



28th meeting of the Contact Persons of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (EGF)

Brussels,
24 November 2022



1. Introduction and adoption of the agenda

Ms Fabienne Lévy

*Head of Unit G.2 "European Globalisation
Adjustment Fund and Shared Management",
DG EMPL*

1. Agenda

9:30 - 9:40

1. Introduction and adoption of the agenda

9:40 - 10:15

2. Update on EGF since the last Contact Persons Meeting

- Final reports and closures
- Applications received
- SFC 2021 - updates
- Q&A

10:15 - 11:00

**3. The European Year of Skills – presentation from DG EMPL
Unit B2 “Skills Agenda”**

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 - 12:30

**4. Tour de table –“Applications planned and the reasons for the low
uptake of the EGF post 2021 in your country–discussion with MS”**

12:30 - 14:00 Networking lunch

14:00 - 15:15

**5. Delegated and Implementing acts – update EMPL EGF and
Presentation from OLAF – Unit “Anti-Corruption, Anti-Fraud
Strategy and Analysis”**

15:15 - 15:30

**6. Member States’ communication activities and planned events,
Next EGF Contact Persons meeting and Networking Seminar,
AOB and
wrap-up of the meeting**

2. Update on EGF since the last Contact Persons Meeting

- 1) Final reports and closures
- 2) Applications received since 14 June 2022

2. Update on EGF since the last CPM

2.1 Final reports and closures

No final report received since last CPM

Closures between 14 June 2022 and 24 November 2022

Case number	MS	Case Title
EGF/2018/003	EL	Attica Publishing Activities

2. Update on EGF since the last CPM

2.2 Applications received since 14 June 2022

EGF reference	MS	Case title	Sector in short denomination	Date of application	Reason	EGF contribution (in Euro) requested	Number of targeted workers	Deadline EC adoption
EGF/2022/002	BE	TNT Express Worldwide	Warehousing and support activities for transportation	18 October 2022	Other	1.380.986	556	14 February 2023

2. Update on EGF since the last CPM

2.3 SFC 2021 - Updates

- Issues with uploading & sending documents
- Percentage of EGF co-financing rate
- “Acknowledgement of receipt” of the application

Issues with Uploading & Sending Documents

- SFC2021 requires that uploaded supportive documents (i.e. Legal entity form, Bank account identification form and “Other Member State documents”) contain at least one **MAIN** type of attachment.
- If you want to attach “Annex” as the only attachment, you can give it the title “Annex”, but the type should be **MAIN**.

Uploading & Sending Documents

How to overcome the error – "At least one MAIN document attachment should be defined"?

View document details

Document type
Other Member State document

Document date
14/10/2022

Document title
Annexes

Modification user
SFC2021 PROGRAMME USER, PRG

Sent by

Sent date
18/10/2022

Local reference

Commission reference
Ares(2022)7194688

ATTACHED FILES

Title	Type	Language	File / Upload
Présentation Conseil Entreprise	Annex	fr. French	TNT-FEDEX_Annexe 1. Présentation CE.pdf
Notification 1 Licenciement collectif	Annex	fr. French	TNT-FEDEX_Annexe 2. Notification 1.pdf
Notification 2 Licenciement collectif	Main	fr. French	TNT-FEDEX_Annexe 3. Notification 2.pdf

Percentage of EGF co-financing rate

- Art. 13(2): "...**the co-financing rate** of the EGF for the measures offered shall be the highest co-financing rate of ESF+ in the relevant MS, or 60 % whichever is the higher.
- In SFC2021 the co-financing rate is set by default to the highest co-financing rate of ESF+ in the relevant MS. Nevertheless, if required MS can opt for a lower EGF co-financing rate (not lower than 60%).

“Acknowledgement of receipt” of the application

- Art. 8(4) of the EGF Regulation sets that “...within 10 working days [...] the Commission shall **acknowledge receipt** of the application and request from the applicant MS any additional information.”
- In SFC2021, the application gets registered in Ares on receipt and therefore serves as **“acknowledgement of receipt”**.

