

trainers' digest

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ETUI Education's information newsletter about EU programmes

Budget heading 04.04.01.03

"Restructuring, well being at work and financial participation"

Call for proposals 2009

The European Commission has launched a Call for proposals in order to implementing the 2009 annual work plan available in the Community Programme "PROGRESS" for employment and social solidarity.

The 2009 Call defines priorities, eligibility criteria, funding, deadlines, and procedure for submission of project proposals.

Aims and sub-programmes

- To promote the development and dissemination of better expertise and capabilities among the actors concerned in the areas of anticipating, preparing for and providing a socially acceptable response when restructuring occurs, as emphasised in the EC Communication (COM (2005) 120 final);
- To support the promotion of exchanges of information concerning health and well-being at work during restructuring processes;
- To promote employees' financial participation, according to the EC Communication on the promotion of employees' financial participation (COM (2005) 364 final).

In view of these objectives, three sub-programmes have been defined:

- Improvement of expertise in restructuring;
- Better understanding of health and well-being at work during change;
- Promoting the financial participation of workers.

Priorities of the Call and eligible activities

Improvement of expertise in restructuring

The priority objectives in this area are the following:

- a) to promote exchanges of information and experience; to develop the capabilities of the parties taking an active part in restructuring; to promote the development of good practices in Europe, such as, for example, guidelines for action to be taken in the event of restructuring;
- b) to encourage activities in the context of partnerships either within companies or externally (between social partner organisations at all levels or with external entities such as public authorities or any other stakeholder in the restructuring process); and to encourage measures to promote or facilitate the creation of such partnerships;
- c) to develop at national level training tools to anticipate the future skills needs of various sectors.

The following activities can be co-financed:

- 1) meetings and other activities to support or promote the creation of partnerships for the anticipation, preparation or responsible management of restructuring and to activate existing partnerships;
- 2) round-tables, exchanges of experiences and networks of actors and/or experts, notably in the area of identifying needs and skills at sectoral level;
- 3) studies and researches to reinforce the collection and exploitation of information on the national systems in force and on good practices;
- 4) conferences or seminars on restructuring and awareness raising of innovative and effective practices in this area.

Priority will be granted to projects:

- to support or promote the creation of partnerships for the anticipation, preparation or responsible management of restructuring and to activate existing partnerships;
- promoted by the European social partner organisations or having them as their active partners;
- promoted jointly by employers' and workers' representatives (at enterprise, sector and national/regional level), or associating them and other stakeholders in restructuring processes and in the anticipation of needs and skills (public authorities, innovation centres, training centres, development agencies).

Better understanding of health and well-being at work during change

The priority objectives in this area are the following:

- a) to promote activities by or with enterprises, the social partner organisations and the authorities in order to implement programmes to prevent and treat the health problems of workers faced with restructuring;
- b) to raise awareness of stress and resistance to change during restructuring;

- c) to encourage activities to prevent the negative impact of change in terms of health and psycho-social risks;
- d) to produce recommendations and a guide of good practice to avoid or reduce the harmful consequences of restructuring on human health and identify preventative measures.

The following activities can be co-financed:

- 1) creation of expert networks in psycho sociology and health at work;
- 2) programmes intended to prevent or treat the negative impact of restructuring on workers' health;
- 3) seminars, conferences and round-tables, including disseminating their results through publications and on the Internet.

Priority will be granted to projects:

- promoted jointly by employers' and workers' representatives (at enterprise, sector and national/regional level), or associating them and other stakeholders in restructuring processes (public authorities, innovation centres, training centres, development agencies);
- involving relevant European organisation among their active partners, for projects presented by national or regional social partner organisations.

Promoting the financial participation of workers

The priority objective in this area is to exchange information and good practices, in order to promote the financial participation of workers, including with regard to corporate governance aspects.

The following activities can be co-financed:

- 1) meetings, seminars and conferences;
- 2) training activities.

