what has been achieved so far and, on the other hand, strengthen or create a bridge between the EU social dialogue and social dialogue at local level.

The project will be implemented via an opening webinar, three national workshops in France, Sweden and Spain and a final dissemination and networking event in Brussels. For this project, the Social Dialogue Committee has also decided to include an innovation element, testing new forms of online meetings but also digital outputs. Therefore, a webinar and an increased number of online meetings will be organised. The outcomes of the project will also be online materials. This project will be as much as possible paper free and there will be no printed publications.

The three national workshops in France, Sweden and Spain will analyse one set of guidelines each. In particular, the workshop in France will focus on the “multi-sectoral guidelines to tackle third-party violence and harassment related to work”, the workshop in Sweden on the “revised CEMR - EPSU guidelines to drawing up gender equality action plans in local and regional government” and the workshop in Spain on the “Revised joint guidelines, migration and strengthening anti-discrimination in local and regional governments”.

The project has three main target groups: the first is the EPSU and CEMR affiliates and delegates, the second group is composed by the all EPSU and CEMR affiliates and networks. The third target group will be reached indirectly, via the dissemination and networking event.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE UNIONS	RUE JOSEPH II 40/5 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
CONSEIL DES COMMUNES ET REGIONS D'EUROPE	SQUARE DE MEEUS 1 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
OSH4Edu - European Sectoral Social Partners in Education Enhancing Risk Assessment in Education Institutions	118.914	VP/2019/001/0015

Summary of the action

Investment in occupational safety and health has an important role to play in improving people's lives by preventing work-related illness and accidents and also has a tangible positive effect on EU economies, as clearly described in the Commission Communication on “Safer and Healthier work for All”. Promoting “Healthy, safe and well-adapted work environment” is also one of the key principles from the European Pillar of Social Rights. Furthermore, risk assessment of the workplace is one of the cornerstones of good health and safety management, as stated in the EU ‘OSH Framework Directive’ (89/391/EEC). In 2019, the European Sectoral Social Partners in Education (ESSDE): EFEE (European Federation of Education Employers) and ETUCE (European Trade Union Committee for Education) developed with the help of EU-OSHA, an Online interactive Risk Assessment (OiRA) tool for Primary and Secondary Education level. With this project, EFEE and ETUCE aim to raise awareness on occupational health and safety in the education sector (from primary and secondary education up to Vocational Education and Training (VET) and higher education), by examining the use of risk assessments to tackle health and safety challenges in education institutions (including psychosocial hazards), by promoting the implementation of the jointly developed OiRA tool and by exploring the opportunities to further develop an OiRA tool for the VET and Higher Education level. For this purpose, a survey will be conducted, two interactive workshop meetings in Slovenia and Ireland will be arranged, and one final conference in Brussels will be organised in order to come to a Joint ESSDE Statement. Herewith ETUCE and EFEE wish to implement their commitment to work jointly towards safer and healthier working environments, which promote success in teaching and learning, as also stipulated in their joint ESSDE Work Programme.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
FEDERATION EUROPEENNE DES EMPLOYEURS D'EDUCATION AISBL	RUE DES DEUX EGLISES 26 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Identifying and Meeting Digital Skills Needs in the European Chemical, Pharmaceutical, Rubber, and Plastics Industry – Social Partner Initiative to prepare the Sector now and for the Future	468.340	VP/2019/001/0016

Summary of the action

The digital transformation is one of the main drivers of change in all sectors in the European Union and globally, and the chemical, pharmaceutical, rubber, and plastics industry is no exception. To the contrary, production processes and innovations in the sector change at a staggering pace, and there are clear signs of this speed accelerating even further in the future.

Hand in hand with the digital transformation goes that the workforce in the chemical, pharmaceutical, rubber, and plastics industry needs to develop and be trained increasingly in very specific and more advanced digital, transversal and social skills.

Currently basic digital skills are broadly existing in the chemical, pharmaceutical, rubber, and plastics sector. However, more advanced digital skills and transversal skills require the full and urgent attention by all stakeholders in the industry: employers, managers, trade unions, vocational training institutions and universities alike.

Against this background the project partners ECEG, FECCIA, and Ledarna, representing the chemical, pharmaceutical, rubber, and plastics industry within the EU 28, would like identify and anticipate the specific, more advanced digital skills needed in the chemical, pharmaceutical, rubber, and plastics sector. The main objectives are:

- to find pragmatic solutions as to how to upskill the current workforce on all levels (workers and managers) within a very short time frame on the digital and transversal skills needed now,
- to also look at vocational education and training (VET) and university curricula with regard to digital, transversal and social skills to make sure that young people who are going to train or study to work in the future in the chemical, pharmaceutical, rubber, and plastics sector in the future possess the required advanced digital skills and qualifications,
- and to develop on the basis of these findings an integrated Life Long Learning (LLL) concept for digital skills.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
IDEELLA FORENINGEN LEDARNA MED FIRMA LEDARNA-SVERIGES CHEFSORGANISATION	S T ERIKSGATAN 26 102 22 STOCKHOLM	SE - Sweden
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
FEDERATION EUROPEENNE DES CADRES DE LA CHIMIE ET DES INDUSTRIES ANNEXES	AVENUE DE LA REPUBLIQUE 33 75011 PARIS	FR - France
EUROPEAN CHEMICAL EMPLOYERS GROUP	BOULEVARD AUGUSTE REYERS 80 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
e-Speed – European Social Partners in Education Embracing Digitalisation: Challenges and opportunities for European Education Trade Unions and Employer Organisations in the digital era	311.276,45	VP/2019/001/0018

