

**European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI)**

**Work Programme 2015**

**Annex 1: Description of the calls for proposals to be launched in 2015**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Max co-financing</b>	<b>Max Amount EUR</b>	<b>Timetable</b>
1. Call for Proposals on awareness raising, dissemination and outreach activities on Youth Guarantee offers	80%	2.000.000	2015 Q2
2. Call for Proposals for supporting the design and implementation of innovative social policy reforms	80%	10.800.000	2015 Q2
3. Call for Proposals on European Sectoral Skills Councils	80%	1.500.000	2015 Q2
4. Call for proposals in the field of undeclared work	80%	1.000.000	2015 Q3
5. Call for proposals in the field of posting of workers	80%	2.000.000	2015 Q2
6. Call for Proposals to support to networks promoting microfinance and social enterprise finance	80%	1.200.000	2015 Q2
7. Call for Proposals to support to Social NGO Networks at EU level to contribute to Europe 2020 and SIP implementation	80%	9.000.000	2015 Q2
8. Call for Proposals on Mobility for Professionals	95%	2.000.000	2015 Q2
9. Call for Proposals - EURES Network co-operation with EEA countries	90%	400.000	2015 Q3
10. Call for Proposals – EURES Targeted Mobility Scheme	95%	8.418.385	2015 Q2
11. Call for Proposals - EURES Cross-border partnerships	90%	4.018.140	2015 Q2

## **1. Call for Proposals on awareness raising, dissemination and outreach activities on Youth Guarantee offers**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Priorities of the year: Accelerate the implementation of the Youth Guarantee Scheme as part of a New Boost for Jobs, Growth and Investment, one of the ten priorities of President Juncker's Political Guidelines.

Objectives and foreseen results: The call for proposal has the overarching objective of removing obstacles to Youth Guarantee implementation, notably by outreach, awareness raising and communication activities leading to both of the following specific objectives:

1. To better inform/engage YG stakeholders
2. To better inform/engage young people

This action will complement the support provided to implementing Youth Guarantee schemes through the European Social Fund and the Youth Employment Initiative, by assisting Member States to develop transversal awareness raising, dissemination and outreach strategies as part of coherent youth employment policies under the Council Recommendation on establishing a Youth Guarantee.

Description of the activities to be funded

The activities will include awareness raising, dissemination and outreach activities on Youth Guarantee schemes.

The Commission intends to support approximately 5 proposals in total, with no more than one per Member State.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Essential eligibility criteria: Applicants

To be eligible, the lead applicant or sole applicant must:

- be legal persons properly constituted and registered in one of the EU Member States;
- be the relevant public authority in charge of establishing and managing the national Youth Guarantee scheme, as already identified by the Member State pursuant to the Council Recommendation on Establishing a Youth Guarantee (rec.2) or must be an entity (public, private, non-for-profit or international organisation) clearly and demonstratively designated by the aforementioned public authority to implement the activities included in the proposal.

Proposals may involve consortiums. Co-applicants must be

- properly constituted and registered legal persons, established in one of the EU Member States or EaSI-PROGRESS participating countries;
- a public, private, non-for profit or international organisation.

Selection criteria

Financial capacity – the applicants and co-applicants must demonstrate that they have the financial capacity to carry out the action: each applicant must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary.

The verification of financial capacity will not apply to public bodies.

Operational capacity -The applicant and co-applicants must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. The applicant must have a

strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

Award criteria

- A. Relevance criteria
- B. Quality criteria
- C. Cost-efficiency criteria
- D. Added-Value Criteria

**2. Call for Proposals for supporting the design and implementation of social and labour market policy innovations**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The priorities at EU level will aim to implement the priorities set by the Juncker's Commission in terms of progressing towards the Europe 2020 targets in the fields of employment and social inclusion and the need of making sure Europeans can fully participate in society and equipping them for modern working life. This activity aims at providing financial support to test social and labour market policy innovations, and, to build up the main actors' capacity to design and implement social policy experimentation, and to make the relevant knowledge and expertise accessible.

