



Call for proposals on social innovation - Establishing and testing integrated interventions aimed at supporting people in (the most) vulnerable situations

(Delivering on the Pillar principle 14 – Minimum Income¹)

Programme: EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation ("EaSI")
Programme (no. of the call VP/2020/003)

Amount of the call: **10.000.000 €**

Expected number of projects: **app. 8²**

Main goal

The call will support innovative and experimental *local/regional-level projects* aimed at putting in place comprehensive systems to support people in (the most) vulnerable situations. The selected projects will test innovative approaches to deliver upon the **principle 14 of the European Pillar of Social Rights on minimum income**. It will provide for integrated delivery of the three strands of active inclusion: adequate income support with labour market activation and effective access to enabling goods and services. (Note that minimum income cash benefits are not to be co-funded.)

Beneficiaries

Each grant will be awarded to a **consortium of stakeholders** (lead applicant and co-applicants), based on the following eligibility criteria:

- ✓ The lead applicant must be a public authority at central, regional or local level, or a body governed by the public law.
- ✓ The lead applicant and co-applicants must together cover the following:
 - (i) body responsible for granting or administering minimum income benefits (or similar social safety net cash benefits),
 - (ii) body delivering active labour market policy measures, namely public or private employment services,
 - (iii) body delivering social services and/or enabling goods and services, namely various public and non-profit organisations providing in-kind benefits and support services to vulnerable households.
- ✓ At least one of the co-applicants shall be a non-governmental organisation.
- ✓ At least one co-applicant shall be from another EaSI Participating Country than the main applicant.

¹ "Everyone lacking sufficient resources has the right to adequate minimum income benefits ensuring a life in dignity at all stages of life, and effective access to enabling goods and services. For those who can work, minimum income benefits should be combined with incentives to (re)integrate into the labour market."

² Bearing in mind the need for a balanced geographical coverage in this call, a maximum of 2 projects proposed by lead applicants from the same country can be selected for funding.

Target group

The call aims at social inclusion of people in **vulnerable situations and those facing the greatest barriers to social and labour market integration**. Some of them are minimum income (or other social assistance of last resort) benefit recipients, while others might not benefit from such income support. These persons are typically confronted with complex, multiple barriers to social inclusion and require multifaceted, coordinated interventions.

Project activities

1. *Setting up the necessary structures and capacity building for integrated support to (the most) vulnerable* - Unless such institutional structures already exist at the local/regional level, the first set of actions should aim at developing and setting up structures and systems ensuring an integrated delivery of the three strands of active inclusion in line with the Pillar principle 14. The structure should allow to outreach to the households in need (both those already captured by the social safety nets and those eligible, but not yet benefiting).

2. *Reaching out to the persons/households in need* - This intervention area should aim at testing innovative outreach and holistic approaches with a view to increase the take up of benefits and to provide effective referral and cooperation mechanisms. Following the outreach to the target group, concrete delivery of services and support will take place. Each project is expected to cover at least 300 participants. For those able to work, the support should aim at the labour market inclusion. For people facing multiple and complex barriers and not ready for labour market participation, the support should target their participation in the society and enhanced activation for social inclusion (before labour market activation).

3. *Evaluation of the project activities* - A comprehensive monitoring and evaluation plan of the intervention, including a methodology identifying relevant results and outcome indicators, must be included.

4. *Mainstreaming/scaling up/dissemination* - Each proposal must contain a detailed mainstreaming/up-scaling/dissemination plan to promote the results of the action at the local/regional/national and European levels.

5. *Transnational cooperation* - This set of actions aims at the fostering of knowledge- and experience-sharing between the different EaSI participating countries.

Timetable

The deadline for submitting applications is **15 October 2020**. The grant agreements are expected to be concluded in the 1st quarter of 2021.

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The **full text of the call** is available here:

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=629&langId=en&callId=603&furtherCalls=yes>

In case of **questions**, please *first check* the **FAQ** published on the above link and if your questions are not answered there, please contact the following functional mailbox:

empl-vp-2020-003@ec.europa.eu