Summary of the action

The digital era is rapidly and irrevocably transforming the world of work, with the emergence of new required skills for workers. The increasing use of ICT tools in European citizen's life is set to bring about new opportunities, but also new threats. The education sector is central in providing young people and adults with the set of skills needed to enter and remain in the workforce, and to become active and informed citizens. Without appropriate consultation and concertation with social partners in education, any policy regarding the use of ICT tools in education is at best unhelpful, and at worst, harmful for the education sector. This project aims to feed into the European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) and the European Federation of Education Employers' (EFEE) joint work in the context of the European Sectoral Social Dialogue in Education (ESSDE), in view of the current joint work programme priority: 'Innovative teaching and learning in the 21st century'. The project is to be steered by an Advisory Group (AG) that will meet 6 times during the project and will oversee the implementation of the project. At the start of the project, a survey is to be sent out to ETUCE and EFEE member organisations to gather data and good practices among national social partners. Two case studies will subsequently take place in Denmark and Romania, to further discuss issues revolving around two streams of paramount importance: The impact of digitalisation on teachers, trainers and school leaders' working environment, and Digitalisation as a tool towards more inclusive education systems. Participants are to exchange on the topics, review good practice examples during the school visits, and determine possible joint answers to tackle the challenges uncovered. The final conference is set to unveil the results of the survey and research, the video in support of the project, the case study visits, as well as a draft joint statement to further feed into the ESSDE.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
ETUCE-CSEE STICHTING	AVENUE ROI ALBERT II 5/9 1210 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Reducing Respirable Crystalline Silica Dust Effectively	284.133,15	VP/2019/001/0020

Summary of the action

With the revision of the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive an Occupational Exposure Limit Value (OELV) of 0.1 mg/m³ for respirable crystalline silica was established. The European Social Partners organisations for the Construction sector consider the practical implementation of this new limit value as a challenge, especially in a work environment that permanently changes. This permanent change is one of the main characteristics of construction work. Furthermore, construction work presents a very high diversity in types of work processes or equipment used, to name the most relevant aspects. Therefore, the levels and circumstances of exposure can vary significantly as well.

With respect to this situation, the European social partners EFBWW and FIEC recently established an ad-hoc working group to support the implementation of the new occupational limit value for Respirable Crystalline Silica. The working group elaborated the concept for this project, which constitutes one initiative as part of further implementation activities.

Good practices and experiences are available at national level and we can build our project on these experiences as well as on some guidance material already existing on national levels.

In a first step we will map the diversity of construction activities and processes. Each activity shall receive a green (limit value is kept), orange (difficult to keep the limit value) or red (currently not possible to keep the limit value) label. The guidance part shall describe the technical and organisational measures to achieve the best level of prevention. The 'Guidance Map' shall be available in 10 languages and will target social partner organisations at national level, especially the company level.

The overall action shall be carried out by the European Social partner organisations EFBWW and FIEC in collaboration with some national prevention institutions, which will be directly involved in the project steering group.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
EUROPESE FEDERATIE VOOR BOUW- EN HOUTARBEIDERS.FV	RUE ROYALE 45 BOX 1 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
FEDERATION DE L'INDUSTRIE EUROPEENNE DE LA CONSTRUCTION	AVENUE LOUISE 225 1050 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
INTEGRATED PROJECTS OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL DIALOGUE 2020-2021	638.659,83	VP/2019/001/0024

Summary of the action

Since 2004, the four EU cross-sectoral social partners - ETUC, BusinessEurope, CEEP and SMEUnited- have jointly created, developed and run a number of activities under the 'Integrated Projects' of the EU Social Dialogue. The Integrated Projects (IP) include research, expertise work, conferences, seminars and meetings aiming to mobilise social partners at national and EU levels and strengthen cooperation of social partners from all EU Member States as well as candidate countries. The objective is to foster the effective participation of national social partners in the EU social dialogue, and address issues and challenges jointly identified.

The IP is a central tool for reinforcing the link between the national and European social dialogues, and identifying relevant issues for the EU social partners, with a clear link with their Work Programme. Within this framework, EU cross-sectoral social partners have undertaken actions such as capacity building of national social partners' organisations, supporting the implementation and follow-up of EU social dialogue instruments, as well addressing many different issues including employee training, European Social Fund, youth employment, apprenticeships, active ageing, gender equality, flexicurity, restructuring, and the employment impact of climate change.

With the present proposal, the EU cross-sectoral social partners wish to continue their joint work, by building upon past project experiences and outcomes, and exploring new emerging issues.

Given the new process of annual applications under this budget heading that started last year, we have taken a long-term approach in planning, based on an alternation from one year to another. Thus, last year we requested support for capacity building actions whereas this year, we have decided to focus on two topics: circular economy and skills and innovation, which are priorities under the 2019-2021 European Social Partners Work Programme.

A full description is provided in annexe.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
BUSINESSEUROPE - LA CONFEDERATION DES ENTREPRISES EUROPEENNES	AVENUE DE CORTENBERGH 168 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
A results based approach to social dialogue: supporting the implementation of the work programme 2018-2020 of the sectoral dialogue committee in civil aviation (CASSDC) and beyond	360.356,95	VP/2019/001/0026

Summary of the action

The European Social Partners in the Civil Aviation sector adopted a four-year work programme 2018 – 2010 (Annex 1) consisting of a general part being horizontal by including all sub-sectors of the industry and specific parts for the sub-sectors air crew, air traffic management and ground handling.