Description of the activities to be funded

The activities will be addressing issues relevant for the implementation of the priorities established at EU level; in particular those addressed by the Country Specific Recommendations in the frame of the European Semester.

They will support policy interventions that offer an innovative response, implemented on a small scale and in conditions that enable their impact to be measured, prior to being repeated on a larger scale, if the results prove convincing.

The activities could also address innovative bottom-up approaches to inclusion and co-design of policy solutions based on open participatory mechanisms. In such cases they should include quantifiable social impact indicators to allow comparison with traditional top-down strategies.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Exclusion

- Applicants must be in conformity with Articles 106(1), 107 to 109 of the Financial Regulation.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible:

- Applicants and co-applicants must be legally established in one of the EU Member States or in EaSI participating countries.
- Applicants and co-applicants must be public, private or not-for-profit entities. The lead applicant must play at national, regional or local level a role in employment and social policies or delivering employment or social services.

Selection criteria

Only organisations with the necessary financial and operational capacity may be awarded a grant:

- Financial capacity to carry out the action: the applicant must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. The verification of financial capacity will not apply to public bodies.
- Operational capacity to complete the proposed action: the applicant or the main experts working on the proposed actions must have a track record in these activities; their pertinent activities, experience and expertise has to be presented in the proposal.

#### Award criteria

The proposals which fulfil the eligibility and selection criteria will be assessed according to the following award criteria:

- Policy relevance of the proposal to the call.
- Quality of the proposal, including clarity of activities, expected outcomes and appropriateness of the impact/outcomes evaluation method.
- Sustainability of the proposal, including the possibility to be implemented on a larger scale.
- The cost / efficiency of the operation. With consideration of the budget available under this call, the proposals with the highest evaluation scores will be selected for award.

### 3. Call for Proposals on European Sectoral Skills Councils

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Support to the implementation of the Agenda for skills and jobs and Employment Package. - Involvement of stakeholders in the strategy for Skills and Jobs. Impact in terms of adaptation of CVs and training supply.

Description of the activities to be funded

Support the consolidation and continuation of European Sector Skills Councils that are beyond the feasibility phase. These bodies shall provide a focal point at sector level for improving skills intelligence, highlighting skills mismatches and bottlenecks and for shaping the educational and training offer. They shall also facilitate peer-learning at national level by creating a European platform of exchange between labour market actors, skills intelligence observatories and education and training providers active in the sector.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

#### Essential eligibility criteria

Applicants and co-applicants must:

- Be properly constituted and registered legal entities in one of the EaSI-PROGRESS participating countries. In application of article 131 of the Financial Regulation, social partner organisations without legal personality are also eligible provided that the conditions of the Financial Regulation related thereto are met;
- Be non-profit making;
- Fall within one of the following categories: European or national social partners, public authorities, sectoral skills observatories, non-profit making organisations, research centres and institutes, universities and civil society organisations.

Activities must:

- Be within one of the sectors for which there is already a feasibility study financed by the Commission available.
- Be carried out in at least 10 different EaSI participating countries;

- Be fully carried out in the EaSI participating countries.

#### Selection criteria

Selection criteria applying to applicants and co-applicants

- Financial capacity to carry out the action: applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. (The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to public bodies).
- Operational capacity to complete the proposed action: applicants must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. Applicants must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

#### Award criteria

The proposals which fulfil the eligibility and selection criteria will be assessed according to the following main award criteria:

- The extent to which the action meets the objectives and priorities of the call for proposals;
- The quality of the action proposed: the extent to which the actions planned are adequate and feasible for reaching the objectives;
- The overall clarity and comprehensiveness of the activities in the proposal and budget estimation;
- The quality of consortium, i.e. the involvement of relevant national and EU level organisations and the division of tasks among applicants;
- The added value and foreseen impact at national and EU level;
- The geographical coverage and transnational dimension;
- The cost-effectiveness of the action.

