



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, supported from the REACT-EU resources, for 2021

[Commission Decision C(2021)6593 of 13 September 2021]

EN
ANNEX

**2021 annual work programme for the operational technical assistance at the initiative of
the Commission in the framework of the European Social Fund, supported from the
REACT-EU resources**

Grants, Procurements, Indirect Management and other actions

1. Introduction

On the basis of the objectives given in the Article 3(1) of Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 and 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 , and in particular Articles 58(2) and 92a thereof

1.1. Budget breakdown

Budget Line	Amount
07.020502- ESF — Operational technical assistance — Financing under REACT-EU	EUR 41 785 064
TOTAL	EUR 41 785 064

LEGAL BASIS

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 , and in particular Articles 58(2) and 92a thereof

1.2. Type of actions to be financed:

- 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 31 785 064
- for actions implemented under indirect management (point 5): EUR 10 000 000
- 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

2. Grants

N/A

3. Prizes

N/A

4. Procurement

The indicative global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts under this work programme amounts to EUR 31 785 064.

The actions described below have as objective to help Member States with the implementation of the funds and the recovery effort and to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on disadvantaged groups, including persons with disabilities and Roma.

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged

In 2021, the Commission intends to undertake actions through contracts following public procurement (call for tenders and framework contracts) or administrative arrangements in the following areas:

4.1. Support to capacity building activities for better REACT EU implementation

General description of the contracts envisaged

Assist the Commission, Member States and stakeholders in programming, implementing and evaluating their activities, including through conferences, meetings, events, trainings, mutual learning, and other actions.

Implementation

Directly by DG EMPL

4.2. Support services in the field of accessibility

General description of the contracts envisaged

Support the creation of a European resource centre on accessibility with a network of national centres, to increase coherence in accessibility policies and facilitate access to relevant knowledge. This will support Member States in the implementation of accessibility both in relation to the UNCRPD obligations and EU law in relation to the structural, cohesion and recovery funds, while persons with disabilities have been disproportionately hit by the Covid crisis.

Implementation

Directly by DG EMPL

4.3. Communication

General description of the contracts envisaged

DG EMPL will roll out communication activities (website, social media, publications, campaigns, AV products, etc.) related to the promotion of all initiatives outlined by the European Pillar of Social Rights and its Action Plan. This will be placed under and linked to the overall narrative of the NextGenerationEU campaign, one of the underlying themes of which is the recovery. The recovery must be socially fair and just and it must also take particular account of the concerns of the young generation. As part of its communication activities, DG EMPL will seek to contribute appealing products and stories which can notably feed into the secondary themes “jobs and skills” and “equality” of the NextGenerationEU campaign.

Implementation

Directly by DG EMPL

5. *Actions implemented under indirect management*

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for actions implemented under indirect management in 2021 amounts to EUR 10 000 000.

Budget line 07.020502: EUR 10 000 000

5.1. European Batteries Alliance Academy

Implementing entity

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is an independent EU body set up to deliver innovation by bringing together leading business, education and research organisations under cross-border partnerships known as Knowledge and Innovation Communities, notably in the field of energy, climate and raw materials. It is thus best placed to launch a programme to support training and fill in the skills mismatch in the area of batteries that is crucial to the green transition.

Objectives pursued and expected results

Europe’s emerging battery ecosystem is at the forefront of the green transition as batteries are the key enabling technology for the switch to zero emission mobility and for the energy storage in the power system. The EU’s ability to skill workers will be a success factor of the European Green Deal and of the EU economic recovery after COVID-19. REACT-EU is expected to contribute 25% of the overall financial envelope to climate objectives.

The European Batteries Academy will assist Member States in ensuring the quality of skills development in the area of batteries that can be programmed under REACT EU.

Description of the activities to be funded

The European Batteries Alliance Academy will assist Member States in ensuring the quality of skills development in the area of batteries, in particular by extending the learning repository, updating and improving learning resources, building a certification of learning and training programmes and by building the capacities of ESF Managing Authorities.

6. Contributions to trust funds

N/A

7. Financial instruments

N/A

8. Contributions to blending facilities

N/A

9. Other actions or expenditure

N/A