This joint project of the employers' and workers' organisations shall serve the work on this programme and its implementation. With the help of this project the social partners shall be enabled to:

- 1.) address the challenges in employment of the sector and
- 2.) enforce the European Pillar of Social Rights, more precisely the following two principles:
 - a. Education, training and life-long learning
 - b. Gender equality

Further meetings are needed in order to implement the work programme and stimulate the exchange of information and the dialogue between the social partners.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
EUROPEAN TRANSPORT WORKERS FEDERATION	RUE MARCHE AUX HERBES 105/11 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
AIRLINE COORDINATION PLATFORM	GROEN VAN PRINSTERERSTRAAT 88 3 1051EP AMSTERDAM	BE - Belgium

Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
ORGANISATIE VOORLUCHTVERKEERSLEIDINGORGANISATIES CANSO	POLARISAVENUE 85E 2132 JH HOOFDDORP	NL - Netherlands
EUROPEAN COCKPIT ASSOCIATION AISBL	RUE DU COMMERCE 20-22 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
EUROPEAN REGION OF THE AIRPORTS COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL	RUE MONTOYER 10/9 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Labour and Capital united for decent jobs and fair transition in the context of digitalization – on focus metal industry	220.385,8	VP/2019/001/0028

Summary of the action

Digitalisation of the economy is an important challenge for the European trade unions. It brings the 4th industrial revolution which is about to change industry, services, but also the world of labour. Digitalisation means opportunities as well as risks. Studies currently available on the future of work suggest that there will be winners and losers amongst workers. One of the risks is that digitalisation might become an additional driver of social inequalities. And it comes at a time when the world economy is already facing a major employment crisis. Technology has reduced the labour required for mass production and is further hollowing out the job market by automating even routine tasks. Robotics is making a major breakthrough in manufacturing with 200000 robots coming into use each year. Traditional employment relations are changing. Some atypical forms of employment supported by digitisation which are currently not covered by existing arrangements, become more common. Workers entering the job market are increasingly offered short-term or temporary contracts, which is exacerbating trends towards income inequalities. It seems that digitalisation moves ahead with little priority given to workers' rights and social protection. Trade unions are challenged to shape the transition to fair digital work. The evolving complexities of the world of work require complex solutions. The digital revolution will not happen overnight, but needs to be shaped step by step. In this context the project will explore the trends ahead and will provide a platform for discussion amongst the main stakeholders on what needs to be done to establish a fair digital world offering decent jobs. The main objective will be to provide support for workers through this transition-some jobs will be replaced, traditional occupations will be modified, new activities will emerge; and to propose a set of policies to address the adjustment costs that the digital transformation of the economy brings about on the labour market.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
SINDIKALNA FEDERATSIYA METALITSI	MACEDONIA SQ 1 FLOOR 16 ROOMS 8-13 1000 SOFIA	BG - Bulgaria
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
BALGARSKA ASOTSIATSIYA NA METALURGICHNATA INDUSTRIA	205 ALEKSANDER STAMBOLIISKI BLVD 1309 SOFIA	BG - Bulgaria
FEDERAZIONE ITALIANA METALMECCANICI-CISL ASSOCIAZIONE	CORSO TRIESTE 36 00198 ROMA	IT - Italy
AUTONOMOUS METALWORKERS UNION OF SERBIA	DECANSKA 14 11000 BEOGRAD	RS - Serbia
TRADE UNION OF INDUSTRY, ENERGY AND MINING OF MACEDONIA SKOPJE	MIRCE ACEV STR 6 1000 SKOPJE	MK - Republic of North Macedonia
INDUSTRIJSKI SINDIKAT SRBIJE	NIKOLA PASIC SQUARE 3/5 11000 BEOGRAD	RS - Serbia
FEDERATION CONFEDEREE FORCE OUVRIERE DE LA METALLURGIE SYNDICAT	RUE BAUDOUIN 9 750013 PARIS 13	FR - France
FEDERATIA NATIONALA SINDACALA SOLIDARITATEA METAL	STR.SCARLAT OTULESCU NR 4 BL9 AP9 SECTOR5 050216 BUCARESTI	RO - Romania

Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
SINDIKAT METALACA HRVATSE-INDUSTRIJSKI SINDIKAT	TRG KRALJA PETRA KRESIMIRA IV BR 2 4 KAT 10000 ZAGREB	HR - Croatia

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Gender Equality on and off the Stage: A Mapping Project of the European Live Performance Sector	172.220	VP/2019/001/0029

Summary of the action

This project will be led by European social partner organization FIA (The International Federation of Actors), in full partnership with co-applicant, Pearle*: Live Performance Europe, which is the European Social Partner Representative for the Live Performance sector Employers. The work will be closely supported by two additional associate organisations, the International Federation of Musicians (FIM) and UNI MEI, global union for Media and Entertainment. Both associate organisations are also sectoral social partner in the Live Performance sector and members of the trade union alliance the European Arts and Entertainment Alliance (EAEA).

Objective of the project: this project aims to deliver a detailed overview of the situation in relation to gender equality in the Live Performance sector across the EU, highlighting best practice and forming the basis for future work of the European social partners on this topic. The project will not be geared towards providing an exhaustive quantitative study, but rather to map and collate an up-to-date Reader of the relevant publications and data available; together with the most relevant legal and policy initiatives; social partner initiatives and agreements; civil society actions and artistic movements dedicated to the issue of gender equality in the Live Performance sector.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES ACTEURS	1 RUE JANSSEN 75019 PARIS	FR - France
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
LIGUE EUROPEENNE DES ASSOCIATIONS D EMPLOYEURS DU SPECTACLE AISBL	SQUARE SAINCTELETTE 19 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Contributing to an Attractive, Smart and Sustainable Working Environment in the Shipping Sector - Implementing part of the SSDC work programme	420.063,22	VP/2019/001/0030

Summary of the action

Increasing the attractiveness and sustainability of the maritime profession has been a goal of the EU for many years now. In the 'Valletta Declaration' (2017), the Member States' Transport Ministers stressed that further action was needed to maintain and further develop attractive and smart, safe, social and sustainable quality shipping.