"Acknowledgement of receipt" of the application


SFC2021 Compact ● TOMAS NAVARDAUSKAS
navarto - EC

APP-EGF list 2021FR05EGFA002 - 1.0

Table of Contents < GENERAL

Documents annexed to this programme version ⓘ

Application form (2021-EGF)	document	18/02/2022	Ares(2022)1240518	1	18/02/2022	S. Tomas
Application form Selecta	Other Member State document	24/01/2022	Ares(2022)540242	1	24/01/2022	NAVARDAUSKA S. Tomas
LIVRE VERSION FINALE_03492568	Other Member State document	11/02/2022	Ares(2022)1007155	1	11/02/2022	NAVARDAUSKA S. Tomas
SELECTA_liste des types de formation PSE	Other Member State document	11/02/2022	Ares(2022)1007187	1	11/02/2022	NAVARDAUSKA S. Tomas
fiche financière mise à jour chiffres février 2022	Other Member State document	18/02/2022	fiche financière mise à jour chiffres février 2022 Ares(2022)1232158	1	18/02/2022	SAN JOSE, Fannv
Programme snapshot 2021FR05EGFA002 1.0	Snapshot of data before send	18/02/2022	Ares(2022)1240518	1 2	18/02/2022	Fleurance, Sophie

 Ref. Ares(2022)1240518 - 18/02/2022

SFC2021 Application for EGF

Title	EGF/2021/007/ FR Selecta
CCI	2021FR05EGFA002



UPDATED quick guide: **EGF Application**

SFC2021 Support Portal:

https://ec.europa.eu/sfc/en/2021/quickguides/application-egf?language_content_entity=en



3. The European Year of Skills

Presentation from

**DG EMPL Unit B2
"Skills Agenda"**



Key policy developments in adult learning at EU level and the European Year of Skills

Diana SPIRIDON
Beatrice SARTO

DG EMPL, unit B/2 « Skills Agenda »

Increasing policy attention



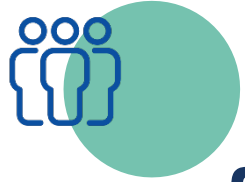
2020 European Skills Agenda



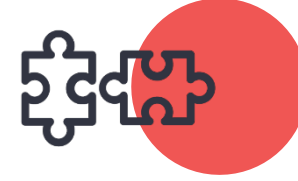
Pact for Skills – gaining momentum

- **12 Large-Scale Skills Partnerships** now launched in key industrial ecosystems. Together, committed to provide **up- and reskilling opportunities to close to 6 million people** in the coming years.
- **Over 1000 members** from all Member States and sectors.
- **Very different types of stakeholders**: large multinational companies, SMEs, local training providers, chambers of commerce, social partners, regional authorities, sectoral clusters, national authorities and diverse kinds of networks and associations.

Individual Learning Accounts (ILA)



Universal but differentiated support



Accumulation & transferability of entitlements



Use **it in transitions** from job to job or in times of **unemployment**



ILA



Keep it **while temporarily abroad** and even use it from there

ILA and the enabling framework



Micro-credentials

Micro-credentials can be used to **complement & enhance** education, training, lifelong learning and employability ecosystems

The proposal **does not seek to replace or disrupt existing systems or qualifications**

The proposal establishes a **common European approach to the ongoing and emerging provision** of micro-credentials