#### **4. Call for proposals in the field of undeclared work**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

In line with the Proposal for a Decision on establishing a European Platform to enhance cooperation in the prevention and deterrence of undeclared work COM(2014)221, the priority for this call for 2015 is to fund the transnational cooperation initiatives between at least 3 Member States responsible authorities, different bodies, and/or social partners, to share best practices, as well as to improve the technical capacity of the responsible enforcement authorities of the Member States involved in the field of preventing and deterrence of undeclared work.

The main objective of this Call for Proposals is to develop and fund initiatives which shall contribute to enhancing the implementation, application, knowledge, and better enforcement of EU and national law in the area of undeclared work, thus contributing to the reduction of undeclared work and to the emergence of the formal jobs.

The expected results are the improved transnational cooperation between Member States' different authorities and social partners to prevent and deter undeclared work, increased mutual trust among the stakeholders, and the increased public awareness on the urgency of action and encouraging Member States to step up their efforts in dealing with undeclared work.

Description of the activities to be funded

The activities will consist of facilitating and promoting training, best practice initiatives and innovative approaches, such as exchanges of staff and joint activities, evaluating experiences, campaigns, strategies, exchange of information and best practices can take the form of seminars, conferences, round tables, and dissemination of information and best practices in the form of reports, manuals, analysis, guidelines, newsletters, web pages, etc..

As concerns the size of the project, the Union funding per project will not be less than EUR 108.000.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Essential eligibility criteria

To be eligible, applicants (lead applicants and co-applicants) must be:

- Properly constituted and registered legal entities, and
- Having their registered office in one of the EaSI-Progress participating countries. This obligation does not apply to international organisations. A derogation from this requirement and pursuant to Article 131 of the Financial Regulation, the organisations of social partners without legal personality under the applicable national law are also eligible provided that the conditions of the Financial Regulation related thereto are met, and
- Be non-profit making, and
- Fall into one of the following categories: Public authorities, social partners, international organisations, non-profit organisations, research centres and institutes, universities and civil society organisations.

Selection criteria

Only organisations with the necessary financial and operational capacity may be awarded a grant.

Financial capacity: the applicants and co-applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. (The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to public bodies or international organisations).

Operational capacity: the applicants and co-applicants must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it.

Main award criteria

- The extent to which the action meets the objectives of this call for proposals;
- The extent to which the action has a genuine transnational dimension;
- The quality of the consortium, i.e. the degree of involvement and commitment at the application stage of the stakeholders (meaning applicants, co-applicants and/or affiliated entities) in the action;
- The cost-effectiveness of the action;
- The overall quality, clarity and comprehensiveness of the activities in the proposal, including the budgetary aspects and the arrangements to publicise the action, including aspects related to the European Union funding, and dissemination methods envisaged.

## 5. Call for proposals in the field of posting of workers

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Enforcement of the directive in the field of posting of workers – Improvement of the capacity of the Commission and of the Member States to develop initiatives in the field of posting of workers and decent work agenda.

The main objectives of this Call for Proposals is to develop and fund initiatives in order to enhance the Implementation, application and enforcement of the Directive 96/71/EC concerning the posting of workers in the framework of provision of services in practice and its Enforcement Directive 2014/67/EU. The proper functioning of administrative cooperation among Member States and improved access to information on applicable terms and conditions of employment in a transparent and accessible manner, are essential.

The general objectives are to 1) further improve transnational administrative cooperation between national competent bodies and social partners involved in the monitoring and correct application of Posting of Workers Directive and its Enforcement Directive and 2) increase the mutual trust among stakeholders, including promoting exchanges of relevant officials and training, as well as 3) developing, facilitating and promoting best practice initiatives in the area of posting of workers in the framework of temporary provision of services.

The priority for 2015 is to fund the transnational cooperation initiatives between at least 3 Member States' responsible authorities and/or social partners, as well as to provide transparent and accessible information on national law and practices concerning rights and obligations to be respected as regards posted workers, including those laid down in collective agreements.

The expected results are the increased accessibility, transparency, and the improved provision of the information concerning the terms, conditions, and existing practices of employment to be respected in the Member States, increased exchange and training of relevant officials and social partners, and the promotion of the exchange of information such as developing (national official) websites.