The goal of increasing the attractiveness and sustainability of the sector is also a key priority for ECSA and ETF, and has been part of their work programme of the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for maritime transport for several years now. As highlighted in the 2018 joint ECSA-ETF declaration of intention to address the enhanced participation of women in shipping, there is a need to increase the profile of the industry - improving the image, knowledge and perception of industry – so as to attract more youngsters to the industry, promote the career paths involving movements from sea to shore based jobs within the maritime industry and promote opportunities for women at sea.

With this action, ECSA and ETF aim to contribute to an attractive, smart and sustainable working environment in the shipping sector through the implementation of several activities. These are centered around two Pillars:

- Supporting the work of the joint ECSA-ETF working group on Health and Safety on board (Pillar 1): this will involve the development of guidelines on the provision and appropriate use of internet access on board, a research report on the impact of increased use of digitalisation onboard ships, and the translation of international guidelines to shipping companies on eliminating workplace harassment and bullying.
- Enhanced participation of women in European shipping - implementing the ECSA/ETF declaration of intention (Pillar 2): this will consist in the implementation of the priority actions identified in the joint declaration of intention from 2018.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY SHIPOWNERS ASSOCIATION ASBL	BOULEVARD DU REGENT, REGENTLAAN 43-44 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
EUROPEAN TRANSPORT WORKERS FEDERATION	RUE MARCHE AUX HERBES 105/11 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Employability in the railway sector in the light of digitalisation and automation (EDA Rail)	499.931,32	VP/2019/001/0036

Summary of the action

The common aim of the social partners in the railway sector, the Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) and the European Transport Workers' federation (ETF) is to review the existing Joint Recommendations with the willingness of follow-up actions, e.g. negotiations and transformation into binding agreements (within the meaning of Article 155 TFUE). In the context of the review, the topic of digitalisation & automation and its impact on business and all areas of labour is relevant. Furthermore, the social partners agree to study if the concept of employability as such needs an up-date or a modernisation. In particular in the field of digitalisation & automation the role of the human factor is essential and appropriate to review the concept of employability.

In four steps, the social partners pursue the following objectives:

- 1) Identify and analyse the main drivers of change (WHY);
- 2) Identify and analyse the main domains affected by the changes that are relevant for employability, and the employers' and employees' needs on these topics (WHAT);
- 3) Identify and collect examples and best practices of how companies, employees and trade unions deal with these changes (HOW);
- 4) In order to implement the SSDC RAIL WP 2018/2019 regarding the review of the existing CER/ETF Joint Recommendations achieve an understanding of the full extent and meaning of an up-dated employability concept, make recommendations and draw practical conclusions.

To reach these objectives the social partners will organise scientific research, 4 Workshops, 5 steering committee meetings and 1 final conference. The output will be the project report and factsheets about main findings, including a description of case studies and good practices at company level and list of do's and don't's for social partners' approaches to employability and digitalisation. In addition the proposal for follow-up actions according to the work program including a modernised "employability" concept a

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
COMMUNITY OF EUROPEAN RAILWAY AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMPANIES AISBL	AVENUE DES ARTS 53 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
EVA-EUROPAISCHE AKADEMIE FUR UMWELTORIENTIERTEN VERKEHR GGMBH	REINHARDTSTRASSE 23 10117 BERLIN	DE - Germany
EUROPEAN TRANSPORT WORKERS FEDERATION	RUE MARCHE AUX HERBES 105/11 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Digital Upskilling For All! Developing best practice initiatives for the digital upskilling and inclusion of Diversity Groups within the European Telecoms sector, with a particular focus on gender equality and the ageing workforce.	300.083,32	VP/2019/001/0039

Summary of the action

Digital Upskilling For All! is a 2 year social dialogue project that aims to develop best practices and create recommended pathways for digital upskilling, inclusion and diversity within the workforce of the European Telecoms sector.

The final report of the 'Filling the ICT skills gap in the Telecommunications sector of the future (FITS)' project published on 14th November 2014 (See Annex 2), identified that skills requirements in the Telecoms sector are rapidly changing due to constant technological innovation and market developments. The number of vacancies for highly skilled ICT roles is increasing exponentially and the sector cannot meet this demand by recruiting from the traditional ICT talent pool alone. In order to bridge this skills gap, Telecommunication companies are seeking to upskill their existing workforce and recruit new talent from a much broader diversity group.

For this reason, the European social partners in the Telecom sector - the European Telecommunications Network Operators' Association (ETNO) and the European trade unions federation UNI Europa, have jointly decided and undertaken to review sectoral and academic best practices and develop a package of recommended initiatives that will enable digital upskilling to be embedded within the diversity group of their work population.

This action seeks to bridge the growing digital skills gap among the 1,005,150 strong telecoms workforce in Europe. The project will focus on identifying successful digital upskilling pathways for female and older workers, with the intention of adapting these solutions to include the whole diversity group in future, ensuring Digital Upskilling For All.