Micro-credentials - Outline

'Building Blocks

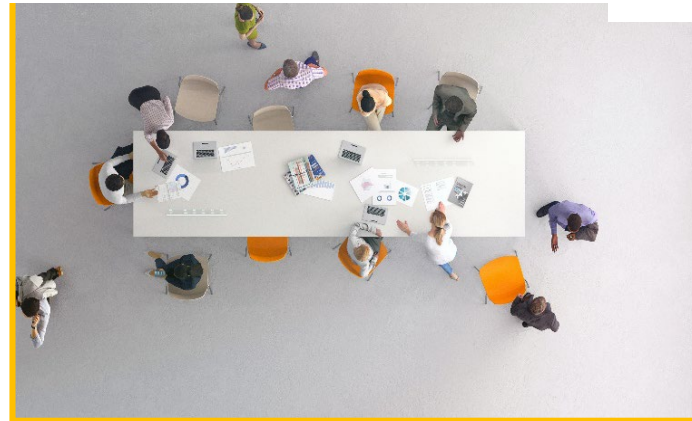


Common Definition of micro-credentials

Standard Elements

Principles for the design and Issuance of micro-credentials

Recommendations



Development of ecosystems for micro-credentials

Delivering on the potential of micro-credentials

Commission Support

New European Adult Learning agenda

Governance

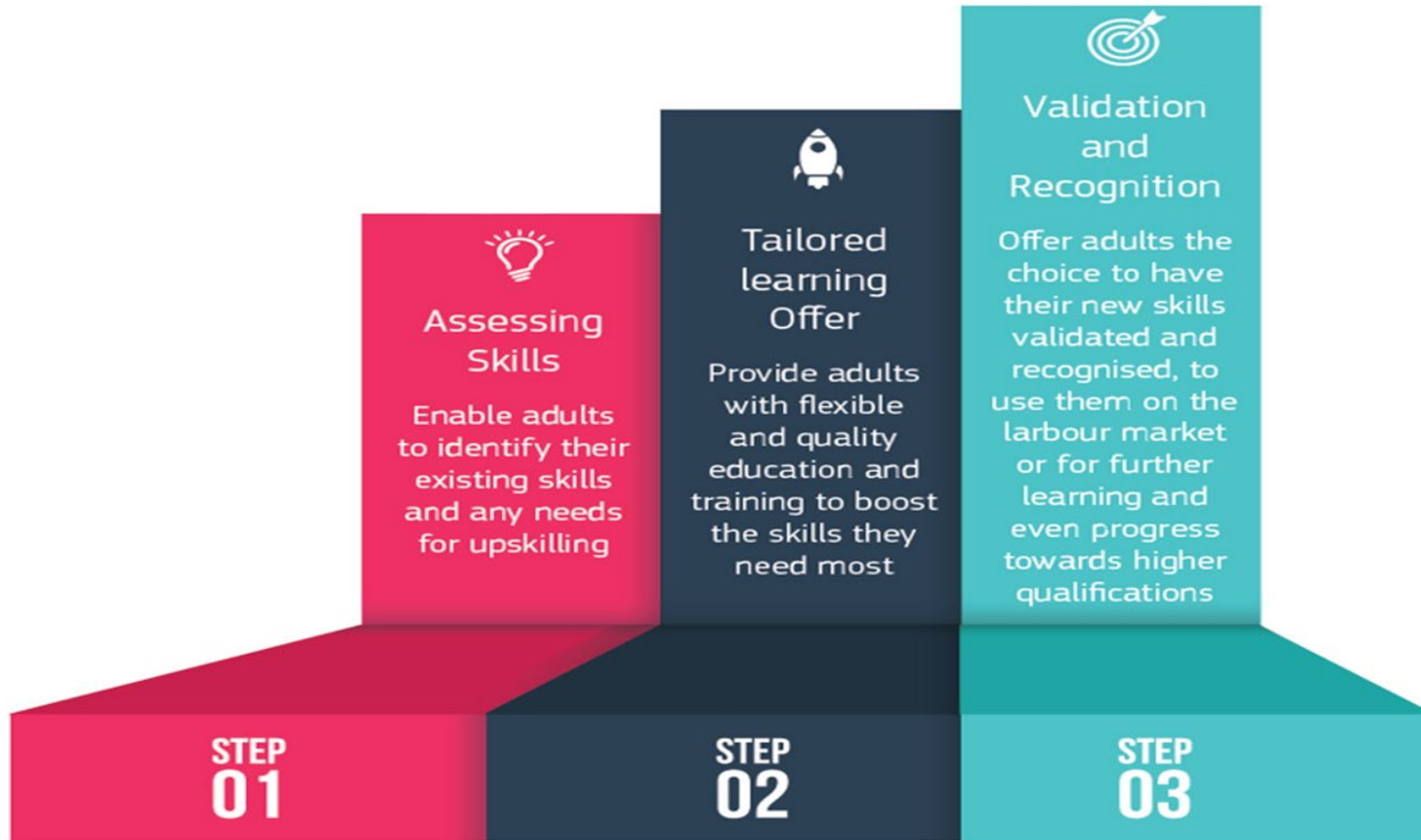
Supply and take-up
of lifelong learning
opportunities