Description of the activities to be funded

The activities can consist of developing, facilitating, and promoting exchanges and/or trainings of relevant officials and/or relevant social partners, as well as developing, facilitating and promoting best practice initiatives, such as the development and updating of databases or joint websites (including use of IMI – Internal Market Information System) containing general or sector-specific information concerning terms and conditions of employment to be respected. Exchange of information and best practices can take the form of for example seminars, conferences, round tables and dissemination of information and best practices in the form of for example reports, manuals, analysis, guidelines, newsletters, web pages, etc.

As concerns the size of the project, the Union funding per project will not be less than EUR 150.000.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

### Essential eligibility criteria

Applicants and co-applicants must be

– Properly constituted and registered legal entities, having their registered office based in one of the EaSI-Progress participating countries. In derogation from this requirement and pursuant to Article 131 of the Financial Regulation, the organisations of social partners without legal personality under the applicable national law are also eligible provided that the conditions of the Financial Regulation related thereto are met, and

– Falling into one of the following categories: Public authorities, social partners, international organisations, non-profit organisations, research centres and institutes, universities and civil societies organisations.

Selection criteria

Only organisations with the necessary financial and operational capacity may be awarded a grant.

Financial capacity: the applicants and co-applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. (The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to public bodies or international organisations).

Operational capacity: the applicants and co-applicants must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. The applicant must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

Main award criteria

- The extent to which the action meets the objectives of this call for proposals;
- The extent to which the action has a genuine transnational dimension;
- The quality of the consortium, i.e. the degree of involvement and commitment at the application stage of the stakeholders (meaning the coordinator, co-applicant and/or affiliated) in the action;
- The cost-effectiveness of the action;
- The overall quality, clarity and comprehensiveness of the activities in the proposal, including the budgetary aspects and the arrangements to publicise the action, including aspects related to the European Union funding, and dissemination methods envisaged.

**6. Call for Proposals to support to networks promoting microfinance and social enterprise finance**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The funding supports EU level NGO Networks to contribute to Europe 2020 and the implementation of the financial instruments for microfinance and social enterprise finance under the EaSI axis on microfinance and social entrepreneurship and SBI implementation by contributing to e.g. staff costs, administrative costs, publications, and the organisation of events. The work is based on clearly defined and output oriented annual work programmes in line with the priorities set in the Framework Partnership Agreements.

Priorities:

1. Support the Commission in its outreach activities at EU, national and local level with the aim of ensuring the implementation of European policies in the relevant area (e.g. Programme for Employment and Social Innovation, European Social Fund, Social Business Initiative etc.)
2. Reinforcing the capacity of the network's members, including through offering a platform for the exchange of good practices in the relevant field, and raising awareness about relevant EU policies.
3. Voicing the concerns and expectations of organisations facilitating access to finance to (potential) entrepreneurs from disadvantaged and underrepresented groups / social enterprises.



**4. Providing data / research on developments in the field and on priority topics.**

Description of the activities to be funded

Specific grant(s) will be awarded on the basis of the Work Programme submitted by the NGO networks and following a call for proposals open only to the partners/NGOs who signed the Framework Partnership Agreement 2014-2017. This is the continuation of 4-year Partnership Agreements with 3 NGO networks.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Essential eligibility criteria

Restricted to networks that have signed a framework partnership agreement with the Commission.

Award criteria

- Coherence of the annual work programme with the Framework Partnership Agreement;
- The extent to which the proposed programme takes into consideration the objectives laid down in the PROGRESS axis under the Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) and respond to actual needs relevant for the period concerned;
- The added value and relevance at European level of the programme proposed as well its dissemination and availability to all countries involved in the EaSI Programmes;
- The clarity and feasibility of the programme and each of its modules, including timetable and methodology and in particular its capacity to achieve the planned objectives;
- The quality, efficiency and feasibility of the work organisation including a clear description of the allocation of human resources in relation to the individual tasks or activities;
- The financial quality of the programme, including the existence of a clear, detailed, and reasonable budget which is coherent with the actions proposed.