The project will be a stepping stone to develop and scale more inclusive pathways for underrepresented groups while helping to create a truly diverse workforce across the whole European Telecoms sector.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
EUROPEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK OPERATOR'S ASSOCIATION	BOULEVARD DU REGENT 43-44 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
UNI-EUROPA ASSOCIATION	RUE JOSEPH II 40 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Growing the future - Enhancing the attractiveness of the agriculture work	537.905,23	VP/2019/001/0040

Summary of the action		
<p>Agriculture is an important economic sector in EU. It produces around 1.5% of the total EU output and employs around 10 million people. But like in many other sectors the agricultural workforce has been declining.</p> <p>Agriculture is of vital importance for all EU society since it ensures food security to all EU inhabitants. It also has a positive impact on the environment and to the social cohesion of rural areas.</p> <p>The creation of jobs and the potential of the economic progress of this sector is very relevant for GEOPA-COPA members. Moreover, better productivity and growth will help Member States' resilience to economic shocks.</p> <p>Thereby, GEOPA-COPA proposes to thoroughly analyse the aspects of the agriculture labour shortage to deliver sustainable solutions for this challenge through best practices followed across EU Member States.</p> <p>This sector differs from other economic sectors because by its very nature it's highly seasonal and it's becoming more and more difficult to recruit labour force. Furthermore, statistics show that small farms are gradually being replaced by bigger ones and workforce is extremely needed. Unfilled positions lead to delays in the production process, or even to loss of production, which is a threaten to the competitiveness of the sector.</p> <p>The results of the analysis will help the EU Member States with innovative ideas to promote and create employment in the agriculture sector. Moreover, this innovative tool is supported by EFFAT and we wish to use it to take informed decisions at social dialogue level and possibly to reach agreements.</p> <p>Workers and employers and national social partners will also be able to use it in their daily lives, promoting fair competition, better working conditions, professional mobility and social inclusion. This tool can also be used by intra-sectoral social partners, EU institutions, ILO, OECD to better understand the challenges and solutions for the farming community.</p>		

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
GROUPE DES EMPLOYEURS DES ORGANISATIONS PROFESSIONNELLES AGRICOLES DE L'UNION	RUE DE TREVES 61 1040 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Le travail détaché - une nouvelle directive pour une vision commune : le développement de la mobilité	312.779,7	VP/2019/001/0041

Summary of the action		
<p>Le travail détaché est souvent perçu comme un élément de distorsion de concurrence et de dumping social selon l'impact qu'éprouvera l'Etat qui recevra des travailleurs détachés. Il est souvent cité comme élément de travail illégal dès lorsque le recours au détachement de travailleurs engendre des différences de coûts dont l'ampleur n'est à priori justifié par aucun texte qui gouverne les possibilités et les conditions de recours à cette forme de travail.</p> <p>Inversement, pour d'autres Etats membres, en particulier d'Europe centrale et de l'Est, la possibilité d'envoyer des travailleurs dans d'autres Etats membres, sous la forme d'un détachement, représente une réelle opportunité qui permet une certaine mobilité de leur main d'œuvre. Dans ce contexte sommaire, il n'est toutefois pas rare que des entreprises dépassent les limites imposées par la directive 96/71/CE relative au recours au détachement de travailleurs.</p> <p>De nombreuses études démontrent que le détachement de travailleurs est relativement marginal, à l'échelle de l'ensemble des secteurs économiques de l'UE, et que cela se limite à certains en particulier (construction, secteur industriel, éducation, agriculture, ...)</p> <p>Pourtant, la notion de détachement de travailleurs est à priori un formidable outil qui permet le développement de la mobilité : c'est en tout cas l'esprit des textes qui gouvernent ce détachement. Utilisé en respect de ces textes, le détachement de travailleurs est aussi une innovation économique et sociale qui donne du crédit à la notion même de l'Union Européenne. Encore faut-il que la réglementation soit respectée sans qu'une partie des acteurs n'en contourne l'esprit.</p> <p>Partant de ce constat, notre projet a pour ambition de poser les vrais problèmes en matière économique et sociale, pour faire émerger une cohérence de point de vue et ainsi de remettre l'esprit de la directive relative au détachement de travailleurs au service de la mobilité géographique et professionnelle qu'elle permet;</p>		

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
FAI FEDERAZIONE AGRICOLA ALIMENTAREAMBIENTALE INDUSTRIALE	VIA TEVERE 20 00198 ROMA	IT - Italy
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country

Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
FEDERATION AGROALIMENTAIRE CFE.CGC SYNDICAT DE SALARIES	26 RUE DE NAPLES 75008 PARIS	FR - France
FEDERACION DE INDUSTRIA, CONSTRUCCION Y AGRO DE LA UNION GENERAL DE TRABAJADORES	AVENIDA DE AMERICA 25 28002 MADRID	ES - Spain
EUROPAISCHER VERBAND DER WANDERARBEITER EV	SCHUBERTSTRASSE 5 80336 MUNCHEN	DE - Germany
CONFEDERAZIONE NAZIONALE COLDIRETTI	VIA XXIV MAGGIO 43 00187 ROMA	IT - Italy

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Fostering social dialogue on skills to adapt to digitalisation in the EU Audiovisual and Live Performance sectors	217.784,07	VP/2019/001/0044

Summary of the action

Building on the outcomes and experience gained through the previously work on skills' development carried out jointly by the European social partners of the EU Sectoral Social Dialogue Committees in the Audiovisual (AV) and Live Performance (LP) sectors, the social partners of both committees have decided to take their cooperation a step further and carry out a joint project with the following main objectives and actions:

- Three European thematic workshops on skills' development in the digital environment to identify the skills' needs related to digital transformation and to support social partners to fully engage in the digital environment;
- Four national awareness raising events, to raise awareness on the importance and relevance of skills' development at national level and increase the capacities of national social partners to engage in social dialogue on skills;
- Four working groups of European social partners to define the format and content of a process-oriented European social dialogue document on skills' development in the AV and LP sectors underlining the shared values of social partners and possible future actions to support skills' development across Europe.

