



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

Funds: Programming and Implementation  
European Social Fund +

Brussels  
EMPL.G.1/LDP

## **EX-ANTE PUBLICITY FOR A MIDDLE VALUE NEGOTIATED PROCEDURE**

**SUBJECT: Negotiated procedure to conclude a middle value contract: “Mapping of performance-based schemes in the National Recovery and Resilience Plans and identification of conditions for a successful use of this method in ESF+ Programmes”**

This publication is made pursuant to Annex I.14 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, to award a middle value contract as a result of a negotiated procedure.

Interested economic operators, with a proven experience in the field of Simplified Cost Options and Financing not linked to cost in ESF(+) programmes and familiar with the Recovery and Resilience Facility should express their interest.

Only the candidates invited by the contracting authority to participate in the second phase of the present procedure for awarding this middle value contract will be admissible.

### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REQUEST**

Financing not linked to costs (FNLC) is one of the new instruments foreseen under the Common Provisions Regulation (art. 95 CPR)<sup>1</sup>. It allows making payments based on the fulfilment of conditions related to the realisation of progress in implementation or the achievement of results. Managing authorities are reimbursed upon fulfilment of such pre-established conditions or achievement of pre-defined results with simple and swift procedures. Public authorities will only need to verify that the conditions for reimbursement have been achieved, instead of verifying supporting documents for every euro spent. This will ensure an effective impact of ESF+ resources on the ground, as

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and financial rules for those and for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy - <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32021R1060>

reimbursement will be linked to the achievement of pre-established results or conditions, allowing managing authorities and beneficiaries to concentrate on achieving concrete results instead of verifying and controlling actually incurred costs.

As the programming of the ESF+ is concluding, it seems that the inclusion of FNLC in ESF+ programmes is still limited. On the other hand, payment linked to results, rather than actually-incurred costs, is foreseen in the framework of the main financing instrument of the post-pandemic Recovery Plan for Europe, the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RFF).

Therefore, DG Employment decided to launch a study on relevant measures included in the National Recovery and Resilience Plans (NRRPs) and identify those which can be used as a model for similar measures to be potentially included in ESF+ programmes of other Member States. The results of the study will be used as a blueprint for Member States on how they can develop FNLC schemes to be included in ESF+ programmes in the future and under which conditions. The analysis shall aim at verifying the compliance of the identified schemes with the relevant rules set out in the CPR, and namely with a view to fulfilling management and control systems requirements (e.g. audit).

## 2. PRICE

The maximum amount for this contract is 139.000 EURO.

## 3. INDICATIVE TIME SCHEDULE AND CONTACT

The indicative time schedule for launching the negotiated procedure is April 2022. Interested economic operators can express their interest to participate in this negotiated procedure until 22/03/2022 in writing to [EMPL-VT-2022-021@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EMPL-VT-2022-021@ec.europa.eu)

The indicative date to sign the contract is June 2022.

The estimated performance period of the resulting contract is 12 months after the start of the contract (contract not renewable).

## 4. PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA

If processing a tender involves the recording and processing of personal data (such as name, address and CV), this data will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 2018/1725 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC.

Unless indicated otherwise, any personal data will be processed solely for evaluation purposes under the negotiated procedure by the Head of Unit of G.4 - Financial Implementation and Procurement Centre, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.

Details concerning the processing of personal data are available in the privacy statement at: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/procedures-guidelines-tenders/data-protection-public-procurement-procedures\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/procedures-guidelines-tenders/data-protection-public-procurement-procedures_en)

The tenderer's personal data may be registered in the Early Detection and Exclusion System (EDES) if the tenderer is in one of the situations mentioned in Article 136 of the Financial Regulation.

For more information, see the privacy statement for the EDES Database:

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/eu-budget/how-it-works/annual-lifecycle/implementation/anti-fraud-measures/edes\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/eu-budget/how-it-works/annual-lifecycle/implementation/anti-fraud-measures/edes_en)