**7. Call for Proposals to support to Social NGO Networks at EU level to contribute to Europe 2020 and SIP implementation**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion COM(2010)758 - The funding supports EU level Social NGO Networks to contribute to Europe 2020 and SIP implementation by contributing to e.g. staff costs, administrative costs, publications, and the organisation of events. The work is based on clearly defined and output oriented annual work programmes in line with the priorities set in the Framework Partnership Agreements.

Priorities:

1. Support the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of initiatives undertaken towards the policy objectives of Europe 2020 Strategy and in particular the Social Investment Package. Support the main EU driven processes such as the Open Method of Coordination (OMC) on social protection and social inclusion and the European semester.
2. Support stakeholders' involvement in the policy process: activities should in particular directly relate to the support of national member organisations in their involvement in the implementation of the main political EU-driven processes. In addition, EU-level networks should encourage cooperation with other civil society organisations and social partners' organisations both at EU, national, regional and local levels.

3. Strengthen the capacity of EU-level NGO networks and their national members, to support implementation of EU priorities as indicated under point III (Policy Context) including their knowledge of relevant EU matters.

4. Providing data and strong evidence base on policy developments and trends as well as collection of relevant information about citizens' concerns and good practices (using the knowledge bank) in the social policy field in the Member States, so as to contribute to better policy making.

Description of the activities

Specific grant(s) will be awarded on the basis of the Work Programme submitted by the NGO networks and following a call for proposals open only to the partners/NGOs who signed the Framework Partnership Agreement 2014-2017. This is the continuation of 4-year Partnership Agreements with 16 Social NGO networks.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Essential eligibility criteria

Restricted call for NGO networks who have signed the Framework Partnership Agreement with the EC.

Award criteria

- Coherence of the annual work programme with the Framework Partnership Agreement;
- The extent to which the proposed programme takes into consideration the objectives laid down in the PROGRESS axis under the Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) and respond to actual needs relevant for the period concerned;
- The added value and relevance at European level of the programme proposed as well its dissemination and availability to all countries involved in the EaSI Programmes;
- The clarity and feasibility of the programme and each of its modules, including timetable and methodology and in particular its capacity to achieve the planned objectives;
- The quality, efficiency and feasibility of the work organisation including a clear description of the allocation of human resources in relation to the individual tasks or activities;
- The financial quality of the programme, including the existence of a clear, detailed, and reasonable budget which is coherent with the actions proposed.

**8. Call for Proposals on Mobility for Professionals**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

This pilot activity intends to examine the need for an EU-level action on short-term mobility of workers already in the job. To this end, a review on the legal and administrative situation regarding these kinds of temporary secondments of an employee in a business established in another Member State will be carried out as well as a feasibility test of a job-secondment scheme supporting this kind of professional mobility. The experimentation will cover the secondment of approximately 300 mobile workers.

Description of the activities to be funded

Consultations with relevant employers' associations will be undertaken, in particular to examine the need and feasibility for an EU action in for SMEs and large enterprises, including making a survey in companies. Further activities aim at mapping the existing initiatives and schemes in the private and not-for-profit sector in Member States and identification of best practices and of the conditions for the their transferability into an EU level scheme. The action

also covers workshops with representatives of businesses and employers' associations, focusing on the current state of play, identifying obstacles and network creation. Furthermore the activity will include designing of the pilot scheme based on findings from the previous activities, mapping of companies interested in seconding/hosting workers and testing their network building capacity. Activities include as well the testing of proposed modalities for temporary cross-border secondments of workers to a host enterprise and for providing support to the involved companies and to workers participating in the scheme. The pilot scheme will thus involve financial support to third parties. It is intended to award only one proposal which would cover delivery of all components of the action.

#### Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

##### Eligibility

To be eligible, applicant and co-applicant organisations must be legal persons properly constituted and registered in EaSI participating countries. Lead applicants must be employers organisations or associations representing the employers' interest established at European level.