The project will also produce a set of outputs, among which:

- A report on skills' development in the digital environment, including a description and analysis of the skills needed and the consequences for training and employment in the AV and LP sectors, advancing concrete suggestions on how to address identified skills' gaps through different forms of training and innovative tools;
- A process-oriented European social dialogue document on skills' development in the AV and LP sectors, developed by European social partners which will be built on the conclusions of the previous projects and point towards future actions at national and European level to further promote skills' development in both sectors.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
UNI-EUROPA ASSOCIATION	RUE JOSEPH II 40 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
SUPPORT OF SOCIAL DIALOGUE FOR AN EFFECTIVE FUTURE CONSTRUCTION – SUSODCO	554.400,06	VP/2019/001/0049

Summary of the action

The social dialogue partners in the construction industry mainly from Central (Slovenia, Hungary), Southeastern (Croatia, Bulgaria) and Southern Europe (Cyprus, Greece) members countries willing and committed to collaborate more actively through proposed consortium, have decided on the research preliminary made showing common challenges and issues to apply for a new EU-project (SuSodCo) focused in social dialogue topics, which are aimed at reinforcement and capacity building of firstly national sectoral SD and secondly in more active contribution to the ESD. This project focuses in capacity building, promotion, visibility and mutual recognition and mutual trust of social dialogue partners in the construction industry from Central and Eastern European and South-eastern Member States. In this framework, the SuSodCo project key objective is to equip national sectoral social dialogue partners with missing key capacities that will enable them to be more engaged in sectoral social dialogue and strengthen their operational functions (capacities) on national level, enable their growth, development and active inclusion sectoral ESD activities. Taking into account that national social dialogue activities require experts' support, and include feedback on national and on best SD practices initiatives, on planning and comparison of concepts used, outcomes, The social dialogue partners in the construction industry mainly from Central (Slovenia, Hungary), Southeastern (Croatia, Bulgaria) and Southern Europe (Cyprus, Greece) members countries willing and committed to collaborate more actively through proposed consortium, have decided on the research preliminary made showing common challenges and issues to apply for a new EU-project (SuSodCo) focused in social dialogue topics, which are aimed at reinforcement and capacity building of firstly national sectoral SD and secondly in more active contribution to the ESD. This project focuses in capacity building, promotion, visibility ...

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
GOSPODARSKA ZBORNICA SLOVENIJE	DIMICEVA 13 1504 LJUBLJANA	SI - Slovenia
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
OMOSPONDIA SYNDESMON ERGOLAVON OIKODOMON KYPROU (OSEOK)	3A ANDROKLEOUS STREET 1514 NICOSIA	CY - Cyprus
FEDERATSIYA STROITELSTVO INDUSTRIYA I VODOSNABDYAVANE - PODKREPA	ANGEL KANCHEV ST 2 1000 SOFIA	BG - Bulgaria
PEDMEDE SOMATEIO	ASKLIPIOU 23 10680 ATHINA	GR - Greece
INSTITUT ZA PODGOTOVKA NA SLUJITELI V MEJDUNARODNI ORGANIZACII ZDRUZENIE	BUL SKOVELEV 42 ET 6 AP 11 1606 SOFIA	BG - Bulgaria
SINDIKAT DELAVCEV GRADBENIH DEJAVNOSTI SLOVENIJE	DALMATINOVA ULICA 4 1000 LJUBLJANA	SI - Slovenia
EPITESI VALLALKOZOK ORSZAGOS SZAKSZOVETSEGE	DOBRENTAI TER 1 1013 BUDAPEST	HU - Hungary
BULGARIAN CONSTRUCTION CHAMBER	MIHAIL TENEV 6 1784 SOFIA	BG - Bulgaria
EUROPESE FEDERATIE VOOR BOUW- EN HOUTARBEIDERS FV	RUE ROYALE 45 BOX 1 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
SINDIKAT GRADITELJSTVA HRVATSKE	TRG KRALJA PETRA KRESIMIRA IV 2 10000 ZAGREB	HR - Croatia
EPITO-FA-ES EPITOANYAGIPARI DOLGOZOK SZAKSZERVEZETEINEK SZOVETSEGE	VAROSLIGETI FASOR 35/A 1071 BUDAPEST	HU - Hungary

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Promoting the autonomous implementation of the European framework agreement on occupational health and safety in the hairdressing sector	507.339,9	VP/2019/001/0050

Summary of the action		
<p>This project is a joint social partner project and related to the implementation of the results of European social dialogue outcomes, notably the revised European Framework Agreement. The project will be structured around three topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identification and prioritisation by risk category of hazardous and harmful chemical substances contained in cosmetic products. 2. Obtain a paradigm shift in the risk assessment methodology used by the Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety concerning the professional use of cosmetic products rather than a consumer's use of those products. 3. Follow-up, promotion and monitoring of the autonomous implementation of the revised European Framework Agreement on occupational health and safety in the hairdressing sector at national level. <p>This strand of work will complement the joint efforts of autonomous implementation through the Action Plan as concrete deliverables of the Action Plan are scheduled and will serve as the basis of further national efforts.</p>		

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
UNI-EUROPA ASSOCIATION	RUE JOSEPH II 40 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Recruitment strategies to attract young talents in the paper industry	407.628	VP/2019/001/0056

