



Seminar on “European Social Fund for capacity building of social partner organisations”

The use of autonomous budget lines

**Riga, 30 March 2015
Juliane Bir, ETUC**

Social dialogue budget lines

Implemented in 2015 via 4 calls for proposals:

- 1) VP/2014/**001**: Support for Social Dialogue (TU projects must involve employers)
- 2) VP/2014/**002**: Information and training measures for workers organisations
- 3) VP/2014/**003**: information, consultation and participation of workers at company-level
- 4) VP/2014/**004** : improving expertise in the field of industrial relations

What kind of projects?

Pre-requisite:

- A clear European dimension

Novelty (since 2014) for 01 and 02 calls: a '**genuine involvement**' of a European-level Social Partner organisation, as a formal partner in the project (a simple letter of support is no longer sufficient !):

- ETUC
- ETUFs (IndustriAll, UNI Europa, EPSU, EFFAT, etc...)
- BusinessEurope, UEAPME, CEEP

Overarching objective:

- To contribute to the priorities, activities & results of EU SD
- To help strengthen the capacity of SP for contributing to the employment and social dimensions of the Europe 2020 strategy, and for reaching the EU objective of a job-rich recovery from the crisis.

What kind of projects?

Eligible project activities:

- Transnational events (seminars, conferences, short trainings, workshops, expert working groups)
- Reports and studies (collection of information, questionnaires & interviews, case studies and analyses)
- Means of communication / dissemination (publications, websites, newsletters, e-tools, short video productions)

Administrative and financial aspects

Process:

- Publication of the call (which includes relevant information: priority objectives, eligibility, deadlines, administrative & financial aspects)
- Deadline for the submission of applications (online + by post)
- Evaluation period at the Commission (at least 2 months)
- Grant agreement signed with the beneficiaries

Novelties in 2014 – 15 : longer larger projects encouraged

- Minimum grant requested: 108,000 EUR
- Increased co-financing rate: the Commission's grant may cover up to 90% of the total cost of a project.
- Increased eligible duration of projects: 24 months

Support for social dialogue

Call for proposals VP/2015/001

VP/2015/001 : Objectives

Promoting **Social Dialogue at cross-industry or sectoral level**, and more particularly, developing **European social dialogue** in its different dimensions:

- information exchange
- consultations
- negotiations
- joint actions

These projects can therefore include meetings to prepare EU social dialogue negotiations, but also follow-up activities to facilitate the implementation of agreements resulting from EU social dialogue.

VP/2015/001: Eligibility criteria, budget and deadlines

Eligible Beneficiaries: social partners, research institutes, public authorities (all lead applicants must be based in EU member states / co-applicants can also be from candidate countries).

Total budget for 2014: 8.5 million Euro

1 deadline in 2015: **15 June** for projects starting no later than December 2015.

ATTENTION: Projects can only start 2 months after a deadline! Any expenditure incurred before written confirmation that the application has been accepted is at the applicant's risk

Requirements:

- Strong **transnational dimension**
- **Joint projects !**

Information and training measures for workers' organisations

Call for proposals VP/2015/002

(the 'Trade Union' Budget line)

VP/2015/002: Objectives

To support projects promoting **information and training measures for workers' organisations.**

These measures should strengthen the capacity of TUs to address, at EU/transnational level, issues such as:

- anticipation and management of change and restructuring
- greening of the economy
- youth employment
- skills
- mobility and migration
- gender equality and equal opportunities
- health & safety, working conditions, etc...

VP/2015/002: Eligibility criteria, budget and deadlines

Total Budget for 2014: 3,8 Million Euro

Eligible Beneficiaries: trade union organisations (or bodies mandated by trade unions) based in the EU (candidate countries are eligible as partners)

Single Deadline: 8 May 2015 (for projects starting from September 2015)

Information, consultation and participation of representatives within undertakings

Call for proposals VP/2015/003
Still to be published by the Commission

VP/2015/003: objectives

- Facilitating the implementation of EU law (the *acquis communautaire*) in matters of information and consultation rights of workers in national and multinational companies;
- Facilitating the establishment of worker representation bodies (EWCs, SEWCs, etc)
- Strengthening the role of worker representation bodies in the anticipation of corporate restructuring processes and the resolution of labour conflicts
- familiarising the actors represented at company level with Transnational company agreements

VP/2015/003: Eligible Beneficiaries

- Organisations registered/having headquarters in one of the EU Member States (candidate countries are eligible as partners);
- Workers' representatives: company level (works councils) or regional, national, European level, sectoral or multi-sectoral trade unions;
- Employers' representatives: company level (management of undertakings) or regional, national, European level, sectoral or multi-sectoral employer organisations;
- Technical bodies (not-for-profit, training or research institutes) need to be mandated by a social partner organisation.

Improving expertise in the field of industrial relations

Call for proposals VP/2015/004
Still to be published by the Commission

VP/2015/004 : Objectives

Improving expertise in the field of industrial relations, which includes the collection of information and practices, comparative studies, exchange of experiences and of knowledge on industrial relations systems, etc.

Priority will be given in particular to projects which contribute to the research and analytical products of the EU: 'Industrial Relations in Europe' report, etc.

VP/2015/004: Eligibility criteria, budget and deadlines

Total Budget for 2014: tbc

Eligible Beneficiaries: social partners (or bodies mandated by them, such as trade union institutes, etc) based in the EU (candidate countries are eligible as partners)

Single Deadline: tbc – provisional date communicated is 27 July 2015 (for projects starting from October 2015)



THANK YOU !