Accessibility and
flexibility

Quality, equity,
inclusion and
success in adult
learning

Green and digital
transitions

Upskilling Pathways



+ **supporting measures** such as:

Motivation and outreach measures

Guidance and mentoring

Professional development of education staff

Upskilling Pathways - evaluation

Public
consultation

Targeted
consultations

Supporting study

Evaluation
(Commission
staff working
document)



Introducing the

European Year of Skills 2023



Today's presentation

1. **Context** of the European Year of Skills 2023



2. **Implementation** of the European Year of Skills 2023



- What's next?
- Stakeholder engagement

3. **Your involvement**



What is a European Year?

- The first European Year — the European Year of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and the Craft Industry — dates back to **1983**.
- European Years are years which are given a theme, usually to **raise awareness across the EU** about a particular subject. During this year, various **events and projects are organised to encourage debate and mobilise efforts**.





European companies are grappling with a **shortage of staff** [...] Both low-end and high-end. We need everyone on board.

We need much **more focus in our investment** on professional education and upskilling.

We need **better cooperation with the companies**, because they know best what they need.

And we need to **match these needs with people's aspirations**.

But we also have to **attract the right skills to our continent**, skills that help companies and strengthen Europe's growth [...] we need to speed up and facilitate the recognition of qualifications also of third country nationals [...]

This is why I am proposing to make 2023 the European Year of Skills.

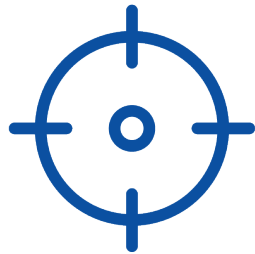
Why a European Year of Skills?

The Year would promote a mindset of reskilling and upskilling, boosting competitiveness of companies (in particular SMEs), realising the digital and green transitions in a socially fair, inclusive and just manner.



Investment

Increased, more effective and inclusive investment



Skills relevance

Strengthening skills relevance by close cooperation



Matching aspirations

Matching people's aspirations and skills-set with labour market opportunities



Attracting people

Attracting people from third countries with the skills needed by the Union

State of play

The European Year of Skills 2023 will start as soon as the proposal is adopted

Before the Adoption:

- **Inter-institutional negotiations** (co-decision)
- Open **Public Consultation**
- **Opinions** by European Economic and Social Committee and European Committee of the Regions

During the Year:

- **Promoting relevant EU initiatives**, including EU funding opportunities
- **Events and awareness-raising campaigns**
- **Promoting tools and instruments** for increased transparency and easier recognition of qualifications

Who will be involved in the Year?

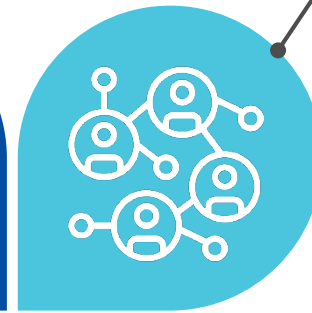
The Commission and its Agencies

- DG EMPL
- Other DGs: initiatives, support with communication and engagement
- European Commission's Agencies



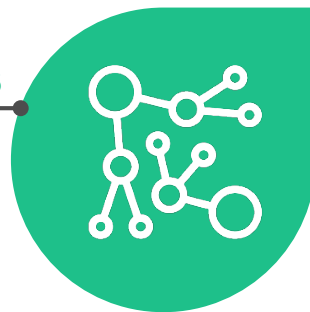
Member States

- Strong involvement of **Member States**.
- Appointment of **national coordinators** to raise awareness, shape the Year, coordinate actions.
- Close cooperation with the **Presidencies**.