Summary of the action		
<p>Building on the observation that manufacturing industries in general and the paper industry in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -meet growing demographic challenges (ageing staff), -experience technological and innovation transformation that require new skills and competences and -face a lack of appeal with the young generations, <p>the intention of the project is for social partners to develop an overall strategy for the pulp and paper sector to enable to attract and retain young people at all educations levels and to enhance and boost their perceptions of the sector.</p> <p>Further target groups to be addressed in the recruitment strategy are teachers, career advisors, school students and their parents, young people, job seekers and unemployed persons.</p> <p>The proposed actions logically address the recommendation made by the sector in 2016: "The current perception and image of the sector is a particular challenge, as the public is generally not aware of its processes or products, nor of the various ways in which the sector contributes to the circular bioeconomy." (VS/2015/0045)</p>		

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
CONFEDERATION DES INDUSTRIES PAPETIERES EUROPEENNES CEPLAISBI	AVENUE LOUISE 250 1050 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
INDUSTRIALL EUROPEAN TRADE UNION ASSOCIATION DE FAIT	BOULEVARD DU ROI ALBERT II 5 B 10 1210 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
SMILES:SMEs' Involvement in the European Semester: stocktaking and way forward	183.900,26	VP/2019/001/0059

Summary of the action

Rationale:

The European Semester process is central for the economic and social dimension of the EU governance. It is also the most adequate tool to implement the European Pillar of Social Rights through the social scoreboard. It should also contribute to promote ownership of reforms by social partners and to strengthen the social dialogue. Taking into account the major role of the annual process of the Semester in the convergence of Member States' economic and social situation, the Country-Specific Recommendations related to the employment, labour market and social dimension should be implemented through initiatives best designed by social partners or with a meaningful involvement of social partners. This is needed for the ownership and acceptance of structural reforms in the society at large. Currently social partners are not adequately consulted nor involved in the Semester process in every Member State. In Member States where they are consulted by their government, common concerns are that consultations are too often pro-forma and/or organised too late, thus weakening any real impact social partners may have. Furthermore, SME organisations and SME social partners are generally not sufficiently mobilised and pro-active in the European Semester despite all efforts deployed at the most strategic steps of the European Semester process at EU level, including by SMEUnited. Therefore SMEUnited decided to launch the SMILES project.

SMILES main objectives:

- to strengthen SME organisations' participation in the European Semester at all levels
- to ensure a broader ownership by SME organisations of structural reforms addressed in the Country Specific Recommendations and in line with the Annual Growth Survey priorities
- to foster social dialogue that takes into account the economic and social SME reality to boost inclusive growth and jobs
- to better integrate the Think Small First principle as fully part of the European Semester.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
SME UNITED	RUE JACQUES LALAING 4 1040 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Attracting a new skilled workforce for quality jobs in the European Graphic Industry	391.375,72	VP/2019/001/0061

Summary of the action

The workforce of the graphic industry is one of its main assets. However, companies have difficulties recruiting newcomers to the sector due to its perceived lack of attractiveness. The importance of the issue has increased in the past decade with a progressively ageing workforce. Therefore, the recruitment of young workers needs to be addressed and strategies defined for attracting, training and hiring them.

The 112,000 companies in the EU currently employ 625,000 people (Eurostat 2016, NACE 2, 18.1), with over 90 % small and micro-sized companies. The industry is not characterised by a clear concentration in regional clusters in Europe, thus, the project will focus on 4 target countries (Germany, The Netherlands, Estonia and Portugal) which provide the diversity to create a transferable European model which can be disseminated in the rest of Europe. All the elements collected during the project execution will be translated in a total of 8 languages (English, French, German, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese, Estonian and Spanish), allowing the partnership to reach out to over 80% of the total equivalent workforce.

It is within this context that Intergraf and Uni Europa Graphical, the European sectoral social partners have set three specific objectives to be achieved through the implementation of the present project:

- 1) DIAGNOSIS ON PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS FOR RECRUITING YOUNG WORKERS (work package 1 and 2)
- 2) CAPACITY BUILDING AND IMPLEMENTATION (work package 2, 3 and 4)
- 3) COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN (work package 3 and 4)

These objectives are fully in line with the current work programme of the Social Dialogue of the graphical industry 2019-2021, in which Intergraf and UNI Europa Graphical have identified skills and image as two of the major work items.

The kick-off of the 18 months project is expected to take place in January 2020 with a final conference in May / June 2021.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
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Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
INTERGRAF	AVENUE LOUISE 130A/2 1050 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
UNI-EUROPA ASSOCIATION	RUE JOSEPH II 40 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Integrated Projects of the EU Social Dialogue	649.400	VP/2019/001/0065

Summary of the action

Since 2004, the four EU cross-sectoral social partner organisations - ETUC, BE, CEEP and SMEUnited- have jointly developed and run a number of activities under the 'Integrated Projects' of the EU Social Dialogue (IPs). The IPs include research, expertise work, conferences, seminars and meetings aiming to mobilise social partners at national and EU levels and strengthen cooperation of social partners from all EU Member States as well as candidate countries.

The objective is to foster the effective participation of national social partners in the EU social dialogue, and address issues and challenges jointly identified.

The IPs is a central tool for reinforcing the link between the national and European social dialogues, and identifying relevant issues for the EU social partners, with a clear link with their Autonomous Work Programme.

Within this framework, EU cross-sectoral social partners have undertaken actions such as capacity building of national social partners, supporting the implementation and follow-up of EU social dialogue instruments, as well addressing many different issues including employee training, European Social Fund, youth employment, apprenticeships, active ageing, lifelong learning, gender equality, flexicurity, restructuring, and the employment impact of climate change. With the present proposal, the EU cross-sectoral social partners wish to continue their joint work, by building upon past project experiences and outcomes, and exploring new emerging issues.

Given the new process of annual applications under this budget heading that started last year, we have taken a long-term approach in planning, based on an alternation from one year to another. Thus, last year we requested support for capacity building actions whereas this year, we have decided to focus on two topics: circular economy and skills and innovation, which are priorities under the 2019-2021 European Social Partners Autonomous Work Programme.

