

Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund: technical assistance by the Commission

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PURPOSE: to mobilise the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) to finance technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission.

PROPOSED ACT: Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council.

CONTENT: Point 28 of the Interinstitutional Agreement ([IIA](#)) of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management allows for the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) through a flexibility mechanism, within the annual ceiling of EUR 500 million over and above the relevant headings of the financial framework.

According to Article 8(1) of [Regulation \(EC\) No 1927/2006 on establishing the EGF](#), the proportion corresponding to 0.35% of the annual maximum amount of the EGF can be made available each year for technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission. It is within this context that the Commission is proposing to mobilise the EGF to cover the technical assistance as set out below:

Technical assistance to be funded (application EGF/2013/000) and breakdown of its estimated costs: the Commission intends to mobilise EUR 750 000 to finance the following tasks:

- **monitoring:** the Commission will continue to collect the data on applications received and paid, and the measures proposed and implemented, and it will update the Statistical Portrait of the EGF with information up to the end of 2013. Building on the preparatory work of recent years, this can be done with the Commission's normal administrative resources;
- **information:** the web site on the EGF, which the Commission has set up within its Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion area, and which it is maintaining will be regularly updated and expanded, with each new element also being translated into all EU languages. Information on the new EGF Regulation will be produced, and the annual report of the EGF will be produced, translated, printed and distributed. Costs for all these items are estimated at **EUR 80 000**;
- **creation of a knowledge base:** the Commission is continuing its work with a view to setting up an electronic application form and standardised procedures for EGF applications, which will allow applications under the new Regulation to be simplified, their processing to be speeded up and reports to be more easily extracted for varying needs. It will improve its database containing the facts and figures of EGF cases, including workers, measures and outcomes. The cost for these items is estimated at **EUR 80 000**;
- **administrative and technical support:** the Expert Group of Contact Persons of the EGF, with one member from each Member State, will be holding two meetings, together estimated at EUR 70 000. The Commission will be organising networking among the Member States. The cost of these items is estimated at **EUR 120 000**;
- **evaluation:** the Commission will conduct the final phase of the ex-post evaluation of the EGF (2007-2013) by means of a contract with an external consultant evaluating EGF cases as and when they are closed, and focusing on the impact of the EGF and its added value during the current period. The cost for this evaluation is estimated at **EUR 400 000**.

Financing: the total annual budget available for the EGF is EUR 500 million. Article 8(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006 states that 0.35% of this amount (i.e. EUR 1 750 000) can be made available each year for technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission. Currently, the full amount for 2013 remains available; nothing has yet been allocated to technical assistance. The proposed contribution for technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission in 2013 is **EUR 750 000**. Following the mobilisation of this amount, a further EUR 1 000 000 potentially remains available in case of need at a later stage in the year.

Considering the maximum possible amount of a contribution from the EGF in accordance with Article 8 (1) of Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006 as well as the scope for reallocating appropriations, the Commission proposes to mobilise the EGF for the total amount referred to above, to be allocated under heading 1a of the financial framework.

Procedure: by presenting this proposal to mobilise the EGF, the Commission initiates the simplified dialogue procedure, as required by Point 28 of the Inter-institutional Agreement of 17 May 2006, with a view to securing the agreement of the two arms of the budgetary authority on the need to use the EGF and the amount required. The Commission invites the first of the two arms of the budgetary authority that reaches agreement on the draft mobilisation proposal, at appropriate political level, to inform the other arm and the Commission of its intentions. In case of disagreement by either of the two arms of the budgetary authority, a formal dialogue meeting will be convened. The Commission presents separately a transfer request in order to enter in the 2013 budget specific commitment appropriations.

Source of payment appropriations: appropriations from the EGF budget line will be used to cover the amount of EUR 750 000 needed for technical assistance.