To be eligible, proposals must:

- 1) be fully carried out in the EaSI participating countries;
- 2) have a meaningful dimension by ensuring the implementation of the action in at least five different EaSI participating countries

##### Selection criteria

- Financial capacity: applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain their activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. (The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to public bodies).
- Operational capacity: applicants must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. Applicants must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

##### Award criteria

- Relevance of the proposal to the call objectives, in particular combining the testing of exchanges with a feasibility study;
- Quality of the methodology and of the proposed activities
- Impact of the proposal;
- Visibility of the action;
- The cost- efficiency of the operation.

## 9. Call for Proposals - EURES Network co-operation with EEA countries

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Support intra-EU labour mobility in the EEA countries. Participation of the EEA countries in the EURES network will result in a better implementation of worker mobility in the EEA as well as in a better functioning of the EEA labour market.

Description of the activities to be funded

This activity is intended, for the completion of the internal market, to cover the implementation and operation of the EURES network in the EEA countries. Activities cover the

provision of direct services to employers, workers and jobseekers in different areas such as job matching and placement from and to EEA countries including specialised services, provision of information services and campaigns, improvement of the visibility and awareness of EURES in the EEA countries, etc.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Eligibility criteria

Eligible lead applicants must be the National EURES Coordination Offices of Norway and Iceland .

Co-applicants may be EURES partners and associated partners from those countries. In addition, eligible proposals may include also social partners, third sector employment services, other labour market organisations or other relevant actors active on the national labour market (public and private) which can be involved as well as co-applicants, affiliated entities or associated partners.

Selection criteria for applicants and co-applicants

- Financial capacity: applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. - Operational capacity to complete the proposed action: applicants must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. Applicants must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

Main award criteria

- Relevance with the objectives of the call for proposals and the priorities identified,
- Trans-national dimension and European added value,
- Quality of the methodology and of the proposed activities
- Impact of the proposal,
- Visibility of the proposed activities,
- Cost efficiency of the proposal.

## **10. Call for Proposals – EURES Targeted Mobility Scheme**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The action is deemed to support the implementation of customised employment services and innovative working methods to foster the placement and integration of mobile young workers in the host country(ies), combined with financial incentives. The activities will be outcome driven, i.e. the expected outcome must be quantified in terms of expected placement/integration numbers and hard to fill vacancies involved. The overall objective is to ensure around 2000 placements over the duration of the action in economic sectors with hard to fill vacancies.

The action being strongly result-oriented, it may contribute to: a) enhance the service catalogue of the EURES organisations; b) foster public-private partnerships and, c) address labour market needs in line with the bottom lines of the EURES reform.

Description of the activities to be funded

This activity shall support the implementation of the targeted mobility scheme "Your first EURES job" in the Member States and the EaSI-EURES participating countries. The action aims

to help young people aged 18-35 to find a job, traineeship or apprenticeship in another EU/EEA country. The action targets the filling of hard to fill vacancies as identified in national/EU labour market studies or data sources.

Projects will be driven by the EURES National Coordination Offices in cooperation with other EURES members and/or public, private or third sector labour market organisations as part of the EURES reform process. The activities will cover the provision of direct services to young jobseekers or job changers and employers notably:

- information, recruitment, matching and placement
- pre- and post-placement support to customers (e. g. profiling and pre-selection of candidates, language training or other training needs, mentoring support for trainees and apprentices)
- direct financial support to young jobseekers and SMEs (interview or relocation trip costs, language trainings, recognition of qualifications, induction training programmes by SMEs).

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

#### Essential eligibility criteria

To be eligible, proposals must:

- Be presented by a consortium composed of a minimum of seven organisations established in at least seven different EU28 Member States or EaSI-EURES participating countries. At least five of these organisations must be EURES member organisations;
- Demonstrate that the proposed activities are fully carried out in the EU28 Member States or EaSI-EURES participating countries and have a meaningful dimension by ensuring the implementation of the action in at least seven different eligible countries;

To be eligible, lead applicants and co-applicants must be:

- legal entities properly constituted and registered in an EU Member State or another EaSI-EURES participating country.