A full description is provided in annex.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
CONFEDERATION EUROPEENNE DES SYNDICATS ADF	BOULEVARD DU ROI ALBERT II 5 1210 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
SK-Clean: Digitalisation in the Cleaning Sector: supporting the skills transition for cleaning agents	215.831,32	VP/2019/001/0067

Summary of the action

The EFCI intends to develop a study on digital skills for the cleaning sector, accompanied by the identification of training systems and best practices in the sector across Europe. Anticipating, identifying and working on the effects of digitalisation is one of the main objectives of the EFCI and of the Sectorial Social Dialogue Committee for Industrial Cleaning, as indicated in its Work Plan for 2019-2020. The project builds on the recent work of the Committee and on the objective to issue a Joint Statement on Digitalisation and Skills with UNI Europa.

The objectives of the project will be achieved through the creation of an Expert Group composed of experts in digitalisation and training in the sector (employers, unions, training centres). It will meet in four occasions (on-line and physically) to launch the project and provide input for the drafting of the questionnaires which will be distributed across Europe to relevant agents and to evaluate the findings and provide guidance on the drafting of the project's final report. The final report which will be presented in the Sectorial Social Dialogue Committee and through EFCI's 2021 Conference.

The outcomes of the project will be widely disseminated, to become a reference guide for training in the sector, through the publishing of an executive summary and by the creation of a short video. The project will create a space of dialogue and the basis on which to compare, adapt and design more adapted training methods in the future as well as contribute to the recognition of training in the industry.

As a result of the study and such knowledge-sharing, the project will allow for enhanced social dialogue on skills and training and for future cooperation on training tools and systems to successfully undertake the digital transition in the sector.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
FEDERATION EUROPEENNE DU NETTOYAGE INDUSTRIEL	RUE BELLIARD 205 1040 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Implementing Action Guide for Formaldehyde Reduction	218.726,19	VP/2019/001/0068

Summary of the action

Today the EU provides a comprehensive legislative framework to protect workers' health. Various types of hazardous substances are regulated in a number of Directives which provide a basis for social partner action. Furthermore, the European framework Directive of Occupational Safety and Health established a Hierarchy of prevention measures, guiding companies in their prevention activities. However, the practical implementation of the legal framework remains a challenge.

Resins play an important role in the production of panels. Usually, resins include formaldehyde, a substance classified as a presumed human carcinogen. The European social partners of the woodworking sectors (EFBWW, CEI-Bois and EPF) have been paying attention to this substance for many years. In 2010 they presented the results of an EU-funded social partner project, aiming to improve the protection of workers against the exposure to Formaldehyde (REF-Wood Project). The brochure described the state of the art regarding organisational and technical prevention measures and found positive echoes in the sector.

Recently the European social partners ran another EU-funded project (PCWIE-Project). One of the results of the project was a voluntary agreement between EFBWW and EPF on the protection of workers against the exposure to Formaldehyde. It describes in detail the technical process of measuring Formaldehyde emissions for the whole production line for panels and gives technical guidance for emission reductions and organisational measures. Furthermore, the guide also defines standards for the participation of workers, the documentation of measurements and protection measures, to name the most important aspects. Meanwhile this agreement has been translated into eight languages and dissemination activities have started.

This project shall support the adoption (agreement between national social partner organisations) and the implementation of the agreement at national and company level.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
EUROPESE FEDERATIE VOOR BOUW- EN HOUTARBEIDERS.FV	RUE ROYALE 45 BOX 1 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
FEDERATION EUROPEENNE DE PANNEAUX A BASE DE BOIS	RUE MONTOYER 24/20 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium

Action title	EU grant (€)	Application reference
Decentralized Thematic Social Dialogue for the Construction Industry - DESOCO	349.973,45	VP/2019/001/0069

Summary of the action

The European Social partners of the construction industry have established one of the first European Social Dialogue Committees. Recently (in 2018) the EFBWW and FIEC agreed on a long-term cooperation agreement. In the first joint commitment, the EFBWW and FIEC agree "to intensify their collaboration with a view to further strengthen industrial relations in the construction industry at EU-level". In their second commitment the EFBWW and FIEC engage themselves to "strengthen and better coordinate joint research of the European social dimension of the construction industry".

These commitments were made because the European social partners of the construction industry have observed a significant reduction of European Social Dialogue meeting facilities by the European Commission. The number of meetings were reduced from 8 annual meetings (2 plenary meetings, 2 working groups "employment", 2 working groups "occupational health and safety" and 2 working groups "Vocational and Educational Training") to 3 working groups: one "employment", one "occupational health and safety" and one "youth and Vocational and Educational Training".

The substantial reduction in meeting facilities is in strong contrast to the number of rising challenges for the European construction sector linked to new developments, such as "greening" of the construction industry, digitalisation, labour market developments, etc. The current formal meeting facilities of the EESD committee do not offer the possibilities to discuss these challenges.

The European social partners of the construction industry have decided to apply for an EU-project, which is aimed to reinforce the European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee by organising several decentralised thematic discussions which cover the most important upcoming challenges of the European construction labour market.

Beneficiary organisation/Coordinator	Address	Country
EUROPESE FEDERATIE VOOR BOUW- EN HOUTARBEIDERS EV	RUE ROYALE 45 BOX 1 1000 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium
Co-Beneficiary organisation	Address	Country
FEDERATION DE L'INDUSTRIE EUROPEENNE DE LA CONSTRUCTION	AVENUE LOUISE 225 1050 BRUXELLES	BE - Belgium