Priority will be granted to projects:

- promoted jointly by the European social partners;
- promoted jointly by employers' and workers' representatives;
- promoted in collaboration with other stakeholders (e.g. training bodies).

Eligible activities

To be eligible, activities must:

- comply with the rules on the start and end dates for the activities;
- be in line with the activities;
- be linked to at least one objective of this call;

- have a transnational dimension;
- comply with the maximum co-financing percentage of 80%;
- be run entirely in PROGRESS-participating countries;
- comply with the rules on subcontracting set out in the financial guidelines for applicants.

Eligible applicants and participants

To be eligible, applicants must:

- be properly constituted and registered legal persons in one of the countries participating in PROGRESS. In application of Article 114 of the Financial Regulation, social partner organisations without legal personality are also eligible provided that their representatives have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf and assume financial liability;
- fall within one of the following categories:
 - **Social partners:**
 - European social partner (see up-to-date list of these organisations) ;
 - National or Regional affiliated organisations, as long as the project is part of a European approach and will be developed in cooperation with partners from other countries (EU+EFTA/EEA) and their corresponding European organisation; in this case a letter of support from the European body is requested;
 - **Public authorities:** national and regional authorities, including related public law bodies and agencies;
 - **Research departments** of universities and recognized centers of excellence in socioeconomic research, occupational psychology, human sciences and vocational training;
 - **International organisations** (ILO, WHO or other), UN agencies, particularly their departments related to labour or to health at work;
 - **Organisations or non-profit-making associations** independent of public authorities active in the field of restructuring, representing professional interests, health at work, prevention of risks and financial participation (may also submit an application as long as they operate at European level).
- not be in one of the situations referred to in Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2) (a) of the Financial Regulation.

Deadlines for submission of proposals

The deadlines for the submission of applications are as follows:

- **18 May 2009** for actions commencing no earlier than **20 July 2009**;
- **1 September 2009** for actions commencing no earlier than **3 November 2009** and no later than **21 December 2009**.

Please be **very careful** with the starting and final dates of your proposal, which will otherwise not be considered valid by the Evaluation Committee.

Maximum duration of an action is 12 months.

NB:

Send the application by the deadlines.

Include all the documents required.

In addition, do not forget the signature of the legal representative!

What scale of funding is available?

This budget heading allows support to be given to projects to which the applicants contribute at least 20% of the total eligible costs of the action. Contributions in kind will not be taken into account.

Any application which requests a grant of more than 80% will be excluded automatically from the selection.

Procedure for submission of application

The compulsory online application form as well as the other forms and other useful documents (e.g. the European Communities' Financial Regulation and Implementing Rules) can be found at the following Internet address:

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/emplweb/tenders/index_calls_en.cfm

Your covering letter of application, together with all the other documents listed in the table under section 4.3 "**Eligibility of applications**" of the Call, as signed originals, as well as one copy of each of these documents by the deadlines above, have to be sent to the following address:

Call for proposals – VP/2009/010
BUDGET HEADING 04.04.01.03
European Commission – DG EMPL/F.3
Archives – courier J54 00/036
B – 1049 Brussels
Belgium

Please send your application by registered mail or express courier service only and keep proof of the date of sending (the date of the post office stamp or express courier receipt will be considered as proof of the date of sending). Any applications sent by other means (fax) or to other addresses will be rejected.

Hand-delivered applications must be received by the European Commission, by 16.00h on the last day for submission.

The address for hand deliveries of documents is:

European Commission
Avenue du Bourget 1
B-1140 Evere
Belgium.

Proof of delivery is a signed receipt from the Commission's Archives Service stamped with the date of the last day for submission or earlier.

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Documentation

The Call for proposals 2009, the relevant documents and the on-line application are available at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=630&langId=en&callId=205&furtherCalls=yes>

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Enquiries

By e-mail only at: empl-04-04-01-03@ec.europa.eu