To be eligible, lead applicants must be:

- EURES National Coordination Offices which are placed in organisations whose main mission is to ensure the provision of employment and placement services to jobseekers, job changers, trainee/apprentice candidates and employers covering jobs and/or work-based trainings. Those services must include information, recruitment, matching and pre- and post-placement support;

To be eligible, co-applicants must be:

- EURES member organisations (i.e. National Coordination Offices, EURES partners and associated EURES partners), public or private labour market actors (including the third sector);
- Providing the same services as lead applicants and/or complementary customer-oriented services in other expertise fields such as information, training, education, career guidance, mentoring, legal advice, integration support or other equivalent.

#### Selection criteria

Selection criteria for applicants and co-applicants:

- Financial capacity to carry out the action: the applicant must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. (The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to public bodies).
- Operational capacity to complete the proposed action: the applicant must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it.

The applicant must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

Main award criteria

- Relevance of the proposal to the call
- Quality of the methodology and of the proposed activities
- Impact of the proposal
- Visibility of the action
- The cost-effectiveness of the operation

**11. Call for Proposals - EURES Cross-border partnerships**

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Support fair mobility for frontier workers in the cross-border regions. The activities will provide concrete data on obstacles to mobility in the cross-border region as well as improve the cross-border labour market.

The activities will contribute to the national work plan of the NCOs of the countries involved and their result will be part of the annual activity report of the NCOs involved.

Description of the activities to be funded

This activity shall support cross-border partnerships to implement EURES objectives as set up by the EURES National Coordination Office and will contribute to the EURES reform. The activities will cover the provision of direct services to employers, workers and jobseekers in:

- information on working and living conditions in the cross-border area
- information on the situation of the labour market in the cross-border region
- pre-recruitment services:
- matching and placement;
- employer engagement in the cross-border region with special attention for SMEs;
- post-recruitment services

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Essential eligibility

In line with Article 15(1) (b) of Regulation 492/2011, to be eligible the proposal must include entities representing the Member States as well as the regions concerned.

Lead applicants must be the relevant National EURES Coordination Office(s) as designated in accordance with Commission Decision 2012/733/EU and/or the public employment service(s) of the regions involved with the endorsement of the National Coordination Office.

Co-applicants must be EURES partners and associated partners. In addition, eligible proposals may include also social partners, third sector employment services, other labour market organisations or other relevant actors active on the EU labour market (public and private) which can be involved. Eligible applications must represent entities established in at least two neighbouring Member States.

Eligibility of applicants:

- All applicants must fulfil the requirements set forth in the following documents:

- Regulation (EU) No 492/2011 of the European Parliament and the Council of 5 April 2011 on freedom of movement for workers within the Union (codification (OJ L 141 of 27.05.2011, p.1);

- Commission Decision 2012/733/EU (EURES reform).

To be eligible, applicant organisations:

- must be legal persons properly constituted and registered in one of the EU Member States or an other EaSI-EURES participating country

-- In application of Article 131 of the Financial Regulation, social partner organisations without legal personality are also eligible provided that the conditions of the Financial Regulation related thereto are met;

- if lead applicants, either be the National Coordination Offices or the public employment services of the regions involved with the endorsement of the National Coordination Offices.

- if co-applicants, either be EURES partners or associated partners. In addition, social partners, third sector employment services, other labour market organisations or other relevant actors active on the EU labour market (public and private)

#### Selection criteria for applicants and co-applicants

- Financial capacity: applicants must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain their activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary. (The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to public bodies).

- Operational capacity: applicants must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. Applicants must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

#### Main award criteria

- Relevance with the objectives of the call for proposals, the EURES reform objectives and the priorities of the annual work plans of the National Coordination Offices of the regions involved;

- Trans-national dimension and European added value;

- Quality of the methodology and of the proposed activities

- Impact of the proposal;

- Visibility of the proposed activities;

- Cost efficiency of the proposal.