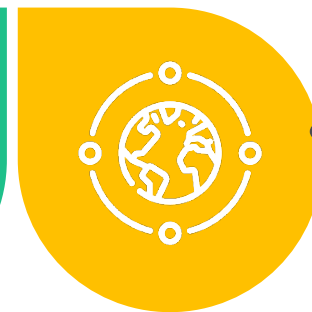
Existing platforms and networks

- Engaging a **wide range of stakeholders**
- Social partners
- Individuals, companies, chambers of commerce and industry, public authorities, education and training providers



International actors

- **OECD, UNESCO, ILO**
- Cooperation with **third countries**, in particular partner countries



How can you get involved?

- Have Your Say: participate in the Open Public Consultation. Available at this link: [Have your say \(europa.eu\)](https://european-council.europa.eu/european-council/en/consultations/2022/01/2022-01-14-2022-01-14) until 14 December 2022
- Communication is key to European Years: spread the word and share updates on social media under the hashtag [#EuropeanYearOfSkills](https://twitter.com/EuropeanYearOfSkills)
- Thank you for your interest! We look forward to collaborating with you to make the European Year of Skills a success.



**Thank
you!**



European
Commission

11:00 – 11:30



4. Tour de table

1) Applications planned and

**2) reasons for the low uptake of the
EGF post 2021 in your country.**



12:30 – 14:00

Networking lunch

5.1 Delegated and implementing acts in the EGF – update EMPL EGF

2021-2027 EGF Regulation provides for the adoption of two implementing acts and one (or more) delegated act(s):

- Art 22(6): "...the Commission shall adopt an **implementing act** setting out when and how a **beneficiary survey** is to be conducted and the template to be used."
- Art 23(6): "The Commission is empowered to adopt **delegated acts**... setting out the criteria for determining the cases of **irregularity** to be reported and the data to be provided."
- Art 23(7): "... the Commission shall adopt an **implementing act** setting out the format to be used for reporting of **irregularities**."



5.1 Delegated and implementing acts in the EGF – update EMPL EGF

Different procedure for IA and DA:

- **Implementing acts** subject to comitology: draft acts submitted for opinion of the (EGF advisory) committee before adoption by the Commission
- **Delegated acts:** no comitology, but COM consults MS experts in preparing the delegated acts

5.1 Delegated and implementing acts in the EGF – update EMPL EGF

Procedure for adopting an implementing act:

1. Commission interservice consultation – 2 weeks
2. Publication for feedback – 4 weeks
3. Opinion of the committee (by vote, if necessary)
4. Adoption by the Commission through written procedure

5.1 Delegated and implementing acts in the EGF – update EMPL EGF

IA on the beneficiary survey – timeline

(template for the beneficiary survey already discussed)

- ISC: Dec 2022 – Jan 2023
- Public consultation: Q1/2023
- Committee meeting (online): Q1-Q2/2023
 - adoption of the Rules of procedure and opinion on the draft act
 - opinion on the IA on irregularities possibly in the same meeting
- If necessary, the opinion can be sought afterwards via written procedure

5.2 Presentation from OLAF Unit “Anti-Corruption, Anti-Fraud strategy and Analysis”

28th EGF Contact Persons meeting

Reporting of irregularities concerning the EGF - specific (draft) provisions 2021-2027

Brussels, 24 November 2022

OLAF C.1 – Anti-corruption, anti-fraud strategy and analysis



Rules for the reporting of irregularities

Regulation (EU) No 2021/691 (EGF)

Recital 43

*“... Member States should **report to the Commission any irregularities detected, including fraud, and any follow-up action they have taken with regard to such irregularities and with regard to any OLAF investigations.** ...”*

Recital 47

*“... , the power to adopt acts ... should be delegated to the Commission in order to supplement this Regulation by setting out the **criteria for determining the cases of irregularity to be reported and the data to be provided by Member States** for the purpose of preventing, detecting and correcting irregularities, including fraud and recovering amounts unduly paid together with interest on late payments. ...”*

Recital 48

*“In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation with regard to ... the **format for reporting irregularities, implementing powers** should be conferred on the Commission.
...”*

Rules for the reporting of irregularities

Regulation (EU) No 2021/691 (EGF) regulation

Article 23 - Management and financial control

(1) “... Member States shall take responsibility for the management of measures supported by the EGF and for the financial control of the measures. They shall take at least the following steps: ...

