Amending budget 7/2013: increasing the European Social Fund (ESF) allocations to address unemployment, poverty and social exclusion in France, Italy and Spain

2013/2160(BUD) - 25/07/2013 - Commission draft budget

PURPOSE: to present Draft Amending Budget N° 7/2013.

CONTENT: Draft amending budget (DAB) No 7 for the year 2013 covers an increase of commitment appropriations of **EUR 150 million in heading 1b** of the multi-annual financial framework (MFF).

This is with the aim of addressing certain issues resulting from the final outcome of the negotiations of the MFF for the years 2014-2020, affecting France, Italy and Spain. The European Council of 27 and 28 June 2013 considered that a budgetary solution should be given to that matter.

In view of the current economic crisis and as a contribution to the special effort needed to address the **specific situations of unemployment, in particular youth unemployment, and of poverty and social exclusion** in these Member States, the Commission considers that the most appropriate way to assist them is by **increasing the European Social Fund** (ESF).

As the existing allocations have already been fully committed in the EU budget, the Commission proposes to **increase the ESF allocations to those three Member States for the year 2013**.

The reinforcement of **EUR 150 million** in commitment appropriations will be covered by the margin under the expenditure ceiling of heading 1b (EUR 16 million), and by the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument (EUR 134 million) targeted at this specific action.