(e) preventing, detecting and correcting irregularities including fraud and recovering amounts unduly paid together with interest on late payments where appropriate.

The Member States shall report irregularities including fraud, as referred to in point (e) of the first subparagraph, to the Commission.

(2) “... Member States shall ensure the legality and regularity of expenditure included in the accounts submitted to the Commission and shall take all **required actions to prevent, detect and correct and report on irregularities, including fraud**. Such actions shall include the collection of information about the beneficial owners of the recipients of funding in accordance with Annex XVII to the Common Provisions Regulation for 2021-2027. The rules related to the collection and processing of such data shall comply with applicable data protection rules. The Commission, OLAF and the Court of Auditors shall have the necessary access to that information.

Rules for the reporting of irregularities

Article 23 - Management and financial control

(6) The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts ... in order to supplement point (e) of paragraph 1 of this Article by setting out the criteria for determining the cases of irregularity to be reported and the data to be provided.

(7) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Article, the Commission shall adopt an implementing act setting out the format to be used for reporting of irregularities”

Rules for the reporting of irregularities

- EGF – other shared management funds,
- programming periods 2014-2020 and 2021-2027

	Funds under the CPR*	EGF	Agri funds
2014 - 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art. 122(2) Regulation (EU) 1303/2013* • Delegated Regulation 2015/1970 • Implementing Regulation 2015/1974 	Article 21 Regulation (EU) 1309/2013 (ref. to Article 122 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles 48(3), 50(2) c) Regulation (EU) 1306/2013 • Delegated Regulation 2015/1971 • Implementing Regulation 2015/1975
2021- 2027	Article 69(2), (12) and Annex XII Regulation 2021/1060	Article 23 Regulation 2021/691 Draft Deleg. Reg. Draft Impl. Reg.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 52 Regulation (EU) 2021/2116 • Draft Deleg. Reg. • Draft Impl. Reg.

Draft delegated and implementing regulation EGF 2021- 2027

Subject matter

Delegated regulation	Implementing Regulation
<p><i>Criteria for determining the cases of irregularity to be reported and the data to be provided</i></p>	<p><i>Format to be used for reporting of irregularities</i></p>

Draft delegated regulation

Purpose and scope

Allow the Commission to perform its responsibilities concerning the protection of the financial interests of the Union, in particular to allow the Commission to **perform risk analysis**, develop systems serving to **identify risks more effectively** and **produce reports** for the purposes of such responsibilities

Draft delegated regulation

Principle/derogations

Principle:

Member States to report to the Commission irregularities, which have been the subject of a primary administrative or judicial finding

Derogations:

Are NOT to be reported:

- irregularities for an amount lower than EUR 10 000 in contribution from the Fund;
- cases where the irregularity consists solely of the failure to execute due to (non-fraudulent) **bankruptcy**;
- cases brought to the attention of the managing authority or other competent authority by the economic operator involved in the implementation of the EGF **voluntarily and before detection** by either authority;
- cases which are detected and corrected by the managing authority or other competent authority, **before inclusion in the statement of expenditure** submitted with the final report.

All other cases, in particular those **preceding a bankruptcy** or in cases of **suspected fraud, to be reported.**

Draft delegated regulation

Content - Specific definitions

Suspected fraud

irregularity that gives rise to the **initiation of administrative or judicial proceedings at national level in order to establish the presence of fraud or other criminal offences**, as referred to in Directive (EU) 2017/1371/Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests

Draft delegated regulation

Content - Specific definitions

Primary administrative or judicial finding (PACA)

first written assessment by a competent authority, either administrative or judicial, which has **concluded** on the basis of specific facts **that an irregularity may have been committed**, regardless of the possibility that this conclusion may subsequently have to be revised or withdrawn as a result of developments in the course of the administrative or judicial procedure.

Draft delegated regulation

Content - Specific definitions

Economic operator

any natural or legal person or other entity taking part in the implementation of assistance from the fund, with the exception of a Member State exercising its prerogatives as a public authority within the meaning of Article 2, paragraph 1, point (30) of Regulation (EU) No 2021/1060

Draft delegated regulation

Content - Reporting (initial)

In the initial report, Member States shall provide the following information:

- (a) the **identifiers** of the EGF case (CCI number and case title), the measure and operation concerned;
- (b) the **identity of the natural or legal persons concerned**, or both, or of any other entity having a role in the commission of the irregularity and their role;
- (c) the **national ID number**;
- (d) **VAT number**;
- (e) the **region or area where the operation has been carried out**;
- (f) the **provision or provisions**, at EU and/or national level, which have been **infringed**;
- (g) the **date and source of the first information** leading to the suspicion that an irregularity has been committed;
- (h) the practices (**modi operandi**) employed in committing the irregularity;
- (i) where appropriate, whether the practice gives rise to **suspected fraud**;
- (j) the manner in which the **irregularity** was **discovered**;
- (k) **OLAF case number** (where applicable);

Draft delegated regulation

Content - Reporting (initial)

- (l) where appropriate, the **Member States involved**;
- (m) the **period** during which, or the date on which, the irregularity was committed;
- (n) the **date on which the primary administrative or judicial finding** on the irregularity was established;
- (o) the **total amount of expenditure**, expressed in terms of the Union's contribution and the national co-financing, including private contributions, if any;
- (p) the **amount affected by the irregularity** expressed in terms of the Union's contribution and the national co-financing, including private contributions, if any;
- (q) in the case of suspected fraud, and where no payment of the public contribution has been made to the economic operator involved in the implementation of the EGF, the **amount which would have been unduly paid had the irregularity not been identified**;
- (r) the **nature of the irregular expenditure**.

Draft delegated regulation

Content – Reporting (follow-up)

- **Missing or correct information** in follow-up reports of irregularities to the Commission
- Information on initiation, conclusion or abandonment of any procedures or proceedings for **imposing administrative measures, administrative penalties or criminal penalties + outcome**
 - Nature of penalties;
 - Source and details of penalties;
 - whether fraud was established.

At the Commission's written request: information in relation to a specific irregularity or group of irregularities.

Draft delegated regulation

Use and treatment of information

- Commission: **risk analysis, reports** and develop systems serving to **identify risks** more effectively.
- Information covered by **professional secrecy and protected**. Member States and Commission: necessary precautions to ensure that the information remains **confidential**.
- **Disclosure of information**: only to those persons in the Member States or within the Union's institutions, agencies, offices and bodies whose **duties** require that they have access to it.
- Use only for purposes of the **protection of the Union's financial interests**.

Draft implementing regulation

Content

- **Format**

Information to be sent by electronic means, using the **Irregularity Management System (IMS)**.
Transfer of data through IMS **must be performed in a secure manner allowing for availability, integrity, authenticity and confidentiality of information.**

- **Timing**

without delay

- **Use of the euro**

Concluding considerations

The suggested regulations aim at

- ensuring **consistency** with other budgetary sectors
- striking a **balance** between **information-need** linked to detected irregularities and relative **low-burden** for national authorities
- recognising the **specificities of the EGF** (also) via dedicated rules

Procedures to follow

Next steps:

- Interservice Consultation
- Public consultation /feedback period
- Formal submission to expert group (DA)/Committee (IA)
- Translations
- Formal adoptions
- (DA: right of objection)
- Publication





EUROPEAN ANTI-FRAUD OFFICE

THANK YOU!

Кариерата няма да те чака въщи, Славата няма да те прегърне, а парите няма да изтрият сълзите ти.
И нека живеем в мир и сговор, нека споделяме това, което имаме, да се радваме и на малкото, но да бъдем заедно и щастливи !
Желая го на всеки от все сърце.❤️



6.1 Member States' communication activities and planned events



6.2 Next EGF Contact Persons meeting and Networking Seminar

7. AOB and Wrap-up of the meeting



THANK YOU!

www.ec.europa.eu/egf